

Office of Small Business and Entrepreneur Development

Operating within the City of Columbus Department of Development Economic Development Division, the Office of Small Business and Entrepreneur Development (OSBED) leverages a vast network of partner organizations and utilizes a specialized set of tools and programs to assist aspiring and existing entrepreneurs seeking to start, grow, and expand viable businesses. OSBED simultaneously aids in the stabilization and revitalization of our traditional urban neighborhoods and corridors.

Programs and services currently supported by the Office of Small Business and Entrepreneur Development include:

- ◆ **Accelerate ColumBUS** - a Small Business and Entrepreneurial Support Pilot Program;
- ◆ **The Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization (NCR)** Grant Program; and
- ◆ **Special Improvement District (SID)** Pass Through Funding Facilitation and Processing



DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Development encourages citizens, community partners, and businesses to invest in the future of our people, neighborhoods, and economy.

Development is organized into six divisions: Administration, Code Enforcement, Economic Development, Housing, Land Redevelopment, and Planning.

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Economic Development Division
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Entrepreneur Development
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www.columbus.gov/acceleratesmallbusiness

Thank you for choosing the City of Columbus
for your business growth.

THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF
DEVELOPMENT

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ACCELERATE COLUMBUS

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR LOCAL ENTREPRENEURS AND SMALL BUSINESSES

Small Business Training, Management and Technical Assistance, and One-On-One Advisement

The Accelerate Columbus brand of programs was developed by the Office of Small Business and Entrepreneur Development to offer structured management and technical assistance, training, and advisory services to the small business community. The City procures the services of certified entrepreneur support organizations (ESOs). These organizations serve as partners to the City in implementing this pilot program.

Entrepreneur Support Organizations (ESOs) Service Delivery Model

The City of Columbus uses a formalized Service Delivery Model and process to solicit input and engage a network of certified ESOs as partners in the delivery of Accelerate Columbus and other programs and services to traditional, Main Street, and lifestyle businesses. The delivery model also supports high-growth and technology-based businesses and delivers assistance across the entire business life cycle.



ACCELERATE COLUMBUS Start-Up and Launch is a FREE business management training program with individual one-on-one advising to launch and grow your small business. This program includes a Business Start-Up Workshop, Financial Literacy Training and for those interested in starting a food based business, a seminar From Kitchen to Market.

ACCELERATE COLUMBUS Scale-Up & Grow

The program offers FREE training and is focused on supporting existing business owners who live and work within the City of Columbus, and have been in business for at least two years.

ACCELERATE COLUMBUS Triage Management and Technical Assistance assists small businesses that fall outside of a standard training and advising schedule who are considered to be at a critical juncture in the business process and cycle.

Minority Business Assistance - The City of Columbus supports the Ohio Minority Business Assistance Center operated by the Columbus Urban League Centers. The Center serves the needs of Columbus' small, minority, and socially and economically disadvantaged businesses. MBAC offers services that include technical assistance, professional consulting, access to capital and bid and contract assistance.

Entrepreneurial Signature Program for High Growth Technology-Based Companies

Rev1 led a successful regional proposal to the State of Ohio and secured \$18.7 million for the Entrepreneurial Signature Program which accelerates the creation and growth of new technology companies in Central Ohio. The ESP requires a 1-to-2 funding match. The City of Columbus supports Rev1 Ventures by helping to underwrite administrative costs associated with the program.

Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization

The Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization (NCR) Program provides neighborhood-based access to affordable office and retail space. In addition to facilitating and commissioning neighborhood studies and redevelopment of targeted areas, the NCR Program provides support aimed at building the capacity of neighborhood business and merchant associations.

Visit www.columbus.gov/acceleratesmallbusiness to view a map of the seven NCR corridors/boundaries and learn more about the program.

Special Improvement Districts

Operating in fulfillment of state structured **Special Improvement Districts (SID)**, the City provides passthrough funding from taxes collected on individual properties. These funds support neighborhood-specific safety and beautification efforts that are conducive to small business development and growth.

- 1 Capital Crossroads SID
- 2 Discovery SID
- 3 Morse Road SID
- 4 Short North SID
- 5 University SID
- 6 East Main Street SID

