

Black Business Month Action and Resources

By Danielle Fallon-O'Leary

Editor's note: August is National Black Business Month, founded in 2004 by Black entrepreneurs Frederick E. Jordan, an engineer, and John William Templeton, a publisher and historian, to highlight and support Black-owned businesses.

Black entrepreneurs play a valuable role in our nation's economy. According to the United States Census Bureau's most recent estimates, the United States has over 161,000 Black-owned businesses, bringing in over \$183 billion annually. Yet, Black Americans remain underrepresented among United States entrepreneurs and are often less likely to receive funding from lenders than their white counterparts.

In an effort to help close this opportunity gap, here is an extensive list of resources geared toward supporting Black entrepreneurs.

Black Business Accelerator

Black-owned retailers can sign up for Amazon's Black Business Accelerator program, which offers

various resources for those looking to sell their goods on the e-commerce platform. Participating businesses can access financial support, mentorship opportunities, and education to build their brands and customer reach.

Black Business Accelerator is open to US-based entities that are at least 51% Black-owned, managed, and controlled. Participating companies must also have a Professional selling plan on Amazon, a physical product that is ready to sell, and a Black-owned business certificate.

The Black Business Alliance

The Connecticut-based Black Business Alliance (BBA) works with Black business owners both in the state and nationwide to promote and grow small and medium-sized Black- and minority-owned businesses. Since 2014, the BBA has worked with over 600 business owners and professionals to provide economic development, business workshops, networking opportunities, and access to capital.

Additionally, minority small business owners in Connecticut can apply for the Minority Business Revolving Loan Fund (MBRLF), facilitated by BBA



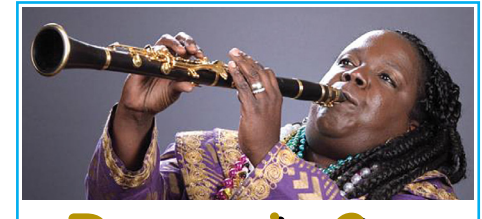
in partnership with the state and the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD). The MBRLF program offers loans up to \$100,000 to eligible applicants. Those interested in applying must first complete an intake form and meet with

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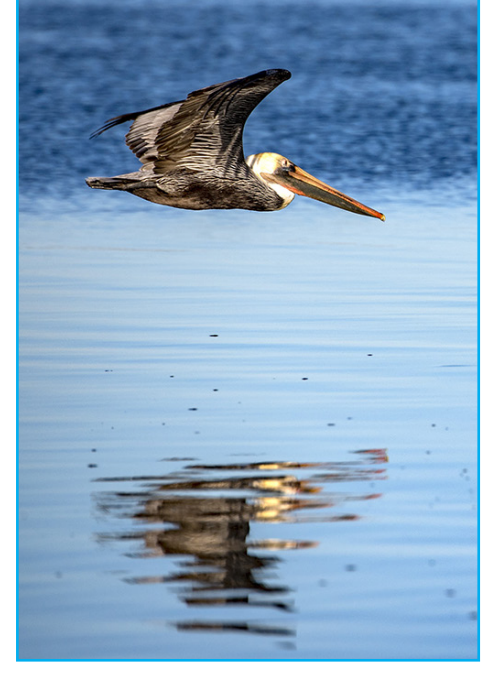
Opportunities

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POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS

Join us at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center for our 2024 Q3 "Win with NOENMCC" event. Learn about exciting opportunities from River District Neighborhood Investors, LLC, and their partner VPG Construction, winner of the 2023 Morial Award Corporation of the Year.

Chincie Mouton, Director of Community Engagement, Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation will present information about the Super Bowl LIX procurement program and Impact 59 Powered by Entergy.

We look forward to seeing everyone there. Let's keep New Orleans' small and emerging business community WINNING!

Hosted by LaToya Martin, Manager Small and Emerging Business Program

Friday, August 30th @ 10 A.M.
Rivergate Room at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (Julia St. entrance)

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP BY AUGUST 26TH](#)

NEW ORLEANS ERNEST N. MORIAL CONVENTION CENTER

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Small Business Exchange Louisiana DEI

- Advertise
- ITB to Targeted (NAICS/SIC/UNSPSC) Certified Businesses
- Telephone Follow-Up (Live)
- Agency/Organization Letters
- Computer Generated Dated and Timed Documentation
- Customized Reports Available

For more info contact
Valerie Voorhies at
vvv@sbeinc.com

SOUTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

2024

Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Program Webinar
Thursday, August 15, 2024, 9:00 am–10:00 am CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/welcome-to-wosb-webinar-tickets-482397041537>
Fee: Free; registration required

Welcome to the WOSB webinar series! Are you a woman owner of a small business? The federal government's goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to woman-owned small businesses each year. Join us for training on how to register for SBA's Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) program, which helps eligible small businesses to qualify for federal contracting opportunities. The monthly sessions will include an overview of the self-certification process, as well as a discussion of the NAICS codes that qualify as WOSB or EDWOSB. Register for this free webinar at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/welcome-to-wosb-webinar-tickets-482397041537>

8(a) Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar
Wednesday, August 21, 2024, 9:30 am–10:30 am CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: SBA Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, illinois.do@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required
Join the Small Business Administration (SBA)

Selling to the Federal Government Webinar
Thursday, September 12, 2024, 12:00 pm–3:00 pm CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: George Tapia, 610-382-3086, george.tapia@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required

Did you know that the federal government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world? Interested in learning how your business can market your services or goods to the federal government? Register on line at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/how-to-sell-to-the-federal-government-tickets-21790713611> SBA helps to ensure small businesses get fair opportunities to share federal government prime contracts. Topics will include: How to Register, Small Business Certifications, Finding Opportunities, Marketing Your Firm, Federal Supply Schedules, Getting Paid, Tips to Prepare Your Offer, How to Seek Additional Assistance. All training sessions are held via Microsoft Teams Meeting. Participants must ensure Microsoft Teams is functioning.

CERTIFICATION

Small Business Exchange, Inc.
is **DBE certified** by the Louisiana UCP.