

# GUIDE TO CONNECTICUT SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCES



## CT SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

[www.ctsbdc.org](http://www.ctsbdc.org) 860.832.0650

SBDC, in partnership with the Connecticut State University System, SBA and DECD, provides a wide range of resources to small businesses including training and counseling at locations around the State. SBDC workshops include Starting Your Connecticut Business: A Step-By-Step Guide, Writing a Business Plan: Your Company's Roadmap, Fundamentals of Running Your Small Business: Tools for Success and FastTrac® New Venture.

## SERVICE CORPS OF RETIRED EXECUTIVES

[www.score.org](http://www.score.org) 860.240.4700

SCORE chapters throughout the State provide business counseling and seminars. SCORE is a resource partner with SBA. The Hartford chapter offers a monthly Business Basics Seminar - information is available at [www.HartfordScore.org](http://www.HartfordScore.org).

## U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov) 860.240.4700 [www.sba.gov/ct](http://www.sba.gov/ct)

The SBA is a resource for small business owners providing training, counseling and loan guarantees for qualifying small business loans. SBA provides significant resources through its website at [www.sba.gov/tools](http://www.sba.gov/tools) and at [www.sba.gov/services](http://www.sba.gov/services).

## CONNECTICUT'S BUSINESS RESPONSE CENTER

[WWW.YOUBELONGINCT.COM](http://WWW.YOUBELONGINCT.COM) 800.392.2122

Connecticut's Business Response Center is a free service which provides information about government and private programs and resources in such areas as licensing, financing, manufacturing programs, job training, economic development data and much more. SmartStart is a program which helps to streamline the business licensing and registration process through its website and by personalized customer service. See [www.CT-CLIC.com](http://www.CT-CLIC.com)

## PUBLIC LIBRARY

Many public libraries provide free resources for small businesses including business reference materials, databases and business workshops. Check with your local library to see if it provides these services. Simsbury Library, for example, has a Business Resource Center. See [www.SimsburyLibrary.info/brc.htm](http://www.SimsburyLibrary.info/brc.htm)

## WOMEN'S BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

[www.ctwbdc.org](http://www.ctwbdc.org) 877.999.9232 203.353.1750

These Centers, funded in part by the SBA, provide entrepreneurial training, business sustainability/access to capital assistance, professional development, financial coaching and advocacy for women to start and grow businesses. Training venues are located throughout the Southwest and Naugatuck Valley regions of the State.

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[www.LLCexpress.com](http://www.LLCexpress.com) [www.gedgelaw.com](http://www.gedgelaw.com)  
860.539.4979

## THE ENTREPRENEURIAL CENTER

[www.Hartford.edu/ec](http://www.Hartford.edu/ec) 860-768-5681

This Center, a community outreach program of the University of Hartford, offers business advising, technical assistance and business training to start-up, early stage and established business owners. Along with providing introductory workshops and one day seminars on a variety of business topics, the Center is a certified provider of the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation's FastTrac® business planning courses including: the popular FirstStep workshop series and the more advanced NewVenture workshop series.

## CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY, INC.

[www.ccat.us](http://www.ccat.us) 860.291.8832

CCAT provides services and resources to entrepreneurs and businesses and, through collaboration with industry, academia, and government, helps companies innovate and compete, thereby strengthening our nation in the global market. CCAT's Entrepreneur Center works to deliver key services to technology-led small businesses. More information can be found at: [http://clientportal.ccat.us/entrepreneur\\_center](http://clientportal.ccat.us/entrepreneur_center).

## CONNECTICUT INNOVATIONS

[www.ctinnovations.com](http://www.ctinnovations.com) 860.563.5851

CI, created by the CT legislature in 1989, is nationally recognized as a catalyst for helping companies grow by providing strategic capital and operational insight to push the frontiers of high-tech industries in the State of Connecticut.

## SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH PROGRAM

[www.ctinnovations.com](http://www.ctinnovations.com) 860.257.2893

The CT SBIR Office, housed within Connecticut Innovations, helps small, high-tech businesses, innovative manufacturers and entrepreneurs compete for and win federal research and development grant funding through the federal SBIR and Small Business Technology Transfer programs.

## COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND

[www.cedf.com](http://www.cedf.com) 888.835.2333

CEDF provides access to capital, one-on-one business consulting and small business skills training.

## COMMUNITY ACCOUNTING AID & SERVICES

[ctcaas@hotmail.com](mailto:ctcaas@hotmail.com) 203.235.2333 x7146

CAAS provides free, professional accounting and financial counseling to economically disadvantaged business, individuals and not-for-profit organizations in Connecticut. CAAS also publishes a valuable start-up guide (\$34.95), Starting a Small Business in Connecticut - Simple Steps to a Successful Business.

**LLC EXPRESS**

CONNECTICUT

*The Right Start For Your Business*