

SOUTH CAROLINA EXPORT INCENTIVES PROGRAM

The South Carolina Department of Commerce offers an Incentives Program to support small businesses with their export activities. The program reimburses eligible South Carolina small businesses

for approved export-related expenses. Companies may apply for up to two activities in a year.

QUALIFYING COMPANIES CAN RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT FUNDING FOR THE FOLLOWING EXPORT ACTIVITIES:

International Trade Shows

Registration fees, booth space and eligible travel costs* associated with exhibiting at overseas trade shows, or international trade shows taking place in the U.S.

U.S. Commercial Service's Programs and Subscription Services

Services include Gold Key, International Partner Search, RAISE Market Research, etc. A complete list of services and fees can be found <u>here</u>.

Select trade missions

Trade mission fees and eligible travel costs* incurred while participating in a South Carolina Department of Commerce Trade Mission.

Website Upgrades and Design of Marketing Media

Eligible services include Search Engine Optimization (SEO), translations of marketing materials and/or website localization services, website analytics, E-commerce services (such as adding online payment option, currency converter tool), Digital and Social Media ads, Pay-per-click advertising (e.g., Google, Microsoft, LinkedIn), etc.

*Travel Costs: Airfare (Fly America Act), Hotels (State Dept or GSA Lodging Rates), Ground Transportation

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Headquartered in South Carolina or has its place of business in South Carolina.
- In business for no less than two years with a product/service with at least 51% U.S. content.
- Independently owned and operated and not dominant it its field on a national basis.
- Organized for profit.
- Currently has an export-ready product, a strategic plan for exporting and understands the costs associated with exporting.
- Meets the U. S. SBA's definition of a small business. See <u>Size Standards Table</u>.

To apply, contact **Carla Edwards**, International Trade Manager, <u>cedwards@sccommerce.com</u>



U.S. Small Business Administration