



ANNOUNCEMENTS



2025 Small Business Resource Center Webinars

Join the Small Business Resource Center as they host a wide variety of business oriented webinars designed to provide education and assistance in business finance, access to capital, business plans and more.

Click [here](#) to view calendar of events and to register

IRS Multilingual Resources 2025 Tax Season Tips

Key topic and recent news release:

- IRS Free File opens on Jan. 10, 2025: IRS Free File Guided Tax Software will be available for taxpayers ahead of the official start of tax season later this month. [English](#), [Spanish](#) & Chinese Simplified
- Prepare for 2025 filing season with online tools and reminders: As the nation's tax season approaches, the Internal Revenue Service is reminding people of [simple steps](#) they can take now to prepare to file their 2024 federal tax returns. [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Chinese Simplified](#), [Chinese Traditional](#), [Korean](#), [Russian](#), [Vietnamese](#) and [Haitian Creole](#)

Get Ready for tax season with key updates, essential tips: With the 2025 filing season quickly approaching, the Internal Revenue Service encouraged taxpayers to take key steps now to prepare for filing their 2024 federal income tax returns next year. [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [Chinese](#)

Tax tips

- Get ready for tax filing season 2025 [English](#), [Spanish](#) & [Vietnamese](#)
- Essential tax tips for marriage status changes [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Chinese Simplified](#), [Chinese Traditional](#) & [Vietnamese](#)

IRS-certified volunteers can help their community during tax season [English](#) & [Spanish](#)

Videos on YouTube you can share on your social media platforms or in other content:

File for free with IRS Direct File [English](#) & [Spanish](#)

IRS.gov resources and online tools:

- Get Ready page has steps to make it easier to file a tax return: [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Chinese Simplified](#), [Chinese Traditional](#), [Korean](#), [Russian](#), [Vietnamese](#) and [Haitian Creole](#)
- Let Us Help You page has general information and resources for taxpayers: [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Chinese Simplified](#), [Chinese Traditional](#), [Korean](#), [Russian](#), [Vietnamese](#) and [Haitian Creole](#)
- IRS Free File: Do your taxes for free page is for individuals that want to prepare their own tax return, they can use [IRS Free File Fillable Forms](#), regardless of their income, and file their tax return either online or by mail: [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Chinese Simplified](#), [Chinese Traditional](#), [Korean](#), [Russian](#), [Vietnamese](#) and [Haitian Creole](#)
- [IRS Direct File](#) is available for taxpayers living in participating states with relatively simple tax returns to file their tax return online directly with the IRS (also available in Spanish)

- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs offer free basic tax return preparation with the assistance of IRS certified volunteers to qualified taxpayers: [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Chinese Simplified](#), [Chinese Traditional](#), [Korean](#), [Russian](#), [Vietnamese](#) and [Haitian Creole](#)
- Interactive Tax Assistant tool provides taxpayers with answers to their tax questions: [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

Tax Withholding Estimator is a tool that can assist taxpayers in determining the correct amount of tax withheld from their paychecks: [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Chinese Simplified](#), [Chinese Traditional](#), [Korean](#), [Russian](#), [Vietnamese](#) and [Haitian Creole](#)

[e-News subscriptions](#): The IRS offers several e-News subscriptions on a variety of tax topics. Subscribe to receive emails on topics of importance to small businesses, payroll professionals and tax professionals:

- [IRS Outreach Connection](#)
- [e-News for Small Businesses](#)
- [e-News for Payroll Professionals](#)

[e-News for Tax Professionals](#)

Free Business Counseling from SCORE

Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) is a nonprofit association dedicated to helping small businesses get off the ground, grow and achieve their goals through education and mentorship. SCORE volunteers offer free business management counseling. Appointments must be made in advance.

To receive one-on-one business counseling, register here:

<https://www.score.org/find-mentor>

Sign up Today for the Verizon Small Business Digital Ready Online Community and be Eligible to Win up to 10K in Grant Funding

Business owners that sign up for the free Verizon Small Business Digital Ready online community will be eligible to apply for grants throughout the year. Here's how it works: Business owners can sign up for the free online resource, which aims to provide technical assistance, mentoring and other resources to underserved small businesses, and complete either courses, coaching or participation in community events to be eligible.

The company provides up to \$1M in grant funding a year.

Rolling deadline

To apply, click [here](#)

National Science Foundation's America's Seed Fund

The National Science Foundation's America's Seed Fund provides millions in grant funding to small businesses and startups with big ideas. Applicants submit project pitches any time during the year, and if invited to submit a proposal, could end up getting funded. The grant program gives out roughly \$200 million per year to eligible businesses.

Rolling deadline

To apply, click [here](#)

National Association for the Self-Employed Growth Grant

The National Association for the Self-Employed has its own \$4,000 growth grant that it offers on a rolling basis. The catch? You have to be a member. The group has awarded nearly \$1M in grants to members since 2006.

Rolling deadline

To apply, click [here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



**2025 Speaker Series: Candid Conversations for Entrepreneurs hosted by
Mayor's Office of Small and Minority Business Advocacy & Development
Session VIII: Networking Strategies for Scaling Your Business**

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

3000 Druid Park Drive, Suite 3000B, First Floor Baltimore, MD 21215

Join the Mayor's Office of Small and Minority Business Advocacy & Development
for the 2025 Speaker Series: Candid Conversations for Entrepreneurs, a

transformative program designed to empower entrepreneurs and spark lasting success.

Featured Speakers:

- Jim Peterson, V.P. and Small Business Ambassador on Multicultural Banking Team, M&T Bank
- Andrea England, Small Business Development Coordinator, Mayor's Office of Small and Minority Business Advocacy & Development

This is your opportunity to engage in candid conversations, gain expert advice, and connect with a network of driven entrepreneurs and business leaders. Together, let's build bridges to prosperity and success! Mark your calendar and catalyze your journey to success! Light refreshments will be served. Free parking available.

To view flier, click [here](#)

To register for this session and additional sessions, click [here](#)

For questions regarding the Speaker Series, click [here](#)

Access to Capital Readiness Accelerator Workshop | In Person
Wednesday, April 23, 2025
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Enoch Pratt Library Downtown
400 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

The Greater Baltimore Urban League, in partnership with TD Bank, invites you to attend the upcoming Access to Capital Readiness Accelerator Workshop

This free, in-person workshop is designed to support minority-owned small businesses by providing the tools and knowledge needed to strengthen financial management and secure funding.

Key takeaways include:

- How to prepare your business to receive funding
- What lenders and funders are looking for

- Navigating SBA, bank, and CDFI options
- Understanding financial statements and projections
- Capital readiness tools and best practices

Panel Speakers:

Tradawn Hill, TD Bank; Small Business Specialist

Ulric Donawa, Baltimore Community Lending; CDFI Lending Officer

Taber J. Small, Meridian Management Group; VP Business Lending Operations

Whether you're an entrepreneur, small business owner, or community advocate, you are encouraged to attend—and to share this opportunity with others who may benefit.

Don't miss this chance to take your business to the next level.
Register now to reserve your seat!

To view flyer, click [here](#)

To register, click [here](#)

For further information, contact Sharif J. Small, Director, Raymond V. Haysbert Center for Entrepreneurship, GBUL.

Entrepreneurship Resource Fair for Former Government Workers
hosted by Open Works
Friday, April 25, 2025
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
1400 Greenmount Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21202

With federal layoffs and budget cuts impacting thousands across Maryland, **Open Works** is hosting an **Entrepreneurship Resource Fair** to connect former government workers, contractors, and affected small businesses with local resources and opportunities.

Attendees will have access to a range of **free support services**, including:

- **Entrepreneurship & small business resources**

- **Job placement assistance**
- **Housing support services**
- **Membership orientation tours at Open Works**
- **A free mending workshop**
- **Over a dozen community-based vendors and service providers**

Participating Organizations:

- University of Baltimore
- Early Charm
- ReBUILD Metro, Inc.
- Pava Center for Entrepreneurship
- Maryland Technology Internship Program
- Moms As Entrepreneurs
- Loyola University Maryland's Simon Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship
- Dent Education Inc.
- Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Small and Minority Business Advocacy & Development
- United Way of Central Maryland
- Baltimore Gas & Electric
- Impact Hub Baltimore
- Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service
- Northwestern Mutual
- Integrity Marketing Group LLC
- Baltimore COUNTY Dept. of Economic and Workforce Development
- Turnaround Tuesday Jobs Movement

To view flier, click [here](#)

To register, click [here](#)

**2025 Business Expo, presented by Verizon and hosted by Greater
Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (GWHCC)
Tuesday, April 29, 2025
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
801 Allen Y. Lew Place NW, Washington, DC 20001**

This free, one-day event brings together over 100 exhibitors, more than 1,000 attendees, and top corporate, government, and small business leaders for a full day of networking, resources, and education tailored to multicultural business success.

Explore the Small Business Village, International Row, career opportunities, and hands-on workshops with leaders from Verizon, Events DC, and others. Don't miss the ticketed Executive Luncheon, featuring regional economic development leaders in a powerful discussion about collaboration, growth, and the future of business in the DMV.

To register, click [here](#)

Metro's Certification Workshop
Wednesday, April 30, 2025
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
4100 Garden City Dr, Hyattsville, MD 20785

This webinar helps businesses streamline the sales lifecycle in government contracting by optimizing resources and leveraging technology. It covers market readiness, strategic positioning, and selecting the right tools like CRMs and market intelligence platforms. A live demonstration will show how integrated technology can enhance efficiency and competitiveness.

To view flier, click [here](#)

To register, click [here](#)

Global Trade Mastery: Export Strategies for Beginners & Experts Webinar
hosted by Maryland Small Business Development Center
Wednesday, April 30, 2025
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
307 Washington Ave, Towson, Md 21204

This webinar will cover essential and advanced strategies for successful global trade for new and seasoned exporters. Learn market entry, customer acquisition, compliance, logistics, and risk management to grow your export business with confidence.

***Additionally, an update will be included for attendees on the latest changes in tariffs and how they are affecting both importing and exporting. This is an event that you don't want to miss!

To register, click [here](#)

**Face-Time with Primes hosted by Baltimore City Department of Public
Works Office of Boards and Commissions
Friday, April 30, 2025
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
B&O Railroad Museum, 901 W. Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21223**

Join the Baltimore City Department of Public Works and small businesses to connect with City and State agencies, Prime consultants and contractors for opportunities. Consultants and contractors should attend this event.

To view flier, click [here](#)

RSVP by Friday, April 18th at obc.consultants@baltimorecity.gov or obc.contractors@baltimorecity.gov. For more information call, 410-396-6883.

**Maryland's Top 100 Women – 30th Anniversary hosted by The Daily Record
Monday, May 5, 2025
4:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Towson University Arena, 8000 York Road, Towson, MD 21252**

Maryland's Top 100 Women recognizes high-achieving Maryland women who are making an impact through their leadership, community service and mentoring. Winners are selected by past Top 100 Women and business leaders. Three-time winners are inducted into the Circle of Excellence.

To learn more about sponsorship opportunities and benefits please contact your account manager or email shuettner@bridgetowermedia.com.

If you have questions about this awards event, please email events@thedailyrecord.com.

**Metro's Government Procurement Fair
Thursday, May 8, 2025**

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Metro Building at New Carrollton, Lobby Conference Room
4100 Garden City Drive, Hyattsville, MD 20785

Attend WMATA's Government Procurement Fair for a unique opportunity to connect with key decision-makers and explore upcoming contracting opportunities. Network with industry leaders, gain insights into the procurement process, and discover how your business can partner with WMATA for future projects!

To view flier, click [here](#)

To register, click [here](#)

22nd Annual 2025 Spring Breakfast Meeting/Business Showcase Expo
hosted by Md. Washington Minority Companies Association
Friday, May 9, 2025
7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Martin's West, 6817 Dogwood Road, Baltimore, MD 21244

Network with representatives from top leading companies and government agencies. Meet over 80 exhibitors.

To register, click [here](#)

To view flier, click [here](#)

To view 2025 Spring Breakfast Meeting Honorees, click [here](#)

To view event schedule, click [here](#)

Sponsor, exhibitor and advertisement application, click [here](#)

Sponsor opportunities, click [here](#)

North American Trade School - Northwest Plaza Ribbon Cutting
Thursday, May 15, 2025
5760 Wabash Ave Baltimore, MD 21215

The North American Trade School has opened a 55,00 square feet facility at Wabash & Northern Parkway. Attend for a official ribbon cutting.

**Access to Capital for Small Businesses & Speedlending hosted by
Maryland Small Business Development Center
Saturday, May 15, 2025
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
307 Washington Ave, Towson, Md 21204**

This event will tech you how to build and manage your credit, create a winning loan application and understand your responsibilities as a borrower.

To view flier, click [here](#)

To register, click [here](#)

**Diverse Business Leaders Awards 2025 hosted by
Baltimore Business Journal
Thursday, June 5, 2025
8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Marriott Owings Mills Metro Centre, Hawthorne Ballroom, 10101 Grand
Central Avenue, Owings Mills, MD 21117**

Join the Baltimore Business Journal in honoring business leaders of diverse backgrounds in the Greater Baltimore region.

To view list of honorees and to register, click [here](#)

**2025 Baltimore City Small Business Advancement Conference (formerly the
City of Baltimore Procurement Conference) hosted by Mayor's Office of
Small and Minority Business Advocacy & Development
9:00 a.m.
Thursday, June 12, 2025
Baltimore Convention Center
Exhibit Hall A, Charles Street Lobby Entrance
1 W. Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21201**

This advancement conference will feature city, state, county and federal government agencies, universities, institutions, corporations and resource partners. Attendees will hear about opportunities for small, minority and women-owned businesses, workshops and breakout sessions.

The cost for attendees is free, [click here to register](#)

To view flyer, click [here](#)

For more information, click here: <https://smba-d.baltimorecity.gov/mwboo/small-business-advancement-conference>

Exhibitor registration is now open!

Exhibitor Registration Fee: \$175.00 for businesses; \$125.00 for government entities.

Sponsorship opportunities, click here: <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/procurementconferencesponsorship>.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities, contact Vanessa Freund at Vanessa.Freund@baltimorecity.gov.
