

Small Business Counseling, Classes, and Workshops

(Many Free or Low Cost)

Basic Start-Up Information

Central Library's Small Business Resource Center

Business and Social Sciences Division, Central Library of Rochester & Monroe County
115 South Ave., Rochester, NY • 585-428-8130

www.libraryweb.org

Provides small business information and secondary market research, makes referrals to community small business experts, and hosts free small business workshops.

College at Brockport Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

55 Saint Paul St., Rochester, NY • 585-395-8410

www.nyssbdc.org (Click on **Locations**)

Offers free counseling, training, and business research on starting and running a business. The SBDC assists with New York State M/WBE certification applications and more.

Rochester Professional Consultants Network (RPCN)

• 585-348-7142; www.rochesterconsultants.org

Enables its members to develop premier consulting businesses by providing access to business, social, and community networking; education; and mutual support to improve their businesses.

SCORE, Greater Rochester Chapter

100 State St., Room 410, Rochester, NY • 585-263-6473

www.greaterrochester.score.org; www.score.org (national organization)

Supports the aspiring and current small business owner through free counseling and mentoring and a variety of free or low-cost workshops on small business topics. SCORE also advises nonprofits and nonprofit startups.

Urban League of Rochester, N.Y., Inc.

Business Development Center

265 North Clinton Ave., Rochester, NY • 585-325-6530, ext. 3066

www.ulr.org (Click on **Programs** then on **Business Development**)

Offers Empire State Development's Entrepreneurial Assistance Program (EAP) with one-on-one technical assistance and workshops on starting and running a business. With a focus on minority, women, and veteran-owned businesses, the program also includes dislocated workers, the disabled and all other aspiring (and current) business owners. Assistance with New York State M/WBE certification is also provided.

More Helpful Small Business Resources

Center for Urban Entrepreneurship at Rochester Institute of Technology

40 Franklin St., Rochester, NY • 585-475-6092

www.rit.edu/business/cue

Assists urban entrepreneurs, who have been in business at least three years, with an intensive capacity building training program.

Central Library's Chester F. Carlson Patent and Trademark Center

Science and History Division, Central Library of Rochester & Monroe County

115 South Ave., Rochester, NY • 585-428-8110

www.libraryweb.org

Provides the resources for an inventor to conduct a thorough patent and trademark search, evaluate an invention's marketability, and investigate ways to sell an invention.

City of Rochester, Department of Neighborhood and Business Development

City Hall, 30 Church St., Rochester, NY • 585-428-6912

www.cityofrochester.gov (Click on **Services** then **Business Assistance**)

Works to provide safe, healthy neighborhoods, create thriving commercial corridors, increase economic vitality in underserved areas, assist and develop industry, and create jobs for its citizens.

Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce

150 State Street, Suite 400, Rochester, NY • 585-244-1800

www.greaterrochesterchamber.com

Supports businesses and economic growth in the Greater Rochester area through advocacy, networking opportunities, workforce training and more.

High Tech Rochester, Inc.

150 Lucius Gordon Dr., Suite 100, West Henrietta, NY • 585-214-2400

www.htr.org

Provides a suite of services including business incubation for high growth potential startups and growth services for existing manufacturers.

Monroe County Clerk

101 County Office Building, 39 West Main St., Rochester, NY • 585-753-1600

www.monroecounty.gov/clerk-index.php

Accepts and files Doing Business As (DBA) certificates of persons conducting business under an assumed business name. The County Clerk is the official registrar for deeds, mortgages, judgments, liens and more.

Monroe County, Department of Economic Development

City Place Building, 50 West Main St., Suite 8100, Rochester, NY • 585-753-2000

www.monroecounty.gov/economic2-index.php

Provides business incentive programs to create and retain jobs in Monroe County.

Monroe County Finger Lakes Procurement Technical Assistance Center

City Place Building, 50 West Main St., Suite 8100, Rochester, NY • 585-753-2015 or 585-753-2017
www.monroecountyfingerlakesptac.org

Helps businesses secure government contracts that will keep them competitive and thriving in our region. PTAC works with businesses to identify, compete for, and win government contracts.

New York State, Department of State, Division of Corporations, State Records, and Uniform Commercial Code

99 Washington Avenue 6th floor, Albany, NY • 518-473-2492
www.dos.ny.gov/corps

Examines, files, and maintains numerous documents vital to business and state government including trademarks, certificates of incorporation, and Uniform Commercial Code Article 9 financing statements.

New York State, Empire State Development, Finger Lakes Regional Office

400 Andrews Street, Suite 300, Rochester, NY • 585-399-7050
www.nyfirst.ny.gov

Promotes economic development in the state through the efficient use of loans, grants, tax credits, real estate development, marketing and other forms of assistance.

New York State License Center

State Campus, Building 4, Albany, NY • 518-453-8130
www.licensecenter.ny.gov/business-licenses

Identifies via the Business Wizard tool the New York State business licenses/permits required for specific business types. Check with county and local governments for other required licenses and permits.

Pathstone Enterprise Center, Inc.

400 East Ave., Rochester, NY • 585-340-3390 or 585-340-3304
www.pseci.org

Provides small business loans with support, especially for promising businesses that have been unable to access capital from traditional sources.

The Entrepreneurs Network (TEN)

50 West Main St., Suite 8100, Rochester, NY • 585-753-2031
www.ten-ny.org

Provides an entrepreneurial training program for accepted applicants affiliated with new ventures (early stage technology, life science) or established firms (scalable high-revenue, family-owned, ownership transitioning) with business operations primarily in Upstate New York.

U.S. Small Business Administration, Rochester Branch Office

100 State St, Room 410, Rochester, NY • 585-263-6700
www.sba.gov/localresources/district/ny/buffalo; www.sba.gov

Provides information on small business loans and small business start-up.

Volunteer Legal Services Project of Monroe County, Inc.

Micro-Entrepreneur Pro Bono Program

Telesca Center for Justice, One West Main St., 5th Floor, Rochester, NY; • 585-295-5703

www.vlsprochester.org/micro-entrepreneur-pro-bono-program.html

Gives free legal assistance to eligible lower-income Monroe County residents who wish to start or develop businesses in economically distressed neighborhoods in Monroe County.

For more business resources in the Greater Rochester area, see [RocGrowth-Resources for Upstate NY Entrepreneurs](#)

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