New York State Directory of Small Business Programs

STATE OF NEW YORK

THIS DIRECTORY WAS DEVELOPED BY Empire State Development

Press the "Esc" key at any time to return to your regular interface.

Click here for navigation tips

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ABOUT THIS DIRECTORY

This directory is a PDF file with active hyperlinks. If you are reading this on a computer with open access to the internet, clicking on the website URLs and email addresses will take you directly to the selected webpage or address an email message. For navigation tips, click here. The directory can also be printed and read as a self-contained guide.

Nearly all program listings serve established businesses. Programs that also accept start-up firms (in operation for less than one year) are marked with an (S). Small businesses are defined as having 100 or fewer employees. For a list of State Agencies and their acronyms, click here. Any phone numbers starting with 800, 866 or 877 are toll free.

This Directory was last updated in June, 2014. If your copy is over one year old, contact nylovessmbiz@esd.ny.gov

Welcome

This directory is designed to help small businesses access valuable resources for business planning, operations, and growth. Use the table of contents or follow the navigation bar at the top of the page to find the many resources listed in this guide.

"Small Businesses are the heart of the American economy, responsible for half of all private sector jobs and creator of about 70 percent of all new jobs over the past decade. The steps to rebuilding our economy means ensuring that small businesses owners have access to the information they need to support their businesses and position them for future growth and success. The NYS Directory for Small Business Programs guide responds directly to the need to improve access, awareness, and availability of state resources for small businesses."

Kenneth Adams, President & CEO of Empire State Development (ESD), Commissioner of the NYS Department of Economic Development

NAVIGATION TIPS

To return to your regular interface from full-screen, press the "Esc" key

To return to full-screen from your regular interface, press "Ctrl + L"

To print from full screen, press "Ctrl + P" and select print range

To scroll while in full-screen, use arrow keys or onscreen buttons on the bottom left and right corners.

Connect to Environmental Improvement Resources in New York State, a comprehensive directory that provides additional information about environmental improvement resources. The Small Business and Environmental Improvement directories are linked. You can move between them by clicking on the cover image to the left or the underlined title above.

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NYS Agency Acronyms

Ag & Mkts	Department of Agriculture and Markets
ABC or State Liquor Authority	Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control
Consumer	Consumer Protection Board
CUNY	City University of New York
DEC	Department of Environmental Conservation
DFS	Department of Financial Services
DHCR	Division of Housing and Community Renewal
DHR	Division of Human Rights
DMV	Department of Motor Vehicles
DOH or Health	Department of Health
DOL or Labor	Department of Labor
DOS or State	Department of State
DPS, Public Service Commission, PSC	Department of Public Service
EFC	Environmental Facilities Corporation
ESD	Empire State Development
Lottery	Division of Lottery
LIPA	Long Island Power Authority
MTA	Metropolitan Transportation Authority
NYSERDA	NYS Energy Research and Development Authority
NYSIF	NYS Insurance Fund
NYSTAR	NYS Foundation for Science, Technology and Innovation
OCFS	Office of Children and Family Services
OGS	Office of General Services
OTDA	Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance
SUNY	State University of New York
T&F or Tax	Department of Taxation and Finance
WCB or Workers' Comp	Workers' Compensation Board

Information Resources

JUMP TO:

- Statewide Resources
- Regional Resources

Information Resources

STATEWIDE RESOURCES

Your Business: a downloadable guide to owning and operating a small business in New York State. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/SmallBusiness/Data/YourBusiness.pdf. (S)

Directory of Alternative Small Business Lending Programs: A listing of local and statewide alternative lenders to small and minority and women businesses. www.esd.ny.gov/SmallBusiness/AlternativeFunding.html (S-with conditions)

New York Loves Small Business Website: Comprehensive information on starting and expanding a small business. Includes:

- Directory of Alternative Small Business Lending Programs
- Business expansion planning
- Financing and refinancing, venture capital
- Local resources
- Finding and training employees
- Technical assistance
- Regulatory assistance
- Environmental
- Minority and women
- Selling to government
- Exporting
- Demographics and economic data
- Seminars and training

www.esd.ny.gov/SmallBusiness.html; 800/STATE NY (S)

Division of Minority and Women Business Development (DMWBD): Empire State Development's DMWBD helps minority and women business enterprises (MWBEs) obtain:

- MWBE certification
- Contracting opportunities
- Technical assistance
- Financial resources
- Information about upcoming events

www.esd.ny.gov/MWBE.html; 800/STATE NY (S)

Information Resources

JUMP TO:

- Statewide Resources
- Regional Resources

Information Resources

Business Services Web Portal: NYS Department of Labor (DOL) provides links to information on employee/employer issues and programs that can benefit employers.

- Employee training and apprentice programs
- Workforce data
- Unemployment Insurance
- Tax incentives
- Alien (foreign worker) certifications.
- Regional DOL business services representatives
- Layoff transition services
- Safety and health consultations
- Human resource consultations

www.labor.ny.gov; 800/HIRE992 (800/447-3992). (S)

Permit Assistance and NY License Center Website: Guides users through the process and requirements for starting or expanding a business in New York State. Obtain a state Tax ID Number and a Federal Employer Identification Number, track the status of submitted online applications, research a comprehensive list of NYS permit profiles with information on over 1,200 business-related permits and licenses issued by 36 state agencies, and research requirements for over 400 types of businesses. Visit www.licensecenter.ny.gov. (S)

Taxes/NYS Taxpayer Guidance Program: Information and assistance to help taxpayers voluntarily comply with the tax law by providing accurate and timely forms, instructions and guidance. Visit www.tax.ny.gov/pubs_and_bulls; or call 800/972-1233 (instate) or 518/485-6800. (S)

A Small Business Guide to Health Insurance: Available at www.dfs.ny.gov/consumer/smallbus/hsmbsrpt.pdf. (S)

Child Health Plus: Booklets to help you promote Child Health Plus to your low-income employees. Available at www.health.ny.gov/health_care/child_health_plus/chp_promotional_materials.htm. (S)

Information Resources

JUMP TO:

- Statewide Resources
- Regional Resources

Information Resources

Healthy NY Guidebook and Application for Small Employers:
Available at www.coverageforall.org/pdf/apps/NYhealthyny_SmallEmployers_Application.pdf. (S)

Property Casualty Insurance – A Small Business Guide: Available at www.dfs.ny.gov/consumer/smallbus/pcsmbus.pdf (English); www.dfs.ny.gov/consumer/smallbus/pcsmbus_chi.pdf (Chinese). (S)

Employer's Guide to Workers' Compensation in New York State: Available at www.wcb.ny.gov/content/main/Employers/EmployerHandbook.pdf. (S)

Labor Market Information: Extensive statistical information on New York's labor market, including contact information for regional labor market analysts.
Visit www.labor.ny.gov/stats/index.shtm; or call 518/457-2919. (S)

Work Pays NY: Information, flyers and other materials to help promote public work support programs for low-income employees. Available at www.otda.ny.gov/resources/employers/employerinfo.asp. (S)

NYS Data Center: Census, economic and demographic data.
Visit www.esd.ny.gov/NYSDataCenter.html. (S)

Recall Awareness Promotion Program (RAPP): Information on consumer products that are recalled.
Visit www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection; or call 518/474-3514. (S)

Information Resources

JUMP TO:

- Statewide Resources
- Regional Resources

Information Resources

Security Breach Notification: Information for any business that holds personal information from clients, employees, customers, etc. Visit www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection/security_breach; or call 518/474-3514. (S)

A Guide to Sales Tax in New York State (Pub 750): Available at www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/publications/sales/pub750.pdf. (S)

New York Tax Guide for New Businesses (Pub 20): Available at www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/publications/multi/pub20.pdf. (S)

REGIONAL RESOURCES

New York City (NYC) Business Web Portal: A comprehensive web portal for opening or expanding a business in NYC.

- Support for businesses
- Permits, licenses and regulations
- Taxes and payments
- Financing and incentives
- Contracting with NYC
- Employer information
- NYC business environment
- Infrastructure resources

www.nyc.gov/business (S)

Other Local Resources: Find links to local resources throughout the state. Use this link to find out about local small business programs and resources. www.esd.ny.gov/SmallBusiness.html. (S)

Some regionally based programs are also listed at Funding Incentives and Workforce Recruitment, Development and Benefits.

Technical Assistance

JUMP TO:

- Comprehensive Technical Assistance
- Environmental
- Human Rights
- Minority and Women Business
- Workforce
- Additional TA Resources

Technical Assistance

COMPREHENSIVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Small Business Ombudsman: Technical assistance and referrals to state programs for starting and expanding a small business. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/SmallBusiness.html; e-mail nylovessmbiz@esd.ny.gov; or call 800/782-8369 or 518/292-5220. (S)

Empire State Development (ESD) Regional Offices: Comprehensive assistance to businesses expanding or relocating in the state. The ESD Regional Office staff will help you access state and local economic development resources. To find an ESD Regional Office near you, visit www.esd.ny.gov/RegionalOverviews.html; or call 800/STATE NY.

Entrepreneurial Assistance Program (EAP): Instruction, training and technical assistance to new and very small businesses through 21 EAP Centers throughout NYS. To find an EAP Center near you, visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/EAP.html; or call 212/803-3234. (S)

Small Business Development Centers (SBDC): Individual business counseling, research network library, workshops, seminars and on-line classes for entrepreneurs who want to start a business, improve the performance of an existing business or learn about government procurement. Services are provided through a network of 24 regional centers and are free of charge or minimally priced. Visit www.nyssbdc.org. (S)

ENVIRONMENTAL

Small Business Environmental Ombudsman (SBEO): Provides guidance on which environmental permits are needed, when to obtain them, and the rights and responsibilities of businesses once a permit or registration is issued; as well as referrals for technical and financing services at the local, state and federal levels. SBEO offers assistance investigating and resolving complaints between small businesses and state and/or local authorities. All SBEO services are free and confidential. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/EnvironmentalAssistance.html and click on "permitting and compliance assistance"; email environment@esd.ny.gov; or call 877/247-2329. (S)

Technical Assistance

JUMP TO:

- Comprehensive Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

ENVIRONMENTAL *(CONTINUED)*

Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP): Helps small businesses comply with federal and state environmental regulations. Free, confidential services include air permitting, evaluation of emission control technologies, pollution prevention opportunities, and compliance with waste storage, handling and disposal requirements. On-site environmental audits are also available. Visit www.nysefc.org/home/index.asp?page=20; email sbeap@nysefc.org; or call 800/780-7227 (instate) or 518/402-7462. (S)

Brownfield Redevelopment: Technical assistance to facilitate the remediation and redevelopment of brownfields. www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/BrownfieldCleanup.html; 800/STATE NY. (S)

For additional detailed information about Environmental Improvement Resources, visit our companion directory, Environmental Improvement Resources for Businesses in New York State which is available on the internet. If you do not have open access to the internet, e-mail environment@esd.ny.gov; or call 518/292-5340 to request a copy.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Human Rights: NYS Division of Human Rights will advocate on behalf of business that may have experienced discrimination. Visit www.dhr.ny.gov; or call 718/741-8400 or TDD 718/741-8300. (S)

MINORITY AND WOMEN BUSINESS

Division of Minority and Women Business Development (DMWBD):

Empire State Development's DMWBD helps minority and women-owned business enterprises (MWBEs) obtain:

- MWBE certification
- Contracting opportunities
- Technical assistance
- Financial resources
- Information about upcoming events

www.esd.ny.gov/MWBE.html; 800/STATE NY (S)

Technical Assistance

JUMP TO:

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Technical Assistance

MINORITY AND WOMEN BUSINESS *(CONTINUED)*

Puerto Rican/Latino Business Development Center: Provides technical assistance and referral to Latino small businesses. Contact the ESD Office of Economic Empowerment at 212/803-3227. (S)

Other programs for Minority and Women Business Enterprises are available at Funding Incentives and Government Contracts/Market Expansion.

WORKFORCE

Workers' Compensation Advocate for Business: Assistance to individual businesses with issues regarding their coverage, understanding their rate classifications and compliance with workers' compensation law. Visit www.wcb.ny.gov/content/main/Employers/busadv.jsp; email general_information@wcb.ny.gov; or call 800/628-3331 or 518/486-3331. (S)

For more information on workforce development, visit Information Resources or Workforce Recruitment, Development and Benefits.

ADDITIONAL TA RESOURCES

Industry Specific Programs (for Cable & Telecommunications, Manufacturing and Tech-Based, and Motion Picture and TV).

Government Contracts/Market Expansion (for Government Contracts and Exporting).

Funding Incentives

JUMP TO:

- General Business Financing
- Employer Incentives
- Environmental Improvements and Green Products
- Minority, Women and Disadvantaged Business
- Tax Incentives
- Additional Funding Resources

Funding Incentives

General Business Financing includes programs that offer fixed asset and working capital financing for a wide variety of businesses. Listings for specialized financing includes employer incentives, programs for environmental improvements and green product development/manufacturing, and programs for minority, women, and disadvantaged businesses.

Additional financing programs can be found at Industry Specific Programs.

GENERAL BUSINESS FINANCING

Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC): Assistance for economic development projects in fourteen counties in NY's Southern Tier (Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, Schoharie, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga, and Tompkins counties). For more information, contact the ARC Local Development Districts (LDDs) in your area. Visit www.dos.ny.gov/lg/ARC/index.html.

Capital Access Program (CAP): A newly expanded program that will provide $18.4 million in matching funds to loan loss reserve pools at financial institutions, as an incentive to increase small business lending. Small businesses interested in New York State programs or financing, visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/CapitalAccess.html; or contact the NYS Small Business Division at 800/782-8369 or nylovessmbiz@esd.ny.gov

Commercial District Revolving Loan Trust Fund: Loans to small retail and commercial business for working capital up to $15,000, not to exceed 5 years. In addition, fixed asset loans of up to $20,000, not to exceed 7 years are also qualified. This program is administered through 6 local development corporations around the state that serve a geographically defined target area. Call 212/803-3664.

Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) and Other Alternative Lenders: Loans and TA to small and minority and women businesses. For a list of alternative lenders, including state-supported CDFIs, visit www.esd.ny.gov/SmallBusiness/AlternativeFunding.html or www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/CDFI.html. (S-with conditions)

Downstate Revitalization Fund and Upstate Regional Blueprint Fund: Loans, grants and subsidized loans to assist business capital investment. Visit or contact your Empire State Development (ESD) Regional Office for details at www.esd.ny.gov/RegionalOverviews.html; or call 800/STATE NY.

Flexible Business Financing: For capital improvements, machinery and equipment and job creation. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/Taxes_Incentives.html or contact your ESD Regional Office for details. Regional offices listed at www.esd.ny.gov/RegionalOverviews.html; or call 800/STATE NY.

Funding Incentives

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Funding Incentives

GENERAL BUSINESS FINANCING *(CONTINUED)*

Industrial Effectiveness Program (IEP): Grants for manufacturers to obtain consulting for production and productivity improvements. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/IEP.html.

Innovate NY Fund: A seed stage business equity fund with up to $45 million to support innovation, job creation, and high growth entrepreneurship throughout the state. The investment entities were competitively selected to invest in technology companies and other high growth firms throughout New York State. For a list of NYS companies receiving Innovate NY investments, visit www.esd.ny.gov/InnovateNY.html or email InnovateNY@esd.ny.gov.

Job Development Authority (JDA) Direct Loan Program: provides Direct Loans for the growth of manufacturing and other eligible businesses within New York State by assisting in financing a portion of the cost of acquiring and renovating existing buildings or constructing new buildings ("Real Estate" projects) or for purchasing machinery and equipment ("M&E" projects). Funds to make Loans are derived from the sale of State-guaranteed bonds. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/JDADirectLoanProgram.html.

Linked Deposit Program: Interest rate reductions of 2% or more on loans from commercial banks, savings banks, savings and loans, farm credit bureaus and NY Business Development Corporation. Apply through your commercial lender or contact an ESD Regional Office for more information. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/LinkedDeposit.html; or call 800/STATE NY.

Manufacturing Assistance Program (MAP): Capital grants to manufacturers with at least 50 employees, investing $1M or more to expand production. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/MAP.html; contact your ESD Regional Office, listed at www.esd.ny.gov/RegionalOverviews.html; or call 800/STATE NY.

Metropolitan Economic Revitalization Fund (MERF): Provides loans to businesses or governments investing in projects that retain or create a significant number of private-sector jobs in economically distressed areas within the geographic area known as the NEW YORK portion of the service area of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. These areas include New York City and parts of Nassau, Westchester and Rockland counties. For more information, visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/MERF.html

Funding Incentives

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Funding Incentives

GENERAL BUSINESS FINANCING *(CONTINUED)*

New York State Community Development Block Grant (NYS CDBG) Small Business Program: Funding for eligible applicants (generally municipalities with a population under 50,000 and counties under 200,000) for small business assistance and to conduct microenterprise programs. For more information contact your municipality or visit www.nysdhcr.gov/aboutus/offices/communityrenewal. (S)

New York Healthy Food & Healthy Communities Fund: is a $30 million statewide program created to provide grants and loans for food markets in those communities. By providing financing to supermarket and grocery operators, the program will increase the availability of nutritious food choices for the 1.7 million New Yorkers who lack access to stores with healthy food options. For more information on the Low Income Investment Fund, visit www.liifund.org/programs/healthy-food/; or email nyhealthyfood@liifund.org.

Regional Revolving Loan Trust Fund (RRLTF): Working capital loans and loan guarantees to small businesses employing fewer than 100 employees. Loans of up to $75,000 or 50% of the total project cost, whichever is less, and working capital loan guarantees of up to 80% of the loan amount, not to exceed $80,000. RRLTF is available at 8 local development programs, listed at www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/RRLTF.html. (S)

Small Business Revolving Loan Fund: A $50 million fund targeted to minorities, women and New Yorkers who have difficulty accessing regular credit markets. The state provides $25 million in funds, which is matched by an additional $25 million from the participating lenders. Click here for a list of loan providers and corresponding regions.

Surety Bond Assistance Program: A newly activated program that provides financial and credit assistance, as well as training and technical support to help small business or Minority–and-Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs) secure surety bonds for New York State government contracts. An application may be submitted by a contractor or surety broker/agent at the time a Bid bond or a Payment/Performance bond is required on a New York State agency contract. To download an application, click here (PDF) or here (MS Word).

Funding Incentives

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Funding Incentives

EMPLOYER INCENTIVES

Wage Subsidy and Transitional Employment Programs: Provides financial incentives to firms that hire job seekers on public assistance. Visit www.otda.ny.gov/resources/employers/wagesubsidy.asp; or email jobs@otda.ny.gov.

World Trade Center Job Creation/Retention Program (JCRP): Discretionary grants to encourage firms to create at least 75 new jobs or retain at least 200 jobs for 10 years, in Lower Manhattan. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/WTC_JCRP.html; or call 212/803-3133. (S with conditions)

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS/ENERGY USE REDUCTION

Existing Facilities Program (PON 1219*): Offers customers a comprehensive strategy to realize electric and natural gas savings by implementing cost effective energy-efficiency measures through an integrated approach. For program deadlines or more information visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/Page-Sections/Commercial-and-Industrial/Programs/Existing-Facilities-Program.aspx; or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732) or 518/862-1090. (S)

Flexible Technical Assistance (FlexTech)(PON 1746): Offers a wide range of cost-shared, fuel-neutral technical services to help customers make informed energy-related decisions. FlexTech's goal is to increase productivity and economic competitiveness of participating facilities by identifying and encouraging the implementation of cost-effective energy efficiency, carbon reduction measures, peak-load curtailment, and combined heat & power (CHP) and renewable generation projects. Visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/Page-Sections/Commercial-and-Industrial/Programs/FlexTech-Program.aspx; or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732) or 518/862-1090. (S)

Flex Tech Energy Audit Program (PON 1746*): Provides energy audits to small businesses and other facilities to help them make informed electrical energy decisions and implement energy-efficiency strategies. For program deadlines or more information visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/Page-Sections/Commercial-and-Industrial/Programs/FlexTech-Program/Energy-Audit-Program.aspx; or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732) or 518/862-1090. (S)

Industrial and Process Efficiency Program (IPE 2456): Provides data center and manufacturing customers with performance-based incentives for energy efficient improvements to processes, support systems, and facilities. For program deadlines or more information visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/en/Page-Sections/Commercial-and-Industrial/Programs/Industrial-and-Process-Efficiency.aspx; or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732) or 518/862-1090. (S)

Funding Incentives

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Funding Incentives

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS/ENERGY USE REDUCTION *(CONTINUED)*

New Construction Program (NCP)(PON 601*): Offers customers a way to affect a permanent transformation in the way new and substantially renovated buildings are designed and constructed. For program deadlines or more information visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/Funding-Opportunities/Current-Funding-Opportunities/PON-1601-New-Construction-Program-Financial-Incentives.aspx; or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732) or 518/862-1090. (S)

Renewable Portfolio Standard Customer-Sited Tier Fuel Cell Program (PON 2157*): Offers financial incentives to support the purchase, installation and operation of continuous duty fuel cell systems in New York State. For program deadlines or more information visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/Funding-Opportunities/Current-Funding-Opportunities/PON-2157-Renewable-Portfolio-Standard-Customer-Sited-Tier-Fuel-Cell-Program.aspx; or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732). (S)

Solar PV Program Financial Incentives (PON 2112*): NYSERDA provides cash incentives for the installation by Eligible Installers of new grid-connected Solar Electric or Photovoltaic systems. For program deadlines or more information, visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/Funding-Opportunities/Current-Funding-Opportunities/PON-2112-Solar-PV-Program-Financial-Incentives.aspx; or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732). (S)

Solar Thermal Incentive Program (PON 2149*): NYSERDA requests applications from qualified Solar Thermal (ST) installers for eligibility in a financial incentive program for approved Solar Thermal systems installed for eligible New York State customers. For program deadlines or more information, visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/Funding-Opportunities/Current-Funding-Opportunities/PON-2149-Solar-Thermal-Incentive-Program.aspx; or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732). (S)

Energy Efficiency: Financial and technical assistance for electric and gas efficiency. Programs are available through local utilities throughout New York State. Visit www.askpsc.com/energyefficiency; email web.questions@dps.ny.gov; or call 800/342-3377. (S)

Energy Efficiency Programs in Long Island: Financial and technical assistance for businesses in the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) district. Visit www.lipower.org/ecodev; or call 800/528-2005. (S)

*NYSERDA's funding programs are updated on a continual basis. Please refer to NYSERDA's website at www.nyserda.ny.gov for up-to-date funding opportunities.

Funding Incentives

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Funding Incentives

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS/POLLUTION PREVENTION, WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING

Environmental Investment Program (EIP): Capital, research development and technical assistance funding to assist manufacturers and other businesses reduce the volume or toxicity of waste and by-products; or expand capacity to recycle commercial/industrial waste in value-added applications. (Other criteria apply.) Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/EnvironmentalAssistance.html; email environment@esd.ny.gov; or call 518/292-5340.

Clean Vessel Assistance Program (CVAP): Established to improve water quality in New York's navigable waterways. Grants to manage facilities for pump-out and dump stations for sewage from recreational marine vessels. Visit www.nysefc.org/home/index.asp?page=21; email cvap@nysefc.org; or call 800/882-9721 (instate) or 518/402-7461. (S)

Industrial Finance Program (IFP): Low interest loan program for eligible environmental improvement and management projects (including compliance) that are generally over $2 million. Loans are capitalized through tax-exempt bonds. Funds can be used for solid waste management, resource recovery, sewage treatment, drinking water supply and industrial hazardous waste facilities, as well as brownfield site remediation capital costs. Visit www.nysefc.org/home/index.asp?page=18; or call 800/882-9721 (instate) or 518/402-7461.

Renewable Portfolio Standard Customer-Sited Tier Anaerobic Digester Gas-To-Electricity Program (PON 2276*): Approximately $57 million is being made available to support the installation and operation of anaerobic digester gas (ADG)-to-electricity systems in New York State through 2015. Funding is on a first-come, first-served basis; up to $1 million is available per host site, depending on project size. For program deadlines or for more information visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/Funding-Opportunities/Current-Funding-Opportunities/PON-2276-Renewable-Portfolio-Standard-Customer-Sited-Tier-Anaerobic-Digester-Gas-Electricity-Program.aspx; or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732). (S)

*NYSERDA's funding programs are updated on a continual basis. Please refer to NYSERDA's website at www.nyserda.ny.gov for up-to-date funding opportunities.

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Funding Incentives

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS/GREEN PRODUCTS

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR): Technical assistance is available to help businesses secure federal funding through SBIR and STTR. Assistance includes proposal review, targeting federal programs, and assisting the progression of the R&D project through several phases of funding to eventual commercialization. SBIR awards are used by new companies as initial start-up funding or by existing companies to create new products and move into new markets. SBIR pays for the research and the findings are reported to the government but the firm owns the idea, intellectual property and commercialization rights. There is an emphasis on funding the development of manufacturing technologies. Contact your Regional Technology Development Center (RTDC) for a referral at www.esd.ny.gov/nystar/RegionalTechCtrs.asp; or call 518/292-5700. (S)

For additional detailed information about Environmental Improvement Resources, visit our companion directory, Environmental Improvement Resources for Businesses in New York State which is available on the internet. If you do not have open access to the internet, e-mail environment@esd.ny.gov; or call 518/292-5340 to request a copy.

Funding Incentives

JUMP TO:

- General Business Financing
- Employer Incentives
- Environmental Improvements and Green Products
- Minority, Women and Disadvantaged Business
- Tax Incentives
- Additional Funding Resources

Funding Incentives

MINORITY, WOMEN AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS

Transportation Capital Assistance Program for MWBE Contractors: Provides loans to Minority and Women Business Enterprises (MWBE) who have transportation related contracts and are in need of loan capital. Call 212/803-2317 or visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/TransportationCapitalAssistance.html for more information.

Financing Resources: NY Loves Minority and Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) website has information on several financing programs of interest to MWBEs, including:

- Public/Non-Profit Financing
- Investment Companies
- Bonding

www.esd.ny.gov/SmallBusiness/AccessToCapital.html

Women and Minority Micro-Enterprise Loan Fund: Loans to certified Minority and Women Business Enterprises (MWBE) for real property, equipment and working capital. Loan sizes range from $5,000 to $7,000. There are currently two lending areas. In the Bronx, contact Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation at 718/537-5261. In Schenectady contact Better Neighborhoods, Inc at 518/372-6469.

Self-Employment Program: Consultation and financial support for legally blind individuals who wish to start their own small business. All candidates must be referred through the Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped Vocational Rehabilitation Program. Contact Sharon.Flom@ocfs.state.ny.us; or call 518/474-7807. (S)

Funding Incentives

JUMP TO:

- General Business Financing
- Employer Incentives
- Environmental Improvements and Green Products
- Minority, Women and Disadvantaged Business
- Tax Incentives
- Additional Funding Resources

Funding Incentives

TAX INCENTIVES

Business Expansion or Relocation Tax Incentives: There are a variety of incentives for companies expanding or relocating in the Empire State. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/Taxes_Incentives.html for a list of those incentives or call 800/STATE-NY. (S)

Empire Zones: NYS tax credits, utility rate reduction for qualified capital investments and/or job creation in selected geographic areas. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/EmpireZones.html or contact your local Empire Zone Office listed at www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/Data/EmpireZones/EmpireZone_Coordinators.pdf; or call 800/STATE-NY. (S)

Empowerment Zones (EZ): Financial assistance and tax credits for businesses in designated geographic areas of Upper Manhattan and the South Bronx. Services include loans and federal tax credits. For general program information, visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/NYEZ.html or call 212/803-3240. For specific programs for Upper Manhattan, visit www.umez.org or call 212/410-0030; and visit www.boedc.com or call 718/590-6016 for the Bronx. (S)

Motion Picture and TV Development Tax Credits: Tax credits for film, television and commercial production. Visit www.nylovesfilm.com/index.asp; email nyfilm@esd.ny.gov; or call 212/803-2320. (S)

New York Green Building Tax Credit Program (GBTC): Offers building owners and developers deductions from their state taxes (under Chapter 19 of Article 1 of the Tax Law) for the eligible expenses associated with designing and constructing green buildings or rehabilitating existing buildings to include additional "green" features. The tax credit is in its second period, and buildings built after January 1, 2005 that are greater than 20,000 square feet are eligible. $25 million in credits are available. Credit component certificates can be issued through 2010 and tax credits can be received through 2014. Visit www.dec.ny.gov/energy/218.html.

Workers with Disabilities Employment Tax Credit (WETC): A NYS tax credit of up to $2,100 for each individual hired. WETC is New York State's initiative to assist the disabled in securing employment. Visit www.labor.ny.gov/businessservices/EDSU/EDSU%20WETC.shtm; or call 888/4 NYSDOL (888/469-7365) or 518/457-9000. (S)

Funding Incentives

JUMP TO:

- General Business Financing
- Employer Incentives
- Environmental Improvements and Green Products
- Minority, Women and Disadvantaged Business
- Tax Incentives
- Additional Funding Resources

Funding Incentives

TAX INCENTIVES *(CONTINUED)*

Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC): A federal tax credit for hiring individuals who qualify as a member of a target group. Target groups include veterans, ex-felons, food stamp recipients ages 18 to 39, vocational rehabilitation referrals and certain residents of Empowerment Zones.
Visit www.labor.ny.gov/businessservices/EDSU/EDSU%20WOTC.shtm; or call 518/457-0000. (S)

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

Industry Specific Programs (for Agriculture and Manufacturing and Tech-Based)

Government Contracts/ Market Expansion (for Exporting)

Industry Specific Programs

JUMP TO:

- Agriculture
- Cable and Telecommunications
- Construction
- Design
- Insurance
- Manufacturing and Tech-Based
- Motion Picture and Television

Industry Specific Programs

AGRICULTURE

Farmers Market Grant Program: Provides assistance for the construction, reconstruction, improvement, expansion or rehabilitation of farmers markets, including assistance for engineering or architectural designs. Visit www.agriculture.ny.gov/RFPS.html; or call 800/554-4501. (S)

Other programs for agricultural businesses are available at Workforce Recruitment, Development and Benefits, Government Contracting/Market Expansion and Mandated State Filings.

CABLE AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Cable Television Regulations: Provides guidance on federal and state laws and regulations governing cable television. Visit www.dps.ny.gov/CableMuniAssistSection.htm; or call 518/474-2213. (S)

Do Not Call Telemarketing Law: Technical assistance and information for any business that conducts telemarketing. Visit www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection/do_not_call; or call 518/474-3514. (S)

Utilities, Telecommunications and Cable Assistance: Assistance with complaints, consumer protections, utility service inquiries, coordination of telecommunication service migration to another carrier, dispute resolution, tariff matters and more. Visit www.askpsc.com/askpsc/business; email web.questions@dps.ny.gov; or call 800/342-3377. (S)

CONSTRUCTION

Office of General Services (OGS) Design and Construction Group: Provides a complete directory of certified Minority and Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) for utilization as subcontractors and suppliers for NYS government building construction contracts. Visit www.ogs.ny.gov/BU/DC; or call 877/OGS-PLAN (647-7526). (S)

For more information on Government Contracts, visit Government Contracts/Market Expansion.

Industry Specific Programs

JUMP TO:

- Agriculture
- Cable and Telecommunications
- Construction
- Design
- Insurance
- Manufacturing and Tech-Based
- Motion Picture and Television

Industry Specific Programs

DESIGN

NY Designs Business Incubator (NYDes): Studio space in NYC for emerging businesses in all design disciplines (from product and industrial design to fashion, interiors, graphics, web design and architecture) that have been in business no more than five years. Other services, including prototype lab rental, business counseling and business classes, are open to all designers and those interested in the design profession. Visit www.nydesigns.org; or call 718/663-8403. (S)

INSURANCE

Insurance Information and Enforcement System (IIES): Provides updates from the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to the insurance industry. IIES significantly affects how transaction information about liability insurance policies is communicated between business partners (industry to DMV and DMV to industry). Visit www.dmv.ny.gov/iies.htm; email iies@dmv.ny.gov; or call 518/402-2130. (S)

MANUFACTURING AND TECH-BASED/TECHNICAL, R&D, AND PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Centers for Advanced Technology (CATs): CATs specialize in specific technologies, and use State funds to partner with companies with applied research and development, product development and technical challenges. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/nystar/CentersforAdvTechnolgy.asp; or call 518/292-5700.

High Performance Computing Program (HPC): Provides small businesses access to the world's fastest supercomputers for advanced simulations, modeling and development aimed at improving their operations. The supercomputers are located at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Stony Brook/ Brookhaven National Lab facilities. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/nystar/HighPerformanceComputing.asp; or call 518/292-5700. (S)

New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYS P2I): NYS P2I and its partners— Clarkson University, University of Buffalo, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the 10 RTDCs statewide— assist business with technology transfer and scale-up, including the identification of pollution prevention opportunities and process and product designs. Programs are customized. Professional training and workshops on such topics as lean manufacturing, surface cleaning, and emerging international regulations are also available. Visit www.nysp2i.rit.edu.

Industry Specific Programs

JUMP TO:

- Agriculture
- Cable and Telecommunications
- Construction
- Design
- Insurance
- Manufacturing and Tech-Based
- Motion Picture and Television

Industry Specific Programs

MANUFACTURING AND TECH-BASED/TECHNICAL, R&D, AND PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES *(CONTINUED)*

Regional Technology Development Centers (RTDCs): A network of consultants providing smaller manufacturers and technology companies with business strategy, lean manufacturing and production techniques, new technologies, financing, venture capital, and Federal research grant information and assistance. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/nystar/RegionalTechCtrs.asp: or call 518/292-5700. (S)

SustainableWorksNYC: To help accelerate emerging companies in the sustainability sector and support commercialization and entry of clean energy technologies into NYC markets. Located at Bronx Community College/CUNY, SustainableWorks brings together academia, government partnership potential, private industry and skill training programs.
Visit www.cuny.edu/about/resources/sustainability/about-us/worksNYC.html. (S)

Technology Incubators and Co-Location Facilities: There are over 80 incubator and co-location facilities across the state. These include technology-specific facilities for life science companies and broad-based business incubation centers. For assistance locating an incubator facility to meet your company's needs, visit www.esd.ny.gov/nystar/TechnologyIncubators.asp; or call 518/292-5700. (S)

The New York State Science and Technology Law Center (NYSSTLC): Advises research centers and small and start-up companies on technology-related legal issues and provides intellectual property reviews to assess the commercial and licensing potential of new technologies. Apply directly to NYSSTLC or through NYSTAR. Visit nysstlc.syr.edu/About_The_Center/NYS_STLC/default.aspx; or call 518/292-5700. (S)

Industry Specific Programs

JUMP TO:

- Agriculture
- Cable and Telecommunications
- Construction
- Design
- Insurance
- Manufacturing and Tech-Based
- Motion Picture and Television

Industry Specific Programs

MANUFACTURING AND TECH-BASED/FUNDING

Flexible Technical Assistance (FlexTech) (PON 1746): Offers a wide range of cost-shared, fuel-neutral technical services to help customers make informed energy-related decisions. FlexTech's goal is to increase productivity and economic competitiveness of participating facilities by identifying and encouraging the implementation of cost-effective energy efficiency, carbon reduction measures, peak-load curtailment, and combined heat & power (CHP) and renewable generation projects. For program deadlines or more information, visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/Page-Sections/Commercial-and-Industrial/Programs/FlexTech-Program.aspx; or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732). (S)

Industrial Process and Product Innovation (IPE) (PON 2456*): Provides data center and manufacturing customers with performance-based incentives for energy efficient improvements to processes, support systems, and facilities. Delivers electric and natural gas energy efficient solutions that increase productivity, product quality and business' bottom line. Visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/en/Page-Sections/Commerical-and-Industrial/Programs/Industrial-and-Process-Efficiency.aspx; or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732). (S)

*NYSERDA's funding programs are updated on a continual basis. Please refer to NYSERDA's website at www.nyserda.ny.gov for up-to-date funding opportunities.

Industrial Effectiveness Program (IEP): Grants for manufacturers to obtain consulting for production and productivity improvements. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/IEP.html; contact your ESD Regional Office listed at www.esd.ny.gov/RegionalOverviews.html; or call 800/STATE NY.

Industry Specific Programs

JUMP TO:

- Agriculture
- Cable and Telecommunications
- Construction
- Design
- Insurance
- Manufacturing and Tech-Based
- Motion Picture and Television

Industry Specific Programs

MANUFACTURING AND TECH-BASED/FUNDING *(CONTINUED)*

Manufacturing Assistance Program (MAP): Capital grants to manufacturers with at least 50 employees, investing $1M or more to expand production. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/MAP.html; contact your ESD Regional Office, listed at www.esd.ny.gov/RegionalOverviews.html; or call 800/STATE NY.

Regional Seed Funds: Funding and support for seed-stage technology entrepreneurs for the development of marketable commercial products and associated services. There are currently two funds: NYC Seed in the greater New York City area www.nycseed.com; and the Western New York Business Development Fund www.insyte-consulting.com/Funding/BDF. (S)

Small Business Technology Investment Fund (SBTIF): Provides venture capital investments for early stage high-tech companies focused on developing innovative technology products and related services that display significant competitive advantage and market acceptance.
Visit www.esd.ny.gov/smallbusiness/sbtif.asp; or call 518/292-5700. (S)

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR): Technical assistance is available to help businesses secure federal funding through SBIR and STTR. Assistance includes proposal review, targeting federal programs, and assisting the progression of the R&D project through several phases of funding to eventual commercialization. SBIR awards are used by new companies as initial start-up funding or by existing companies to create new products and move into new markets. SBIR pays for the research and the findings are reported to the government but the firm owns the idea, intellectual property and commercialization rights. There is an emphasis on funding the development of manufacturing technologies. Contact your Regional Technology Development Center (RTDC) for a referral at www.esd.ny.gov/nystar/rtdcs.htm; or 518/292-5700. (S)

Industry Specific Programs

JUMP TO:

- Agriculture
- Cable and Telecommunications
- Construction
- Design
- Insurance
- Manufacturing and Tech-Based
- Motion Picture and Television

Industry Specific Programs

MOTION PICTURE AND TELEVISION

Governor's Office for Motion Picture and Television Development: Assistance to film production companies including scouting, research, location images and working with local officials to cut red-tape. Visit www.nylovesfilm.com; email nyfilm@esd.ny.gov; or call 212/803-2320. (S)

Motion Picture and TV Development Tax Credits: Tax credits for film, television and commercial production. Visit www.nylovesfilm.com; email nyfilm@esd.ny.gov; or call 212/803-2320. (S)

For information on other financial assistance programs for a wide variety of businesses, visit Funding Incentives.

Workforce Recruitment, Development and Benefits

JUMP TO:

- Recruiting and Training Employees
- Employee Benefits/ Worker Support Services

Workforce Recruitment, Development and Benefits

RECRUITING AND TRAINING EMPLOYEES

Targeted Job Recruitment for Businesses: DOL business service teams coordinate employee recruitment to meet employment needs of businesses. To find a business services representative for your county, visit www.labor.ny.gov/businessservices/localcontacts/LocalContactsIndex.shtm; or call 888/469-7365 or 518/457-9000. (S)

Agricultural Workforce Certification Program (AWCP): Assists New York farmers with the recruitment, training and placement of agricultural employees. Visit www.agriculture.ny.gov/AP/AWCP.html; or call 800/554-4501. (S)

Builder Contractor Training Program: NYSERDA supports training in existing home renovation, new construction, and green homes. For more information, visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/Programs/Workforce-Development-and-Training-Programs/Builder-Contractor.aspx; or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732). (S)

Career Fairs/Job Fairs: Coordinate career fairs that offer businesses and educational training providers an opportunity to interact with potential job seekers. Visit www.labor.ny.gov/careerservices/findajob/JobFairRecruitmentsIndex.shtm; or call 888/469-7365 or 518/457-9000. (S)

Center for Energy Efficiency and Building Science: Energy efficiency training supported by NYSERDA, headquartered at Hudson Valley Community College with 11 other centers across the state. For more information, visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/en/Page-Sections/Workforce-Development-and-Training-Programs/Training-Information/Energy-Efficiency-Training.aspx or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732). (S)

Employee Screening Service: Based upon an employer's business requirements, NY Jobs Program will screen, interview and refer qualified candidates that are low-income individuals seeking employment. Visit www.otda.ny.gov/resources/employers/jobsprogram.asp; or find your local Jobs Program Coordinator today at www.otda.ny.gov/resources/employers/map.asp. (S)

Employee Training: State University of New York (SUNY) has 64 campuses throughout the state, and will work with businesses to develop customized employee training programs. Visit www.suny.edu/student/campuses_map.cfm for a map of campus locations and campus contact information. (S)

Workforce Recruitment, Development and Benefits

JUMP TO:

- Recruiting and Training Employees
- Employee Benefits/ Worker Support Services

Workforce Recruitment, Development and Benefits

RECRUITING AND TRAINING EMPLOYEES *(CONTINUED)*

Green Jobs Green New York NYS Registered Apprenticeship and Building Trades Training and On-the-Job Training (PON 2033*): Designed to advance the skills of new and existing workers, provide job-related experience, and help connect new workers to the employers to implement energy efficiency, weatherization, green building principles, and solar water heating installations. For program deadlines or more information visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/Funding-Opportunities/Current-Funding-Opportunities/PON-2033-Green-Jobs-Green-New-York-NYS-Registered-Apprenticeship-and-Building-Trades-Training.aspx; or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732) 518/862-1090. (S)

Renewable Energy Training: Training centers across the state have received funding from NYSERDA to conduct classes on various renewable energy technologies (photovoltaics, solar thermal, wind, anaerobic digestion, geothermal, fuel cells). For program deadlines or more information visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/en/Page-Sections/Workforce-Development-and-Training-Programs/Training-Information/Renewable-Energy-Training.aspx; or call 866/NYSERDA (697-3732). (S)

*NYSERDA's funding programs are updated on a continual basis. Please refer to NYSERDA's website at www.nyserda.ny.gov for up-to-date funding opportunities.

Shared Work: Allows employers to avoid layoffs by reducing the hours of their workforce and have employees collect Unemployment Insurance (UI). Employees continue to get full fringe benefits with reduced salary, and partial UI benefits to replace wages. Visit www.labor.state.ny.us/ui/dande/sharedwork1.shtm; or call 888/469-7365 or 518/457-9000. (S)

Workplace Health and Safety: Consulting, prevention services and training in the handling of certain materials, interpretation and compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations and other occupational health guidance. Visit www.nyhealth.gov/environmental/workplace; email BOH@health.ny.gov; or call 866/881-2809. (S)

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS/WORKER SUPPORT SERVICES

Healthy NY: Affordable insurance coverage to eligible small businesses that are not currently offering health insurance coverage to their employees. Visit www.dfs.ny.gov/website2/hny/english/hny.htm; email askhealthyny@dfs.ny.gov; or call 866/HEALTHY NY (866/432-5849). (S)

Workforce Recruitment, Development and Benefits

JUMP TO:

- Recruiting and Training Employees
- Employee Benefits/ Worker Support Services

Workforce Recruitment, Development and Benefits

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS/WORKER SUPPORT SERVICES *(CONTINUED)*

Brooklyn HealthWorks: Low-cost health insurance for small businesses and other small employers in Brooklyn. Provided through the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce with funding assistance from the NYS Insurance Department. Visit www.brooklynhealthworks.com; or call 718/596-4550.

Child Health Plus (CHPlus): Provides insurance coverage through health plans for uninsured children up to 400% of federal poverty level. Visit www.health.ny.gov/health_care/child_health_plus; or call 800/698-4543. (S)

Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC): Provides prescription drug coverage to seniors who meet age and income eligibility requirements. For more information, visit www.health.ny.gov/health_care/epic or call the First Health Services Corporation at 800/332-3742. (S)

Family Health Plus Premium Assistance Program: Pays the employee share of employer-offered health insurance premiums for persons who meet the Family Health Plus eligibility requirements. For more information about Family Health Plus visit www.nyhealth.gov/nysdoh/fhplus/faq.htm or call 877/9FH PLUS. To find out how to qualify employees for premium assistance, employers should contact their local Department of Social Services Medicaid office, listed at www.nyhealth.gov/health_care/medicaid/ldss.htm. (S)

NYS Occupational Health Clinic Network (OHCN): A network of seven occupational health clinics, available to all workers, retirees and residents of NYS (one clinic specializes in farm worker health and safety). No worker is turned away because of an inability to pay and the OHCN clinics can bill directly to most major health insurance carriers. Visit www.nyhealth.gov/environmental/workplace/clinic_network.htm. (S)

Workers' Compensation (WC) and NYS Disability (DBL) Insurance Plans: WC and DBL plans are offered by NYS Insurance Fund (NYSIF) for all businesses. The mission of NYSIF is to drive down the cost of WC and DBL insurance in NYS. NYSIF is a full service insurer providing claims management, risk management, and related legal services. Visit www.nysif.com; email pblinfo@nysif.com; or call 888/875-5790. For website assistance call 877/435-7743.

Work Pays NY: A variety of assistance programs that may provide valuable benefits to your employees and help your bottom line in reducing turnover and training costs. Includes food and nutrition benefits, Home Energy Assistance and Earned Income Tax Credits for low-to-moderate income New Yorkers. Visit www.otda.ny.gov/resources/employers/employerinfo.asp; or email jobs@otda.ny.gov. (S)

Additional Workforce Recruitment, Development and Benefit information is available at Information Resources, Technical Assistance, and Funding Incentives.

Government Contracts/ Market Expansion

JUMP TO:

- Government Contracts
- Exporting
- Marketing/Branding
- Market Information

Government Contracts/Market Expansion

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS

NYS Contract Reporter: An online publication listing NYS bid opportunities for goods and services. Basic access is free. View the Contract Reporter at www.nyscr.com. (S)

Minority and Women Business Certification: Certifies Minority and Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) firms for State contracting and publishes an online directory of certified MWBEs. Apply online at www.esd.ny.gov/MWBE/Certification.html; view the directory at www.esd.ny.gov/MWBE.html.

NYS Procurement Information: General information on the NYS government procurement process, how a business can prepare to enter this marketplace, and referrals to other resources. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/ProcurementAssistance.html; or call 518/292-5266. (S)

Selling to NYS: Assistance to businesses seeking to market products and services to NYS governmental entities. Visit www.ogs.ny.gov/BU/PC; email customer.services@ogs.ny.gov; or call 518/474-6717. (S)

Regional Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTAC): Provides assistance to access state, local and federal government bid opportunities. A list of PTACs is at www.dla.mil/db/procurem.htm. (S)

Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) Procurement Training: Preparing for Profit Program (PREP) offers information about government purchasing and contracting procedures, cost estimating techniques, developing proposals, image building and cross cultural communications. Procurement and certification sessions are for Minority, Women and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (M/W/DBEs) to meet MTA procurement representatives and prime contractors to assist in becoming certified and accessing subcontracting opportunities, also to provide prospective minority firms with an overview of the Federal DBE Certification process. Visit www.mta.info/mta/procurement; or email vprocure@mtabt.org.(S)

Small Business Transportation Resource Center (SBTRC): Counseling to small businesses seeking to sell products and services for US DOT projects. Emphasis on minority, women and disadvantaged businesses. Visit www.osdbu.dot.gov/regional/northeast.cfm; or call 718/482-5941. (S)

Government Contracts/ Market Expansion

JUMP TO:

- Government Contracts
- Exporting
- Marketing/Branding
- Market Information

Government Contracts/Market Expansion

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS *(CONTINUED)*

Doing Business with New York State. Available at www.ogs.ny.gov/MWBE/Docs/DoingBusinessWithNYS.pdf. (S)

Seller Information and Bid Opportunities: Announcements and general information, doing business with New York State, and information on selected contracts.
Available at www.ogs.ny.gov/BU/PC. (S)

New York State Centralized Contracts: Available at www.ogs.ny.gov/BU/PC/Buyerinfo.asp. (S)

Selling Products and Services to the State of New York: A Guide for Small Businesses. Available at www.ogs.ny.gov/purchase/spg/pdfdocs/NySbGuide.pdf. (S)

For more listings on Government Contracts, visit Industry Specific Programs.

EXPORTING

Export Market Assistance Service (EMAS): Technical assistance to identify foreign sales agents and distributors. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/EMAS.html or contact your Empire State Development (ESD) Regional Office, listed at www.esd.ny.gov/RegionalOverviews.html; or call 800/STATE NY.

Export NY: In-depth classes for small and medium enterprises to learn how to develop and implement a strategic export market sales plan. For a schedule of training opportunities, contact your ESD Regional Office listed at www.esd.ny.gov/RegionalOverviews.html; or call 800/STATE NY. (S - with conditions)

Global Export Marketing Service (GEMS): Matching grants for export marketing, strategic trade events and expanding export sales for industry groups. Visit www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/GEMS.html or contact your ESD Regional Office listed at www.esd.ny.gov/RegionalOverviews.html or call 800/STATE NY. (S)

International Trade Shows and Missions: Participation in trade shows and missions to major international trade events. For a schedule of trade shows, contact your ESD Regional Office, listed at www.esd.ny.gov/RegionalOverviews.html or call 800/STATE NY. (S)

Government Contracts/ Market Expansion

JUMP TO:

- Government Contracts
- Exporting
- Marketing/Branding
- Market Information

Government Contracts/Market Expansion

EXPORTING *(CONTINUED)*

Food Export USA Northeast – The Branded Program: Cost-share grants that support the promotion of branded and private label food and agricultural products in foreign markets. Funding can be used for a wide variety of eligible international marketing and promotional activities. Visit www.foodexport.org or the NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets at www.agriculture.ny.gov/AP/agservices/inttrade.html; 800/554-4501. (S)

MARKETING/BRANDING

NY Lottery Retailer Licensing: Retail business licensing for selling Lottery tickets. Licensed, small retail businesses receive 6% sales commission from their Lottery ticket sales as well as assistance with business basics such as merchandising, customer service and product accounting.
Visit www.nylottery.ny.gov; email retailers@lottery.ny.gov; or call 877/238-5127. (S)

Organic Growers Certification Reimbursement Program: Reimbursement for a portion of annual Organic Certification fee costs. Visit www.agriculture.ny.gov/AP/Organic/reimbursement.html; or call 800/554-4501. (S)

Pride of New York: Promotes the sale of NYS produced food and food products through branding, marketing materials and other promotional activities. Food and agricultural products produced or processed in NYS are eligible for participation. Visit www.prideofny.com; or call 800/554-4501. (S)

MARKET INFORMATION

NYS Data Center: Census, economic and demographic data.
Visit www.esd.ny.gov/NYSDataCenter.html. (S)

Recycling Markets Database: An online database of recyclers and reuse organizations in the Northeast. Recycling Markets Database helps to locate outlets for materials that can be reused, recycled or composted; and helps end users locate sources of recycled materials through intermediate processors or material recovery facilities. Visit appcenter.nylovesbiz.com/esdrecycling. (S)

Mandated State Filings

JUMP TO:

- Technical Assistance
- Employment
- Environment
- Business Registration and Licensing
- Taxes

Mandated State Filings

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Business Permit Assistance Program and Online Permit Assistance and Licensing (OPAL): A resource that helps prospective business owners find out how to comply with New York State permit and licensing requirements. Your business may be subject to licensing by one or more levels of government. Technical assistance and permit assistance kits provide information on NYS requirements for business start-up. Visit www.licensecenter.ny.gov; email comments@elicensing.ny.gov; or call Customer Care Center at 518/453-8130. (S)

Corporate Registration Information: General information about forming a corporation, filing forms and fees, registry of corporate and business entities. Visit www.dos.ny.gov/corps; email corporations@dos.ny.gov; or call 518/474-4752; 212/417-5800; or first-time filers can file online at www.licensecenter.ny.gov. (S)

Licensed Professions Information: General information on licensing of many professions, including real estate professionals, beauticians, barbers, hearing aid dispensers, pet cemetery operators. License applications, exams and publications. Visit www.dos.ny.gov/licensing; email info@dos.ny.gov; call 518/474-4752; 212/417-5800. (S)

Insurance Licensing: Insurance agents, brokers, consultants, reinsurance intermediaries, adjusters and bail bondsman are licensed by the NYS Department of Financial Services. Visit www.dfs.ny.gov/insurance/iablicn.htm; or call 518/474-6630. (S)

EMPLOYMENT

Employment Laws Web Portal: Including minimum wage, hours of work, child labor, payment of wages and wage supplements, industrial homework, apparel industry registration, registration of professional employer organizations, farm labor and employment agencies outside New York City. Visit www.labor.ny.gov/workerprotection/laborstandards/labor_standards.shtm; or call 888/469-7365 or 518/457-9000. (S)

Farm Workers: Information and links for minimum wage standards, certificates of registration for employing migrant workers, farm labor contractors, farm labor commissaries, and youth rate. Visit www.labor.ny.gov/workerprotection/laborstandards/farm_labor.shtm; for a list of Labor Standard Contacts, www.labor.ny.gov/workerprotection/laborstandards/ls_ContactUs.shtm; or call 888/4 NYSDOL (888/469-7365) or 518/457-9000. (S)

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EMPLOYMENT *(CONTINUED)*

Public Work: Information about public work wage schedules and more available at www.labor.ny.gov/workerprotection/publicwork/PW_faq1.shtm#0; or call 518/457-9000 (S).

Unemployment Insurance: General information on Unemployment Insurance and registering as an employer. For more information, visit www.labor.ny.gov/ui/employer.shtm; for an on-line email directory www.labor.ny.gov/secure/contact/; or call 888/469-7365 or 518/457-9000. (S)

Workers Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) Act: WARN requires employers to provide 90 days notice prior to a plant closing, mass layoff or relocation to affected employees and their representatives, the New York Department of Labor and the local Workforce Investment Board. The State WARN Act applies to private sector employers with 50 or more workers who layoff 25 or more employees. For more information, visit www.labor.ny.gov/workforcenypartners/warn/warnportal.shtm; for an on-line email directory www.labor.ny.gov/secure/contact; or call 888/469-7365 or 518/457-9000. (S)

Workers' Compensation: Information on Workers' Compensation, how to obtain it for your employees, and the procedure if an accident occurs. Available at www.wcb.ny.gov/content/main/Employers/Employers.jsp. (S)

ENVIRONMENT

Asbestos Removal and Abatement: NYS Department of Labor (DOL) regulates asbestos control activities in NYS. Information concerning asbestos abatement and removal contractor licensing, asbestos handler certifications, notification of large asbestos projects and pre-demolition surveys is available at www.labor.ny.gov/workerprotection/safetyhealth/DOSH_ASBESTOS.shtm; or call 518/457-9000. (S)

Environmental Permits: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) provides procedural assistance and serves as the single point of contact for preparing and filing applications, managing the process, and receipt of NYS environmental permits. Small businesses can contact their technical assistance provider first (such as Small Business Environmental Ombudsman or Small Business Environmental Assistance Program) and then a regional permit administrator will inform applicants of the necessary DEC permits. Visit www.dec.ny.gov/permits/363.html for a list of DEC regional offices. (S)

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BUSINESS REGISTRATION AND LICENSING

NYS Business License Center: Guides users through the process and requirements for starting or expanding a business in New York State. Obtain a state Tax ID Number and a Federal Employer Identification Number, track the status of submitted online applications, research a comprehensive list of NYS permit profiles with information on over 1,200 business-related permits and licenses issued by 36 state agencies, and research requirements for over 400 types of businesses. Visit www.licensecenter.ny.gov/business-licenses. (S)

Liquor Manufacture and Wholesale: The State Liquor Authority regulates the sale and trafficking of alcoholic beverages, including spirits, wine and beer. For more information on the Wholesale Bureau, visit www.sla.ny.gov/wholesale; email Wholesale@sla.ny.gov; or call 518/474-6820. (S)

Liquor Licensing: Visit www.sla.ny.gov/licensing-information-0; email Licensing.Infomation@sla.ny.gov. (S)

Motor Vehicle Registrations: Information concerning commercial driver license; commercial carrier certifications; international registration; dealers, repair shops and inspection stations; Small Business Registration Guide - vehicle inspection; commercial driving schools; motor carriers who employ bus drivers; license event notification service for employers, drinking driver program; and vehicle escort services is available at www.dmv.ny.gov by scrolling to "Information for Businesses." Or call 212/645-5550 (NYC), 718/477-4820 (LI and HV) or 518/486-9786 (all other areas) for more information. Some DMV permits can be filed on-line for most first-time filers at www.dmv.ny.gov/nav/driver-license-learner-permit. (S)

Telecommunications Regulations: Assistance obtaining a certificate of Public Convenience & Necessity; procedures and assistance in obtaining regulatory approval to seek or acquire assets or stock of another telecom company. For more information, visit www.dps.ny.gov; call 518/474-4500. (S)

TAXES

Taxes: Guidance, online services, and forms that help taxpayers and tax professionals comply with the tax law. Visit www.tax.ny.gov. (S)

This is not an exhaustive list of required permits and filings. Contact your attorney for guidance.

Contact Us

To provide suggestions, send feedback or receive updates of this directory, please click here.

If you represent a State agency and provide a program for small business that should be listed please click here.

If you are using this directory without internet access, call 518/292-5220.