



BusinessScene

June 2018
Volume XIII, Number 2

Check out Assistance Programs for Business

Whether you operate a large or small business in Camarillo, there are numerous assistance organizations and programs that may benefit your company. How to access all of these programs is noted below, but here are a few specifics:

Economic Development Collaborative

The Economic Development Collaborative, or EDC-VC (www.edc-vc.com), is in Camarillo and partners with the VC Small Business Development Center (SBDC). These organizations have some 30 consultants with expertise in all aspects of business, and are available to assist you at no charge. For manufacturers, there are several lean manufacturing specialists. The EDC-VC also has a loan program, which may provide funding where banks have not. Please contact Kelly Noble at 384-1800 (ext. 21), or Kelly.noble@edc-vc.com.

Employee Training

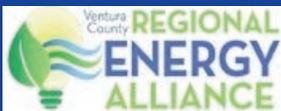
The EDC-VC receives funding from the State of CA for the Employee Training Panel (ETP). The ETP covers training costs from 40 to 80 hours per employee involved. The training is typically for manufacturing companies, and can be provided in-house or through a consultant.



Business Tax Credits

Companies expanding in California are eligible to apply for a tax credit through the CA Competes program. To date, seven Camarillo companies have been awarded tax credits through the program, totaling over \$3.5 million. The application is free, and the tax credits will allow these companies to hire over 480 new employees into Camarillo's workforce: <http://www.business.ca.gov/Programs/CaliforniaCompetesTaxCredit.aspx>.

For the **complete list** of business assistance organizations and programs, please go to the City website: www.cityofcamarillo.org, and click *Business* at the top of the page - a drop-down menu will appear, and click on *Economic Development*. The icon for *Business Assistance Programs* will be at the top of the following page. For assistance, please contact John Fraser at jfraser@cityofcamarillo.org, or 388-5349.



Are you familiar with the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance (VCREA)? The VCREA has a number of energy-efficient options to help businesses reduce their operating costs.

VCREA assistance includes energy conservation, environmental issues, and decreasing utility bills. Programs include VC Green Business (VCGB), which is a part of the CA Green Business Network (CAGBN). The Small Business Direct Install Program is a collaboration with SC Edison and SoCal Gas (SCG). Through Direct Install, free assessments are provided to consider more efficient solutions for lighting, signage, refrigeration and other systems. For more info, please go to <https://vcenergy.org>, or contact Leigh Lain Walker, at 654-3874, or Leigh.walker@ventura.org.

