

Small Business Development Programs in Florida

Throughout the State of Florida, city and county governments have become active partners in fostering business-friendly environments to entice, encourage, accelerate small business growth in their communities. Following are examples from several jurisdictions throughout Florida.

Broward County

- Department - Broward County Economic and Small Business Development
- Programs
 - Small business certification and compliance
 - Commercial Façade/Property improvement grant
 - Revolving Loan Program
- Website - <https://www.broward.org/EconDev/Pages/BMSDEDProgram.aspx>

Palm Beach County

- Department - Office of Equal Business Opportunity
- Programs
 - Certification programs
 - Compliance programs
- Website - <https://discover.pbcbgov.org/oebo/Pages/About-Us.aspx>

Miami-Dade County

- Department – Internal Services Department Small Business Development Division
- Programs
 - Small Business Enterprise (SBE) wage and workplace programs
- Website - <https://www.miamidade.gov/smallbusiness/>

City of Jacksonville

- Department – Office of Economic Development
- Programs
 - Business Resource Center
 - Small Business Incubator
 - Financial incentives for small businesses
- Website - <https://www.coj.net/departments/office-of-economic-development/small-business>

- Department – Finance Department
- Programs – Jacksonville Small and Emerging Businesses
 - Maximizes procurement opportunities with certified Jacksonville Small and Emerging Businesses (JSEBs). The annual goal of 20% Department purchases with JSEBs.
- Website - <https://www.coj.net/departments/jacksonville-small-emerging-business.aspx>

City of Tampa

- Department – Equal Business Opportunity
- Programs
 - The Equal Business Opportunity helps small, woman, minority, service-disabled veteran owned business, veteran owned small businesses and LGBT owned business access business opportunities with the City of Tampa. Training and women/minority business enterprise (WMBE) and small local business enterprise certification is available to business owners.
- Website - <https://www.tampa.gov/msbd>

City of Orlando

- Department – Building & Development
- Programs
 - Small business façade and site improvement provides a matching grant up to \$50,000 reimbursement for façade, site and building improvements for underutilized buildings.
 - Business assistance program provides a matching grant up to \$20,000 to off-set permit fees, impact fees and right of way infrastructure improvements for new and existing businesses.
 - Minority/woman entrepreneur business assistance program provides up to \$40,000 financial assistance for expenses related to new, existing and expanding businesses located in business assistance target areas.
- Website - <https://www.orlando.gov/Building-Development/Business-Incentives/Review-Our-Business-Incentive-Programs>

City of St Petersburg

- Department – Economic Development Division
- Programs
 - The Greenhouse – A one-stop facility that provides business counseling, training, networking, growth and specialized assistance and access to capital and credit for startups.
- Website - <https://stpetegreenhouse.com/>

City of Tallahassee

- Department – Office of Economic Vitality
- Programs
 - The Office of Economic Vitality is a joint City of Tallahassee and Leon County office that works to create a one-stop-shop for the business community's economic development needs. The Office provides businesses access to local, state and federal incentives, management and technical assistance and access to capital.
- Website - <https://oeforbusiness.org/business-assistance/>

City of Fort Lauderdale

- Department – City Manager’s Office - Economic & Community Investment
- Programs
 - BEAMS (Business Engagement Assistance and Mentorships) – The program offers free webinars, training and consultation to businesses of various sizes. Coordinates with business assistance resource providers to facilitate one-on-one mentorship and technical assistance.
- Website - <https://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/city-manager-s-office/economic-community-investment/beams>