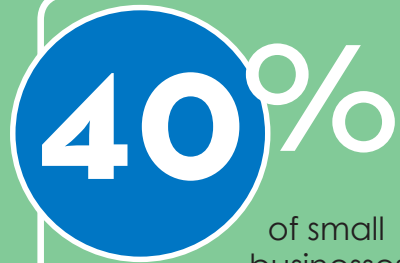


## FINANCING ASSISTANCE

Obtaining financing for a small business can be a challenge, particularly if you are a start-up or may not have the credit history or collateral that traditional lenders require.

To help DC small businesses, the Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD) and other DC Government agencies offer:

- financing such as loans and microloans;
- access to collateral/capital programs;
- grants for small businesses; and
- free technical assistance to help you prepare loan applications and identify lenders.



40%

of small businesses that apply for a loan with a traditional bank either are rejected or partially funded. *State of Small Business Lending, Harvard Business School, 2014*

## SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING FROM THE DC GOVERNMENT

### DSLBD Streetscape Loan Relief Fund

While DC Department of Transportation (DDOT) projects in commercial corridors often improve customer access to businesses and make shopping areas more attractive, these projects may negatively impact business sales during construction. If your business' sales have been affected by a DDOT project,

DSLBD's Streetscape Loans can help with working capital, inventory, rent and more!

To apply visit [dslbd.dc.gov/service/streetscape-loan-relief](http://dslbd.dc.gov/service/streetscape-loan-relief) or contact the loan manager WACIF (202-529-5505).



Subscribe to [DSLBD Mailing List](http://DSLBD Mailing List) at [dslbd.dc.gov](http://dslbd.dc.gov) to receive updates on latest financial incentives for small business.

## COLLATERAL & CAPITAL PROGRAMS

**DC Collateral Support Program** deposits cash collateral with lenders for qualified small businesses that are not able to meet lender's collateral requirements. In turn, businesses will be in a better position to receive approval for loans to buy equipment and inventory; for expansions or renovations; working capital; start-up costs; leasehold improvements; or for refinancing loans.

For details and list of participating lenders contact **DC Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking (DISB)**, Christopher Weaver (202- 442-7774, [christopher.weaver@dc.gov](mailto:christopher.weaver@dc.gov)) and visit [disb.dc.gov/service/small-business-resources](http://disb.dc.gov/service/small-business-resources)

**DC Loan Participation Program** helps qualified local small businesses address lender's capital requirements or the debt service coverage ratio requirements by buying a portion of a loan originated by a lender at subsidized interest rate which reduces the blended interest rate offered to the borrower. For details contact DISB (Christopher Weaver, 202- 442-7774, [christopher.weaver@dc.gov](mailto:christopher.weaver@dc.gov)) and visit [disb.dc.gov/service/small-business-resources](http://disb.dc.gov/service/small-business-resources).

**More financial assistance through GRANTS on next/back page!**

# SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS FROM THE DC GOVERNMENT

Several DC Government agencies offer grants to help small businesses offset costs of operating their business, upgrade equipment or make capital improvements. Some grant programs directly fund the business; others fund an intermediary organization that in turn provide sub-grants to businesses.



**DSLBD DC Main Streets Program (DCMS)**—DSLBD grantee organizations provide technical and financial assistance to businesses located in designated DCMS districts.

Visit [dslbd.dc.gov/service/dcms](http://dslbd.dc.gov/service/dcms) to see if your business is located in a DCMS area. Contact DSLBD (Cristina Amoroso, 202-701-7673, [cristina.amoroso@dc.gov](mailto:cristina.amoroso@dc.gov)) to learn about current DCMS grants.

**DMPED Great Streets Retail Small Business Reimbursement Grant**—Existing and soon-to-open businesses located in designated Great Streets areas could apply for up to \$50,000 to help purchase equipment, renovate their store, and make other improvements. To learn about the application process and next grant cycle, visit [greatstreets.dc.gov](http://greatstreets.dc.gov) or contact the **DC Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development** (Polina Bakhtearov, 202-615-6625, [greatstreets@dc.gov](mailto:greatstreets@dc.gov)).



**DHCD Storefront Façade Improvement**—DC Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) funds nonprofit organizations to develop storefront façade improvement projects in low- and moderate-income commercial areas. In turn, these organizations provide matching grants to businesses. To learn if your business is located in a façade improvement

program area, contact DHCD, Stephanie Davis at [stephanie.davis@dc.gov](mailto:stephanie.davis@dc.gov) or (202) 442-7158.

**Grants from other DC Government Agencies**—To keep apprised of future DC Government grants that may help small businesses:

- Search the **Office of Partnerships and Grant Service (OPGS) District Grants Clearinghouse** at [opgs.dc.gov/page/opgs-district-grants-clearinghouse](http://opgs.dc.gov/page/opgs-district-grants-clearinghouse)
- Subscribe the weekly **OPGS Funding Alert** email at [opgs.dc.gov/service/funding-alert-information](http://opgs.dc.gov/service/funding-alert-information)



## INFO RESOURCES

**DC Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED)**  
<http://dmped.dc.gov/page/finance-your-business>

**DCSmallBizLoans.com**

Search online to find DC lenders that work in communities that are underserved by traditional financial institutions. [www.dcsmallbizloans.com](http://www.dcsmallbizloans.com)

**US Small Business Administration (SBA)**

Loans—[sba.gov/content/sba-loans](http://sba.gov/content/sba-loans)

Grants—[sba.gov/category/navigation-structure/loans-grants/grants](http://sba.gov/category/navigation-structure/loans-grants/grants)



**QUESTIONS about this Business Builder?** Please contact Camille Nixon, [camille.nixon@dc.gov](mailto:camille.nixon@dc.gov), 202-741-0821

**VIEW ADDITIONAL BUSINESS BUILDERS at**  
<http://dslbd.dc.gov/page/business-builder-tip-sheets>

