


Business Assistance Programs

Provided by 

These agencies and programs are also available on the City website (www.CityofCamarillo.org). On the homepage, click Business and then Business Assistance...then click on this icon 



Business Assistance and Loans



The **Economic Development Collaborative**, or **EDC-VC** (www.edc-vc.com), is located in Camarillo, and partners with the Ventura County Small Business Development Center (**SBDC**). The organizations have some 30 consultants with expertise in all aspects of business, and they are available to assist your business at no charge. For manufacturing companies, the consultants of the EDC-VC consultants include a number of six-sigma specialists.

The EDC-VC also has a loan program, which can provide funding when bank loans have not been approved. For assistance, please contact Kelly Noble at 384-1800 (ext. 21), or Kelly.noble@edc-vc.com.

Employee Training Assistance

The EDC-VC receives funding from the State of California for the **Employee Training Panel (ETP)** program. The ETP covers the costs of training in a number of areas of production. Training can be provided either by one of your managers, or by a consultant; this is typically for manufacturing companies, and usually covers from 40 to 80 hours per employee involved.



Business Tax Credits



Companies expanding in California, are eligible to apply for a tax credit through the **CA Competes** program. To date, five Camarillo companies have been awarded tax credits through the program, totaling over \$2.5 million. The credits will allow these companies to hire over 480 new employees into Camarillo's workforce:

<http://www.business.ca.gov/Programs/CaliforniaCompetesTaxCredit.aspx>

Tax Exemption for Equipment



Manufacturing and Research & Development Exemption

Another excellent program for manufacturers is offered through the State Board of Equalization, which provides an exemption to the CA portion of sales tax for equipment purchases and R&D:

http://www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/manufacturing_exemptions.htm



Another great resource is the Russell Fischer Business Collection (RFBC), which is based at the Camarillo Library (bit.ly/camlibbiz). The RFBC stocks thousands of books (digital and print), along with research databases. Another service option through the RFBC is Lynda.com, to enhance skills on computer programs and other aspects of business. There are also a number of programs, apps, and workshops offered through the RFBC, located on the second floor of the Library.



Business Resources



Permit Fast-Tracking



City staff can work with companies relocating to Camarillo by bringing together our different approving departments and agencies (planning, building, fire department) for a pre-submittal meeting to help fast-track the permitting process. This can, in turn, help to curb costs.



Foreign Trade Zone



For manufacturers, depending on where they obtain raw materials for their production, a Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) designation could help to reduce costs. An FTZ designation is available through the Port of Hueneme:

<http://www.portofhueneme.org/business/foreign-trade-zone/>.

Materials don't need to be delivered through the Port to be eligible for FTZ tax relief (they can arrive via truck, rail, or air freight).

Workforce Development Board



Another important agency is the Workforce Development Board:

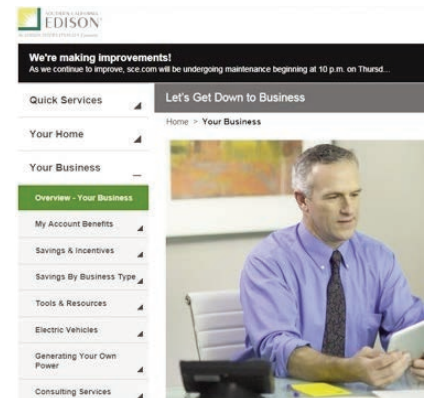
<http://www.workforceventuracounty.org>.

For employers, the WDB offers no-cost and low-cost recruitment, on-the-job training, and business consulting services. Through its American Job Centers, the WDB provides guidance, training, and placement support for job seekers. The WDB also coordinates the work of regional industry sector committees, including the Manufacturing Roundtable of Ventura



SC Edison Business Credits

The Southern CA Edison utility cost reduction program uses the Economic Development Rate (EDR). The program is for companies that use 200 KW or more of electricity annually. Sanctioned by the California Public Utilities Commission, SC Edison's program is designed to help companies remain in California through specific cost reductions. 200 KW is a low threshold, making the majority of companies eligible to apply for the EDR if they meet the program's other requirements. For details, please contact Laurel Shockley at Laurel.shockley@sce.com.



Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ)



Local manufacturers also benefit from incentives offered through the Ventura County Recycling Market Development Zone, which assists companies to make products from recycled materials. Benefits include grants, low-interest loans, publicity (free listings on Recyclestore.com), materials for manufacturing, business planning, and permit assistance: www.VCpublicworks.org/rmdz.



Alternative Energy Improvements



The PACE – CaliforniaFIRST Program is an affordable way to install energy-efficient improvements at commercial and multi-family residential properties (five or more units). PACE is Property Assessed Clean Energy, facilitated through CaliforniaFIRST (<https://californiafirst.org/homeowner-overview/>). The CaliforniaFIRST program is public/private financing that provides upfront funding for energy-efficient, renewable energy, and water-saving improvements. Program costs are repaid by property owners as a line item on their tax bill, and can be financed for up to 25 years.

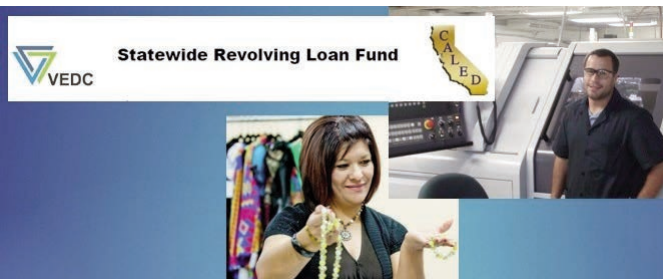
Industrial Development Bonds (IDB's)

Industrial Development Bonds (IDBs) are tax-exempt securities issued for up to \$10 million by a government agency. IDBs can provide money for acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, and equipment for manufacturing and processing facilities. IDBs can be issued by the I-Bank, local Industrial Development Authorities, or by Joint Powers Authorities:

<http://www.treasurer.ca.gov/cidfac/introduction.asp>.



Statewide Revolving Loan Fund



The VEDC is a non-profit funding source of capital for small business loans and micro-financing (<http://www.vedc.org/>). Start-up and existing businesses (in operation at least two years) are eligible to apply. Loans are made for purchasing an existing business, working capital, equipment, inventory, tenant improvements, or owner-occupied commercial real estate. For more information, please contact Keith Rogers at Krogers@vedc.org.

Coastal Housing Partnership

The Coastal Housing Partnership (www.coastalhousing.org) offers an innovative housing benefit that helps employees of participating companies obtain substantial savings when renting, refinancing a mortgage, or purchasing a home. Coastal Housing works with companies in both Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, and has helped over 10,000 local employees purchase homes. For more information, please contact Corby Gage at Corby@coastalhousing.org.



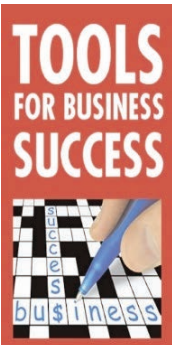
**Camarillo
Chamber of
Commerce**

Camarillo Chamber of Commerce

The Camarillo Chamber of Commerce (www.camarillochamber.org) has a variety of services for its member businesses, including advertising, business development, advocacy, forums for specific groups like young and Hispanic business persons, numerous special events, and more. For more information, please contact Chamber CEO Gary Cushing at ceo@camarillochamber.org.



Tools for Business Success

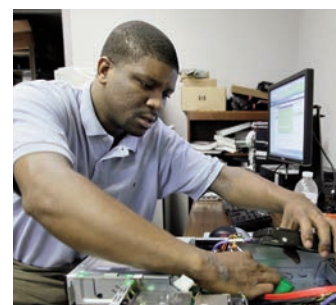


Tools for Business Success is a great resource. Just go to the City website: www.CityofCamarillo.org, and click on to 'Business' on the homepage, and then 'Business Programs.' Then, click the Tools for Business Success icon (left). Whether you are just starting your business, expanding your operations, or in need of any number of other resources, check it out!



Capital Access for Small Businesses

The Capital Access Program is funded through the CA Pollution Control Financing Authority (CalCAP Small Business). The program encourages banks and other financial institutions to make loans to small businesses that may have difficulty obtaining financing. The website is: <https://www.cbig.ca.gov/Government-Partners/California-Pollution-Control-Financing-Authority/Incentives/CPCFA-Capital-Access-Program-for-Small-Business>.



CalCAP - Americans With Disabilities Act Financing Program



This program helps small businesses to retrofit existing facilities to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. Businesses that are eligible for these loans have 15 or fewer full-time employees, and operate in 10,000 sq. ft. or less. Business owners may receive more favorable loan terms from a lender if the loan is enrolled in the CalCAP/ADA Financing Program. For more information, please go to: <http://www.treasurer.ca.gov/cpcfca/calcap/ada/index.asp>.

Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise Certification



California has a small business 25% participation goal, and a goal of 3% for a Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise (DVBE). The program facilitates the integration of disabled veterans into California's entrepreneurial economy. The Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) has a participation goal of 5%. Please refer to the website for information: <https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/pages/disabled-veteran-business-enterprise-program.aspx>.





New Employment Credit

The New Employment Credit (NEC) is available for each taxable year after January 1, 2014, and prior to January 1, 2021. A qualified taxpayer is eligible if he/she hires a full-time employee, and pays or incurs qualified wages attributable to work by the employee. For more information:

https://www.ftb.ca.gov/online/New_Employment_Credit_Reservation/.

Other Business Assistance Organizations



SCORE
516 Pennsfield Place Suite #206
Thousand Oaks, CA, 91360
(805) 204-6022

<https://ventura.score.org>




Women's Economic Ventures
290 Maple Court, Suite 268
Ventura, CA 93003
(805) 667-8004

<http://www.wevonline.org>

Please contact:

John Fraser
Sr. Management Analyst



City of Camarillo

601 CARMEN DRIVE
CAMARILLO, CA 93010
OFFICE: (805) 388-5349
FAX: (805) 388-5318
Email: jfraser@cityofcamarillo.org