**SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCE CONTACTS**

**Nebraska Department of Economic Development Community Development Block Grants (NDED 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 must create jobs that benefit low to moderate individuals.

<https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/community/cdbg/>

**NDED Innovation & Entrepreneurship Program** Grants are available for qualified businesses: to create a prototype, do research and development, commercialize a product, apply for SBIR. <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/business/business-development/>

**NDED ImagiNE Nebraska Tax Incentives** Available to eligible businesses and must be adding a minimum of 5 new employees and investing at least $1 million for rural areas. There is a fee to apply. <https://imagine.nebraska.gov/>

**NDED Site & Building Development Fund** SBDFis to assist in the provision of industrial-ready sites and buildings in all areas of the state. NDED emphasizes projects that meet a community’s immediate need for site and building development; propose increased jobs and investment; leverage private dollars; enlist local government support and participation. <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/business/sbdf/>

**Center for Rural Affairs** CFRA offer technical assistance, training, with loans up to $250,000. There are special training opportunities the Women’s Business Center and Hispanic Business Development Center. <https://www.cfra.org/>

**Nebraska Business Development Centers** NBDC offersbusiness planning, training, valuations, loan packaging, government contracting, and a variety of technical assistance.  Link to local contacts: <https://www.unomaha.edu/nebraska-business-development-center/>

**Nebraska Economic Development Corporation** NEDCO is an SBA 504 lender, The SBA 504 Loan Program assists small business owners looking to expand their businesses through the purchase of commercial real estate or capital equipment. NEDCO works in conjunction with lenders to provide up to 90% financing for commercial property purchases and construction. <https://nedcoloans.org/>

**Invest Nebraska** specializes in venture development and entrepreneurial assistance.  <https://www.investnebraska.com/>

The **Nebraska Seed Investment program** is an equity investment program to support early-stage Nebraska-based businesses. Under the program, up to $500,000 can be invested with a minimum of a 1:1 match to support product or service development. Equity investments made under the program are placed and held by Invest Nebraska, a nonprofit 501(c)3 venture capital firm that is contracted by DED to facilitate the program.

<https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/business/nebraska-seed-investment-program/>

**Nebraska Enterprise Fund** NEFoffers technical assistance and loans up to $250,000. <https://nebbiz.org/>

**UNL Cooperative Extension** Rural Prosperity Nebraska offers technical assistance to businesses **SourceLink Nebraska** <https://sourcelinknebraska.com/> and communities. <https://ruralprosperityne.unl.edu>

**UNK Center for Entrepreneurship & Rural Development** CERD offers research and technical assistance utilizing and supporting UNK Students.

Sara Bennet Director <https://www.unk.edu/academics/cerd/services/index.php>

**Central Community College Entrepreneurship Centers** offers technical assistance and has a small local revolving loan fund for their region. Centers located in Columbus, Grand Island and Hastings. <https://www.cccneb.edu/entrepreneurship-center>

**South Central Economic Development District** SCEDD is part of Nebraska Regional Officials Council <https://www.nrocene.com>

 with development districts statewide offering revolving loans funds and technical assistance to business and communities. <https://www.scedd.us/>

**United State Department of Agriculture Rural Development** USDA Rural Development program promotes economic development through loans to businesses provided through banks, credit unions, and community-managed lending pools. They also offer Rural energy efficiency grants and loans to businesses and Value-Added Producer Grants**.**<https://www.rd.usda.gov>

**GROW Nebraska** offer training and technical assistance with marketing Nebraska products.<https://grownebraska.org/>

 Contracted by NDED to manage the Nebraska Small Business Assistance Act NSBAA grants <https://grownebraska.org/nsbaa/>

**LB840** – Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act authorized incorporated cities and villages — if approved by local voters — to collect and appropriate local tax dollars, including sales and/or property tax, for economic development purposes.  Contact the City office or local ED office in your community for local details of what is available. <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/community/lb-840/>

**Micro-Enterprise Tax Credits** provide a 20 percent refundable tax credit to micro businesses (5 or fewer employees at the time of application) on increased compensation for employees or increased investment in targeted communities. Applicants may qualify for a maximum of $20,000. Credits are approved on a first in - first out basis with an application process through the Nebraska Department of Revenue.

<https://revenue.nebraska.gov/incentives/microenterprise>