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## SBDCs can boost your business

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Tue, Mar 14, 2023 at  
3:45 PM

Reply-To: OhioDepartmentofDevelopment@public.govdelivery.com

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### Highlights in this week's Small Business Update:

- SBDC Day celebrates the advisors who help small businesses succeed
- Companies: Hire a tech intern, and we'll pay two-thirds of the salary
- Grants are available to help small businesses with export efforts
- In-Demand Jobs Week is scheduled for May 1-5
- New projects expected to create 223 new jobs, spur \$10M in investment
- \$10M in loan funding available to minority- and women-owned businesses
- TechCred: Companies can apply now through the end of March



## Celebrate SBDC Day and Advisors Who Help Small Businesses in Ohio

Ohio Small Business Development Center (SBDC) advisors served 15,157 small business clients in the SBDC's most recent fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30, 2022. That was nearly double the number of clients from 2018.

On Wednesday, March 15, we celebrate the impact of the SBDC advisors with the national SBDC Day. At the SBDC state office in the Ohio Department of Development, we celebrate the advisors every day.

Here are some impressive annual stats:

- 75,142 hours of no-cost business advising.
- \$207 million in increased sales for clients.
- 2,391 jobs created, and 8,821 jobs retained.
- 53.7% of clients are women, and 51.7% are minorities.
- Clients employ more than 60,000 people and have annual sales of more than \$6.85 billion.

The Ohio SBDC has a network of more than two dozen offices across the state, including offices that focus on helping companies enter international markets or build on export programs. All services are offered at no cost to Ohio small businesses.

To find an SBDC office near you, [click here](#). To contact the state SBDC office, email [sbdcreports@development.ohio.gov](mailto:sbdcreports@development.ohio.gov).



## Hire a Tech Intern; We'll Pay Most of the Salary

Nearly every company has a technology need these days, and the Ohio Department of Development can provide an intern to help meet that need. Not only that, but we also will pay two-thirds of the intern's salary.

But time is running out. Companies must apply by March 17.

The Diversity & Inclusion Technology Internship Program can connect you with the best and brightest upcoming talent to fill your tech needs. From creating mobile apps to building out websites, implementing new software, and enhancing cybersecurity, the program can help with virtually any tech need. Companies can hire up to four interns and be reimbursed up to \$30,000.

For more information and to apply, visit [TechIntern.Development.Ohio.Gov](https://TechIntern.Development.Ohio.Gov).



## Grants Available to Help Businesses Export

The International Market Access Grant for Exporters (IMAGE) provides eligible businesses a 50% reimbursement of up to \$10,000 for activities promoting international business.

The current application period opened March 3 and will continue through Sept. 29, 2023, unless funds are exhausted before then.

Eligible activities include:

- Trade shows (taking place internationally)
- EXIM credit insurance premiums
- Non-State sponsored trade missions
- U.S. Commercial Service (USCS) programs
- Supported individual market visits (through Development's International Market Support program or USCS GoldKey program)

Applications must be approved before starting grant activities. For more information and to apply, visit [IMAGE.Development.Ohio.Gov](https://image.development.ohio.gov), email [IMAGE@Development.Ohio.Gov](mailto:IMAGE@Development.Ohio.Gov), or contact an [Ohio SBDC Export Assistance Network director](#) near you.



## In-Demand Jobs Week Scheduled for May 1-5

The sixth annual [In-Demand Jobs Week](#) will take place during the first full week of May, starting May 1 and running through May 5.

In-Demand Jobs Week is designed to promote Ohio's most in-demand and fastest-growing industries through statewide hiring, education, and training events. This year, In-Demand Jobs Week will highlight Ohio's top jobs that stem from career-focused education and the various paths available to Ohioans as they look for their next opportunity.

Throughout the week, businesses, education providers, community organizations, and more are encouraged to plan opportunities that will inspire students and job seekers to pursue a career pathway and ultimately a job in Ohio. From tours and roundtables to career-tech signing days and job fairs, In-Demand Jobs Week is an opportunity to showcase all that Ohio has to offer.

Organizations can visit [TopJobs.Ohio.gov](https://topjobs.ohio.gov) to add their events to the official In-Demand Jobs Week map. Individuals interested in attending an event can use the [2023 event map](#) to find opportunities in their community.



## New Projects Expected to Create 223 New Jobs

Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted announced the approval of assistance for two projects set to create 223 new jobs and retain 165 jobs statewide.

During its monthly meeting, the Ohio Tax Credit Authority (TCA) reviewed economic development proposals brought to the board by JobsOhio and its regional partners. Collectively, the projects are expected to result in more than \$10.1 million in new payroll and spur more than \$4.4 million in investments across Ohio.

To read about the projects, [click here](#).





## TechCred Now Accepting Applications Through March

TechCred opened its 2,173 Ohio employers have been approved for funding through the TechCred program, supporting the earning of 57,233 tech-focused credentials by employees. Results of the January round will be announced soon.

The program helps businesses address their workforce needs by upskilling current and prospective employees. Businesses of all sizes, from any industry, are eligible for up to \$30,000 per round and up to \$180,000 per year.

Applications will open every other month in 2023:

- March 1-31
- May 1-31
- July 3-31
- Sept. 1-29
- Nov. 1-30

For more information, visit [TechCred.Ohio.gov](https://TechCred.Ohio.gov).



## Loans Available to Minority-, Women-Owned Businesses

A total of \$10 million in loan funding remains available to help minority- and women-owned Ohio businesses grow and expand their operations.

The Women's Business Enterprise Loan Program and Ohio Micro-Loan Program are priority initiatives of the DeWine-Husted Administration and were included in the 2022-2023 operating budget, which was passed by the Ohio General Assembly in June 2021.

In 2022, more than \$9.34 million in loans were dispersed to more than 100 minority- and women-owned businesses through the programs.

More than \$4.6 million remains available through the Women's Business Enterprise Loan Program, and more than \$5.9 million through the Ohio Micro-Loan Program.

The loans are administered by Development's Minority Business Development Division. Information about the loans and other capital programs can be found online at [Minority.Ohio.Gov](https://minority.ohio.gov). Start the loan application process [here](#).



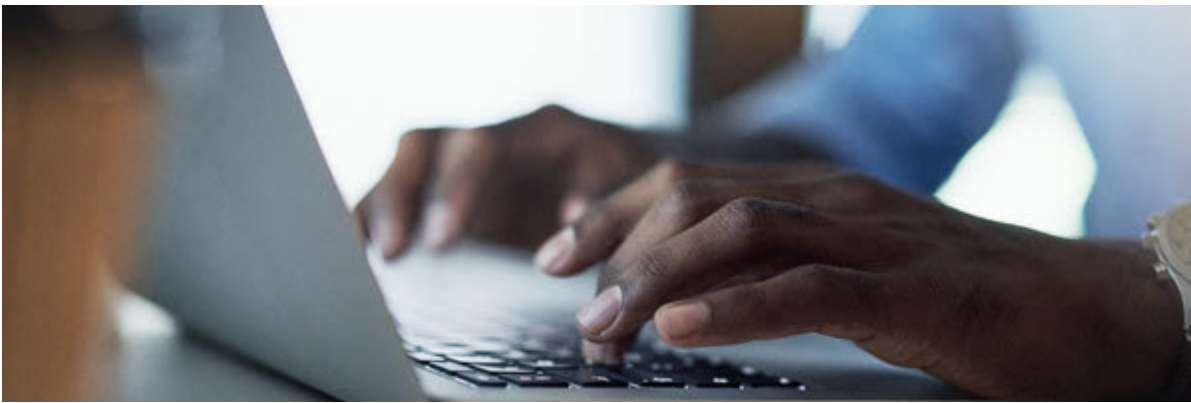
## OhioMeansJobs.com Can Help Businesses Find Workers

Businesses looking for workers can find help at [OhioMeansJobs.com](https://ohioMeansJobs.com). The website helps job seekers find work, and it also can help businesses find their next employee. The site now has more than 2.2 million resumes posted by people looking for a new job.

In addition, the Employer page on the website provides other resources, such as tips on hiring veterans, people with disabilities, and restored citizens.

[OhioMeansJobs.com](https://ohioMeansJobs.com) currently has more than 199,000 jobs posted, including more than 116,000 paying more than \$50,000 per year. More than 5,400 internship opportunities also are available.

To find the OhioMeansJobs center near you, visit [OhioMeansJobs.com](https://ohioMeansJobs.com) and select “FIND A JOB CENTER” at the bottom of the page or call 1-888-296-7541.



## We're Here to Help!

The Ohio Department of Development has many resources to help business owners prepare for a strong future. Here are some of the resources, and most of them are offered at no cost to businesses.

- Small Business Development Centers: [SBDC.Development.Ohio.Gov](https://SBDC.Development.Ohio.Gov)
- Minority Business Assistance Centers: [Minority.Ohio.Gov](https://Minority.Ohio.Gov)
- Ohio APEX Accelerators: [Find.GovContracts.Ohio.Gov](https://Find.GovContracts.Ohio.Gov)
- Manufacturing Extension Partnership: [MEP.Development.Ohio.Gov](https://MEP.Development.Ohio.Gov)
- Export Assistance: [Development.Ohio.Gov/ExportAssistance](https://Development.Ohio.Gov/ExportAssistance)



## Follow Us on Social Media

Development is using our social media channels to raise awareness of programs and assistance available through the state and federal governments. We urge small businesses to reach out to Ohio Small Business Development Centers and Minority Business Assistance Centers around the state for help in applying for federal assistance and to plan for the future.

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

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