

## Resources for Women Entrepreneurs

### Build Your Business

[www.wisconsin.gov/state/byb/](http://www.wisconsin.gov/state/byb/)

Through the Wisconsin.gov web site the Build Your Business on-line resource is designed to make it easy for you to obtain the information you need to seriously plan and prepare for the start or expansion of your business.

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#### Wisconsin Department of Commerce Division of Business Development

[www.commerce.wi.gov/BD](http://www.commerce.wi.gov/BD)

*The Division of Business Development utilizes a combination of technical and financial assistance programs that are designed to assist businesses at all points of the continuum including: business planning, site selection, initial capitalization, permitting, employee training, research and development, and business expansion.*

#### Wisconsin Department of Commerce Division of Export

[www.commerce.wi.gov/IE](http://www.commerce.wi.gov/IE)

*The Wisconsin Department of Commerce provides a variety of services to firms seeking to expand their sales into new markets around the world.*

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#### Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation - WWBIC

[www.wwbic.com](http://www.wwbic.com)  
e-mail: [info@wwbic.com](mailto:info@wwbic.com)

*Offers business classes and workshops covering entrepreneurship, business planning, marketing, technology, financing, and bookkeeping to women interested in starting or expanding a business.*

**Milwaukee Area:** 414/263-5450  
2745 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.  
Milwaukee, WI 53212

**Madison Area:** 608/257-5450  
2300 S. Park St., Suite 21  
Madison, WI 53713

**Kenosha Area:** 262/654-1234  
600 52nd St., Ste 130  
Kenosha, WI 53140

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#### Western Dairyland Women's Business Center

[www.westerndairyland.org](http://www.westerndairyland.org)  
[www.successfulbusiness.org](http://www.successfulbusiness.org)

*Offers counseling and technical assistance in Buffalo, Eau Claire, Jackson and Trempealeau counties. Offers special services for refugee, low-income, disabled individuals, and women, as well as online classes.*

#### Wisconsin Common Market

[www.wisconsincommonmarket.com](http://www.wisconsincommonmarket.com)

*Western Dairyland's own "internet mall" providing online e-commerce opportunities.*

#### Central Office:

715/985-2391  
e-mail: [info@westerndairyland.org](mailto:info@westerndairyland.org)  
23122 Whitehall Rd.  
P.O. Box 125  
Independence, WI 54747

#### Eau Claire Office:

715/836-7511  
418 Wisconsin St.,  
PO Box 540  
Eau Claire, WI 54702



## General Information and Assistance

### Wisconsin Entrepreneurs Network(WEN)

[www.wenportal.org](http://www.wenportal.org)

608-263-0398

e-mail: [info@wenportal.org](mailto:info@wenportal.org)

*Through the WEN entrepreneurs can access over 100 different organizations and receive assistance with business start-up, marketing, product development, intellectual property, business plans and competitive research.*

### Grants Locator

[http://www.wenportal.org/grant\\_applications/](http://www.wenportal.org/grant_applications/)

Based on your responses to questions, you will be directed to a description of a Commercegrant program that seems to most closely meet your needs.

### Resource Navigator

[www.wenportal.org/connector/](http://www.wenportal.org/connector/)

Based on your questions, the Resource Connection will then compile a list of organizations that you can then contact directly or submit a form that requests them to get in touch with you.

### Wisconsin State Bar Business Assistance Program

<http://www.wenportal.org/partner/>

State Bar's Business Law Section. Under this program, small and emerging businesses throughout Wisconsin can receive up to two hours of counseling from a business lawyer at no cost.

### Count Me In for Women's Economic Independence

#### Make Mine a Million\$ Business Program (M3)

[www.makemineamillion.org](http://www.makemineamillion.org)

*Count Me in For Women's Economic Independence's Make Mine a Million \$ Business program is the leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to helping women grow their micro-businesses into million \$ enterprises. Through the M3 program women entrepreneurs have access to business building products and educational tools, coaching and a community of other women entrepreneurs.*

### Women's Economic Development Outreach (WEDO)

[www.nationalcity.com/wedo/](http://www.nationalcity.com/wedo/)

WEDO®, Women's Economic Development Outreach, is a coalition of business experts working in collaboration to provide focused resources that help women owned and managed businesses flourish. Women entrepreneurs have access to a number of on-line resources and events offered through WEDO.

### Principal Financial Group - Women In Business

[www.principal.com/womeninbiz/index.htm](http://www.principal.com/womeninbiz/index.htm)

Women in Business offers Teleclasses that are held throughout the year. These free teleclasses assist women business owners in growing their business and networking with other women business owners, with the opportunity to learn from a variety of extraordinary speakers.

### The Center for Women's Business Research

[www.nfwbo.org](http://www.nfwbo.org)

*Center for Women's Business Research is the premier source of knowledge about women business owners and their enterprises worldwide.*



## Education and Business Consulting

### Wisconsin Small Business Development Centers (SBDC)

[www.wisconsinsbdc.org](http://www.wisconsinsbdc.org)

*Provides a number of special courses for women entrepreneurs through the UW campuses, as well as providing instruction for the Department of Commerce Entrepreneurial Training Grant (ETG) Program. Under the ETG program, Commerce can provide applicants with a grant to cover 75 percent of the cost of attending the SBDC course. After completing the program, applicants will have a comprehensive business plan that fully evaluates the feasibility of the business.*

### SBDC Campuses:

Eau Claire	715/836-5811	Parkside	262/898-7414
Green Bay	920/496-9010	Platteville	608/342-1038
La Crosse	608/785-8782	River Falls	715/425-0620
Madison	608/263-7680	Stevens Pt.	715/346-3388
Milwaukee	414/227-3240	Superior	715/394-8351
Oshkosh	800/232-8939	Whitewater	262/472-3217

**Business AnswerLine** 1-800-940-7232 or [www.wisconsinsbdc.net/busanswer/](http://www.wisconsinsbdc.net/busanswer/)

### Wisconsin Small Business Administration (SBA) Office of Women's Business Ownership

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

*Promotes the growth of women-owned businesses through programs that address business training and technical assistance. Offers help to entrepreneurs by providing the information and resources needed.*

### Madison Office

Contact: Becky Freund  
608/441-5519  
e-mail: [becky.freund@sba.gov](mailto:becky.freund@sba.gov)

### Milwaukee Office

Contact: Mary Trimmier  
414/297-1093  
e-mail: [mary.trimmier@sba.gov](mailto:mary.trimmier@sba.gov)

### Launching Entrepreneurial Advisory Panels

[www.bus.wisc.edu/LEAP/](http://www.bus.wisc.edu/LEAP/)

*Launching Entrepreneurial Advisory Programs (LEAP) provides volunteer advisory panels for women entrepreneurs to help enhance the growth, profitability and success of their Southcentral Wisconsin businesses.*

### Women in Business Council and The Weinert Center for Entrepreneurship

Contact: Marian Walluks, LEAP Coordinator  
608/221-1374  
e-mail: [mwalluks@itis.com](mailto:mwalluks@itis.com) or [leap@bus.wisc.edu](mailto:leap@bus.wisc.edu)

### Service Corp of Retired Executives SCORE

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

*Face-to-face business counseling, low-cost workshops, and free, confidential small business counseling. Counselors donate their time and expertise to help with small business growth and entrepreneurial education.*

Appleton	920/734-7101	Milwaukee	414/297-3942
Eau Claire	715/834-1573	Wausau	715/845-6231
Camp Douglas	608/427-2070	Marshfield	715/384-3454
Green Bay	920/496-8930		
La Crosse	608/784-4880		
Madison	608/441-2820		

### WI Innovation Service Center

[www.academics.uww.edu/business/innovate/](http://www.academics.uww.edu/business/innovate/)  
262/472-1365

*Helping existing and aspiring entrepreneurs make profitable new product and market development decisions.*



## SBA Loan Programs

### Small Business Administration (SBA)

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

#### SBA 7A and Low Doc Loan Programs

*Fixed asset and working capital loans available by applying directly through your local bank or by contacting an SBA office.*

#### Madison Office

Contact: Becky Freund  
608/441-5519  
e-mail: [becky.freund@sba.gov](mailto:becky.freund@sba.gov)

#### Milwaukee Office

Contact: Mary Trimmier  
414/297-1093  
e-mail: [mary.trimmier@sba.gov](mailto:mary.trimmier@sba.gov)

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### SBA MicroLoan Program

*The Microloan Program provides small loans ranging from under \$500 to \$35,000 that can be used for typical business expenses. The following are approved SBA MicroLoan intermediaries:*

#### **Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corp.**

e-mail: [info@wwbic.com](mailto:info@wwbic.com)  
[www.wwbic.com](http://www.wwbic.com)

**Milwaukee Area:** 414/263-5450  
2745 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.  
Milwaukee, WI 53212

**Madison Area:** 608/257-5450  
2300 S. Park St.  
Madison, WI 53713

#### **Impact Seven, Inc.**

e-mail: [impact@impactseven.org](mailto:impact@impactseven.org)  
[www.impactseven.org](http://www.impactseven.org)

**Almena Headquarter Office:** 715/357-333-3334  
Lake Almena Drive  
Almena WI 54805

#### **ADVOCAP**

800/631-2791 - Neenah  
800/361-9880 - Berlin  
800/631-6617 - Prairie View Head Start  
(Fond du Lac, Green Lake and Winnebago  
Counties Only)

#### **Northeast Entrepreneur Fund**

(Douglas County Only)  
[www.entrepreneurfund.org](http://www.entrepreneurfund.org)  
Dawn Johnson, Program Director  
800/422-0374  
[info@entrepreneurfund.org](mailto:info@entrepreneurfund.org)

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### SBA Women's Pre-Qualification Loan

*The pre-authorized SBA loan guarantee uses a streamlined application process and provides a quick response to loan requests of \$250,000 or less. To be eligible, a business must be 51 percent or more owned by veterans, women and/or minorities. Pre-Qualification is available through the following:*

#### **African American Chamber of Commerce**

414/462-9450

#### **American Indian Chamber of Commerce**

414/604-2044

#### **Community Economic Development**

262/635-8908

#### **Great Lakes Asset Corporation**

920/499-6444 or 800/281-6444

#### **Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**

414/643-6963

#### **Indianhead Community Action Agency**

715/532-5594

#### **Lincoln Neighborhood Redevelopment**

414/671-5619

#### **Milw. Minority Chamber of Commerce**

414/226-4105

#### **Milwaukee Urban League, Inc.**

414/374-5850

#### **WI Business Development**

262/970-8533

#### **Wisconsin Bankers Association**

608/441-1200

#### **Wisconsin Business Initiative Corp.**

414/263-5450 or 608/257-5450



## Other Loan Programs

### Wisconsin Department of Commerce

[www.commerce.state.wi.us/BD/BD-BizGrowthRetention.html](http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/BD/BD-BizGrowthRetention.html)

*If you're looking for funding, the Division of Business Development web site provides a range of financing programs available to assist entrepreneurs. The Area Development Managers in the Division of Business Development are the first point of contact regarding Commerce loan programs. The recently created Wisconsin Forward Innovation Loan Fund targets innovative start-up and expanding businesses and businesses in economically distressed areas.*

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#### Wisconsin Housing & Economic Development Authority (WHEDA)

[www.wheda.com](http://www.wheda.com)

##### Linked Deposit Loan Subsidy

*Offers reduced-rate loans for purchase or improvement of buildings, equipment, or land.*

Madison Office -  
201 W. Washington Ave.  
P.O. Box 1728  
Madison, WI 53701-1728  
1-800/334-6873

Milwaukee Office -  
2140 South 1st Street  
Suite 200  
Milwaukee, WI 54833  
1-800-628-4833

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#### Department of Veterans Affairs

[dva.state.wi.us/womenvets.asp](http://dva.state.wi.us/womenvets.asp)

##### Wisconsin Veterans Loan Fund

*Loans of up to \$25,000 at interest rates as low as 5 percent with terms of up to 10 years to repay. This loan can be used for business start-up expenses.*

Contact: Gundel Metz, Womens Coordinator  
30 West Mifflin St.  
Madison, WI 53707  
(608) 267-8923  
e-mail: [gundel.metz@dva.state.wi.us](mailto:gundel.metz@dva.state.wi.us)

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#### WBD Finance Corporation

[www.wbd.org](http://www.wbd.org)

*Specializes in economic development lending and finding creative financial solutions to capital needs. Finds appropriate and affordable financing for start-up and growing businesses.*

Eau Claire - 715/834-9474    Fox Valley (920) 231-5770  
Green Bay (920) 496-2109    Hudson (715) 381-6719  
Madison - 608/819-0390    Oshkosh - 920/231-5570  
Waukesha - 262/970-8533  
Stevens Point (715) 343-9082

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#### Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation - MEDC

[www.medconline.com](http://www.medconline.com)

*Offers the Target Loan Program, specially designed for emerging businesses located in the Milwaukee central city, or businesses that are at least 50 percent owned by a disadvantaged person, minority, or woman. (For City of Milwaukee residents only.)*

809 North Broadway, 2nd Floor  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
414/286-5840

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#### Count-Me-In

[www.count-me-in.org](http://www.count-me-in.org)

e-mail: [info@count-me-in.org](mailto:info@count-me-in.org).

*The first online microlender, Count-Me-In provides loans from \$500 - \$10,000. Your first loan must be \$5,000 or less.*

#### Circle Lending

[www.circlelending.com](http://www.circlelending.com)

*An on-line resource that provides information on to borrow from friends and family, how to create a loan proposal to send to people you know and provides an on-line finance manager.*



## State Certification Programs

**Wisconsin Department of Commerce  
Division of Business Development**

<http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/BD/BD-WBECertification.html>

Contact: Carol Dunn  
(608) 267-0297  
e-mail: [carol.dunn@wisconsin.gov](mailto:carol.dunn@wisconsin.gov)

*Certifies 51% women-owned businesses and provides business resources for women.*

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**Wisconsin Department of Commerce  
Bureau of Minority Business Development**

[www.commerce.state.wi.us/BD/BD-MBD-Index.html](http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/BD/BD-MBD-Index.html)

Contact: Aggo Akyea  
(608) 261-7729 or 608-267-9550  
e-mail: [aggo.akyea@wisconsin.gov](mailto:aggo.akyea@wisconsin.gov)

*Certifies 51% minority women-owned businesses and provides minority business financing.*

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**Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program**

[www.dot.state.wi.us](http://www.dot.state.wi.us)

Contact: Michele Carter  
608/264-6669  
e-mail: [michele.carter@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:michele.carter@dot.state.wi.us)

*Certifies 51% women-owned businesses for contracts with the Department of Transportation.*

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**Wisconsin Department of Veterans' Affairs  
Disadvantaged Business Programs**

[www.dot.state.wi.us](http://www.dot.state.wi.us)

Contact: Becky Slater-Reilly  
608/264-6090  
e-mail: [rebecca.slater-reilly@dva.state.wi.us](mailto:rebecca.slater-reilly@dva.state.wi.us)

*Certifies 51% owned veteran women-owned businesses.*

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## State Procurement Programs

**Wisconsin Department of Administration  
Minority Business Enterprise Programs**

[www.doa.state.wi.us](http://www.doa.state.wi.us)

Contact: Keith Broadnax  
608/267-3293  
e-mail: [Keith.Broadnax@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Keith.Broadnax@wisconsin.gov)

*Increases the opportunity for Wisconsin-certified, minority women-owned companies to sell their products or services to Wisconsin.*

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**Wisconsin Department of Administration  
Division of State Facility  
(Construction, Architect and Engineering)**

[www.doa.state.wi.us](http://www.doa.state.wi.us)

Contact: Godwin Amegashi  
608/267-7806  
e-mail: [Godwin.Amegashi@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Godwin.Amegashi@wisconsin.gov)

*Enhances the minority, women-owned business enterprise (MBE) participation in state building construction projects*

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**Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
Minority Business Enterprise Programs**

[www.dot.state.wi.us](http://www.dot.state.wi.us)

Contact: Joanne Moore  
608/267-2886  
e-mail: [Joann.Moore@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:Joann.Moore@dot.state.wi.us)

*Increases the opportunity for Wisconsin-certified, minority women-owned companies to sell their products or services to Department of Transportation.*



## Federal Certification Programs

### Small Business Administration (SBA)

[www.sba.gov/services/contractingopportunities/bdp/index.html](http://www.sba.gov/services/contractingopportunities/bdp/index.html)

Contact: Cheryl Jordan  
(414) 297-3951  
e-mail: Cheryl.Jordan1@sba.gov

*The SBA administers two business assistance programs for small disadvantaged businesses (SDC) for women-owned businesses that include the 8(a) Business Development Program and the Small Disadvantaged Business Certification Program.*

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## Federal Procurement Assistance Programs

### Small Business Procurement Assistance (SBPA) Center

[www.matcmadison.edu/bpac](http://www.matcmadison.edu/bpac)

Contact: Christine Gruneberg  
(608) 243-4482  
e-mail: [cgruneberg@matcmadison.edu](mailto:cgruneberg@matcmadison.edu)

*SBPA provides assistance in winning federal government contracts by offering services including government market research, electronic bid matching, and bid preparation assistance.*

### Wisconsin Procurement Institute (WPI)

[www.b2gconnect.org](http://www.b2gconnect.org)

Contact: Aina Vilumsons  
(414) 270-3600  
e-mail: [Aina.wispro.org](mailto:Aina.wispro.org) or [info@b2gconnect.org](mailto:info@b2gconnect.org)

*WPI guides, trains and provides hands-on assistance to firms in developing government business and improving process and technical capabilities to access and compete in the Government marketplace.*

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## Non-Governmental Certification Programs

### Womens Business Enterprise National Council - WBENC

[www.wbenc.org](http://www.wbenc.org)

*WBENC the nation's leading advocate of women-owned businesses as suppliers to America's corporations. It also is the largest third-party certifier of businesses owned and operated by women in the United States.*

### Womens Business Owners Corporation - WWBOC

[www.nwboc.org/](http://www.nwboc.org/)

NWBOC is a national 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, and is the first third-party, national certifier providing WBE Certification