

## **SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCE CONTACTS**

### **Center for Rural Affairs, Rural Enterprise Assistance Project (REAP)** <http://www.cfra.org/reap>

REAP offers technical assistance, training, loans up to \$150,000. For special training opportunities the Women's Business Center and Hispanic Business Development Center. Link to local contacts: <http://www.cfra.org/reap/staff>

### **Nebraska Business Development Centers** <http://nbdc.unomaha.edu/>

NBDC offers business planning, training, valuations, loan packaging, government contracting, and a variety of technical assistance. Link to local contacts: <http://nbdc.unomaha.edu/financing-options/consultants.cfm>

### **Nebraska Economic Development Corporation (NEDCO)** <http://www.nedcoloans.org/#>

NEDCO is a SBA 504 lender, and has USDA Intermediary Relending Program and EDA Revolving loan funds.

### **Invest Nebraska** <http://www.investnebraska.com/>

Invest Nebraska offers venture capital and angel investment programs.

### **Nebraska Enterprise Fund (NEF)** <http://www.nebbiz.org/>

NEF offers technical assistance and loans up to \$150,000. Jim Reif, Ex. Dir, 402-685-5500 or email: [jimr@nebbiz.org](mailto:jimr@nebbiz.org)

### **UNL Cooperative Extension** <http://communityvitality.unl.edu/category/growing-nebraska-businesses>

UNL Cooperative Extension offers technical assistance.

### **Northeast Nebraska Development District** <http://www.nenedd.org/>

Nebraska regional development districts offer various revolving loans funds and technical assistance.

### **USDA Rural Development** <http://www.rd.usda.gov>

The USDA Rural Development program promotes economic development through loans to businesses provided through banks, credit unions, and community-managed lending pools. They also offer energy efficiency grants and loans to businesses. **Regional Contact: Bill Sheppard** at 402-371-5350 or email [bill.sheppard@ne.usda.gov](mailto:bill.sheppard@ne.usda.gov)

### **GROW Nebraska** [www.grownebraska.com](http://www.grownebraska.com)

Training and technical assistance with marketing Nebraska products. Janell Anderson Ehrke, phone 888-growneb

**LB840** – Local Option Sales Tax funds collected in many communities for the purpose of economic development and assisting local businesses. State Local Option Advisor, **Deb Eggleston** email [deb.eggleston@nebraska.gov](mailto:deb.eggleston@nebraska.gov) phone 402-380-7253

### **Rural Advantage Tax Incentives** – <http://www.revenue.nebraska.gov/incentiv/Summary.pdf>

Rural Advantage provides qualified businesses with refundable tax incentives for projects that create 2 jobs and invest \$125,000 in counties of less than 15,000 residents. In counties with 15,000 - 25,000 population, a business can receive incentives for creating 5 jobs and investing \$250,000.

### **Micro-Enterprise Tax Credits** – <http://www.revenue.nebraska.gov/incentiv/microent/microent.html>

Micro-Enterprise Tax credits provide a 20 percent refundable tax credit to micro businesses on increased compensation for employees or increased investment in targeted communities. Applicants may qualify for a maximum of \$10,000 for the life of the program. The credit is limited to companies with five or fewer employees at the time the application. Credits are approved on a first in - first out basis with an application process through the Nebraska Department of Revenue.

### **Innovation & Entrepreneurship Program** - <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/ded-resources/>

Grants are available for qualified businesses that want to: create a prototype, do research and development, commercialize a product, apply for SBIR and Economic Gardening.

### **Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)** - <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/ded-resources/>

**CDBG/ED** is a grant to a city, village, or county that re-loans the money to a local qualifying business for gap financing. These funds have to create jobs that benefit low to moderate individuals. **CDBG/DTR** is a matching grant to a qualifying city or village to revitalize their downtown area thus improving a slum/and or blighted condition for the community.