



Mayor's Office of Community Business

The Mayor's Office of Community Business facilitates collaboration among City departments and forges partnerships between government, business, and community stakeholders to support the growth and development of our businesses. We connect businesses to helpful resources in five priority areas:

1. Entrepreneurial Training

Whether through the City's BusinessSource Centers or other free and low-cost small business consulting services throughout the City, we connect business owners to the entrepreneurial eco-system that can support their goals. By spotlighting the City's best practices and identifying gaps, we encourage new and enhanced programming to ensure maximum benefit to all stakeholders.

2. Access to Capital

Through partnerships with capital providers, we help business owners to identify and acquire adequate capital that is most appropriate to start and grow a thriving businesses. Our Capital Consortium is a group of leading organizations who work together to address the lack of capital being utilized by small businesses, particularly those owned by women and minorities to address the problem of undercapitalization.

3. Procurement and Contracting

The City of LA is committed to including small businesses in the opportunity this presented by its purchase of billions of dollars of goods and services annually. We help to connect the business community to the opportunities presented by major contracting with government agencies and partner corporations.

4. Permit & Licensing Assistance

By clarifying the legislation, regulations, and policies pertinent to the business community and connecting businesses to the relevant agencies, we help businesses operate in compliance and obtain needed support.

5. Business Attraction & Retention

We help businesses to navigate the process of establishing a physical location in the City of Los Angeles by clarifying the process and coordinating interaction with City departments. We also assist businesses to identify options for eliminating or alleviating City-related issues and problems.

For general City services, visit MyLA311.lacity.org or call 311.

For Business services, visit Business.lacity.org

CITY OF LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY BUSINESS RESOURCES

The following is a list of the most frequently requested resources that assist the business community. If you are unable to locate the help you need from this list, you may reach the Mayor's Community Business team through the "Contact Us" button on the LA Business Portal at Business.lacity.org.

BUSINESS INFORMATION & TRAINING

Business Portal: Business.lacity.org and Empresas.lacity.org

- A free web platform in English and Spanish offering pertinent information to plan, start, manage, and grow your business within the City of Los Angeles, including how to register your business and access available resources.

BusinessSource Centers: LABusinessSource.org

- These nine centers throughout the City offer workshops, entrepreneurial training programs, and one-on-one consulting on various business topics such as planning, taxes, loans, marketing, and more for eligible aspiring entrepreneurs and existing businesses.

WorkSource Centers

<http://ewddlacity.com/index.php/employment-services/adults-age-24-and-older/worksource-centers>

- These 16 centers offer free employer services such as advertising of open positions, candidate screening, and pre-employment training.

ACCESS TO CAPITAL

Economic and Workforce Development Department Microloan Program

- Loans of \$5,000-\$50,000 are available for eligible business owners who have experienced difficulty obtaining needed financing from private sources. Email: miguel.acuna@lacity.org or call (213) 595-7460.

PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING

The Contactor's Handbook: <https://bca.lacity.org/Uploads/cca/Contractors%20Handbook.pdf>

- A free guide to business opportunities with the City of Los Angeles.

Business Assistance Virtual Network: LABAVN.org

- A free searchable web platform that lists all procurement and contracting opportunities offered by the City of Los Angeles and where you can also register your business to be informed of opportunities in your areas of expertise.

Contractor Development & Bonding Program:

<http://imwis.com/services/contractor-bonding-development-programs/>

- A training program to help business owners successfully bid on and execute construction contracts. The program offers one-on-one consultation, education, technical support, and notification of upcoming projects for contractors.

City of LA Bureau of Contract Administration Contractor Assistance Seminar:

<https://bca.lacity.org/Contractor%20Assistance%20Seminar>

CITY OF LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY BUSINESS RESOURCES

- A training program for business owners seeking to bid on and execute public works construction contracts, including topics such as prevailing wage, and certified payrolls and apprenticeship.

PERMITS & REGULATION ASSISTANCE

Office of Finance Business Registration Assistance: Finance.lacity.org

- Everyone who engages in business within the City of Los Angeles is required to obtain a tax registration certificate and pay the business tax or obtain an exemption. A small business with \$100,000 or less in gross receipts may qualify for a Small Business Exemption.

Department of Building and Safety Restaurant & Small Business Express Program:

<https://www.ladbs.org/services/core-services/inspection/inspection-special-assistance/restaurant-and-small-business-express-program>

- Case management assistance to facilitate, streamline, and coordinate the building permit approval process for all food service establishments and other small businesses such as retail shops, barber shops, nail salons, etc.

Planning Department Beverage & Entertainment Streamlined Program:

https://planning.lacity.org/InternetCalendar/cc_unit/cc_unitbest.aspx

- Case management assistance to navigate the process of applying for conditional use permits related to alcoholic beverages and entertainment.

Bureau of Contract Administration Office of Wage Standards: WagesLA.lacity.org

- Information on the requirements of the Los Angeles Minimum Wage Ordinance, including the provision of paid sick leave.

BUSINESS ATTRACTION & RETENTION

Department of Planning Zoning Information:

<https://cityplanning.lacity.org/PublicCounter.html>

- Assistance with checking the zoning requirements of specific properties prior to committing to ensure that they are appropriate for the business activities you intend to conduct.

Department of Water & Power Property Locator: LocateLA.org

- A free searchable property database to help you identify prospective locations for establishing a new business location.

Bureau of Engineering Maps and Reports: NavigateLA.lacity.org

- A free searchable web platform to help you obtain maps and learn more data about specific City addresses based on data supplied by various City departments.

Department of Water & Power Rebates & Programs:

https://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/faces/ladwp/commercial/c-savemoney/c-sm-rebatesandprograms?_adf.ctrl-state=ce8tktop6_17&_afLoop=1552886419198536

- Information on the rebates and programs available to commercial, industrial, institutional, and governmental customers for efficient energy and water usage.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY BUSINESS RESOURCES

Business Response Unit: Email LABusinessResponse@lacity.org or call 213-744-7150

- Case management assistance to help business navigate City departments, get questions answered, and resolve issues and problems.

GENERAL CITY SERVICES

Mayor Eric Garcetti: LAMayor.org

- The Mayor's webpage that provides the latest initiatives and current news happening within the City of Los Angeles. Here you can find opportunities to get involved, assistance for residents and businesses in Los Angeles.

Find Your City Council Representative: Neighborhoodinfo.lacity.org

- Find your elected officials, regional services, public safety, neighborhood council, and other information for businesses within a specific area to obtain a better understanding of the demographics within Los Angeles.

Assistance for Homelessness: LAMayor.org/Homelessness, LAHSA.org/get-help, LAHSA.org/portal/la-hop

- *Permanent Supportive Housing Construction & Homeless Services* – Voter-supported Measure H and Proposition HHH will fund the construction of permanent supportive housing and wrap-around services for people experiencing homelessness.
- *"A Bridge Home" Emergency Shelters* – The Mayor and City Council have dedicated \$20 million to build at least one emergency shelter in each Council district, the first of which opened downtown in September 2018 with 45 beds. All bridge homes will provide wrap-around services, meals, storage space, 24/7 security, and sanitation clean-ups.
- For **mental health issues**: Call (800) 854-7771
- For **shelter**: Call LAHSA: (213) 225-6581, OR 2-1-1
- To report a **crime**: Call 9-1-1
- To report a **homeless encampment**: Call 3-1-1 or visit MyLA311.lacity.org
- Or call your local Business Improvement District (BID)

Request City Services: Myla311.lacity.org or call 3-1-1

- A free web portal to connect residents and businesses to non-emergency City services and information including bulky item collection, building construction inspection, graffiti removal and cleanup requests, and a way to report property violations.

RecycLA: LACitySan.org/RecycLA or (800) 773-2489

- Review fees or report a missed collection for this new City-wide recycling program which is designed to divert 1.1 million tons of waste from landfills annually, eliminating more than 2 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions.

City Directory:

<https://www.lacity.org/your-government/government-information/city-directory>

- Contact information for Council Districts, City departments, and bureaus within Los Angeles to help you better plan your business and get the assistance you need.

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