

SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCES IN BLOOMINGTON, MN



We're glad you're here! Entrepreneurs and small businesses enrich our community. Minnesota is home to over 89,000 businesses with fewer than 10 employees. Our Business Assistance team is eager to work with you to ensure you have a successful experience in Bloomington. To get started, please review the resources below or visit us at blm.mn/business.

Get in touch early so we can help guide you through our processes and connect you to free resources.

Barb Wolff, Assistant Port Authority Administrator
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BLOOMINGTON IS GROWING SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT SERVICES WE'D LOVE TO MEET YOU AT ANY OF OUR PROGRAMS BELOW:



Welcoming Wednesdays

for Startups and Small Businesses

Make Connections. Get Answers.

WELCOMING WEDNESDAYS

Visit Civic Plaza on the second Wednesday of the month, 12-2 p.m., to connect to resources and experts in our area – free, no registration necessary. blm.mn/welcomingwednesdays



BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT VISITS

The fourth Wednesday of the month, 12-2:30 p.m., staff and a business advisor visit area businesses to connect and bring resources directly to business owners. If you would like us to visit your business, call Barb Wolff at (952) 563-4706.



BLOOMINGTON'S SMALL BUSINESS CENTER – BREAKING GROUND 2024

A business incubator providing resources for entrepreneurs and business owners, co-working space, networking, and programming to foster creativity and innovation is coming soon. blm.mn/sbc

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS TO ASSIST YOUR SMALL BUSINESS

MANY OF THESE PROGRAMS ARE FREE OR LOW COST. EXAMPLES OF PROGRAMS:

SERVICES SUPPORTING MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES

A range of culturally or language specific programs are available to small business owners.

- **African Development Center of Minnesota (ADC)** – culturally sensitive financing adcmnnesota.org
- **Black Women's Wealth Alliance (BWWA)** – assists Black women obtain economic stability bwwa-us.com
- **Chinese American Chamber of Commerce** – SBA loan assistance, grant opportunities, business workshops, networking opportunities, caccmn.org
- **Latino Economic Development Center** – business support for the Latino community, ledcmn.org
- **New American Development Center (NADC)** – supports the East African/Somali immigrant community, nadcmmn.org

GRANTS, LOANS, AID

Small businesses may qualify for special grants or loans.

- **Grants for MN Businesses in 2023-2024** – nearly \$12 million available in grants for MN businesses, usgrants.org/Minnesota/small-business-grants
- **City of Bloomington Sewer Availability Charge (SAC) Programs** – assistance to lower the financial hurdle to new and expanding businesses, blm.mn/sac
- **Startup & Small Business Resources** by the State of Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) – Questions about startup, operation, or expansion of a business, mn.gov/deed/joinusmn/doing-business-here/resources/
- **United States Small Business Administration (SBA)** – government-backed loans and programs, sba.gov

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON • PORT AUTHORITY

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BLOOMINGTON, MN 55431-3027
952-563-8873

BLM.MN/BUSINESS

BUSINESS EDUCATION AND NETWORKING

Grow your business and your network alongside like-minded entrepreneurs.

- **CEO Now** – free cohort/peer-based program for established, growth-minded business owners and founders with employees, to build and strengthen systems to keep growing, hennepin.us/economic-development/programs/CEO-Now
- **CEO Next** – free cohort/peer-based program offering tools and techniques for CEOs who are growing or expanding their business, hennepin.us/economic-development/programs/ceo-next
- **MN Cup** – free annual competition for emerging entrepreneurs that connects you with education, mentorship, and support to launch and accelerate the development of your new venture, carlsonschool.umn.edu/mn-cup

BUSINESS CONSULTING

Get free help with business plans, legal services, financing, human resources, technology, marketing and many other areas.

- **Elevate Hennepin** – Hennepin County offers a searchable database with a range of business advisors, providing free consultative services. <https://www.elevatehennepin.org/resources>
- Contact Vicky Gonzalez at **Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD)** to learn more about programs that might be a fit for you.
Vicky Gonzalez
(612) 843-3269
vgonzalez@mccdmn.org
<https://mccdmn.org/open-to-business/>

