



department
of economic
opportunity
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

RESOURCES

Resources for **Microbusinesses,** **Small Businesses,** and **Nonprofits** in Los Angeles County

Who We Are

Mission

DEO creates quality jobs, helps small businesses and high-road employers start and grow, and builds vibrant local communities and spaces.

Vision

DEO strives for a more equitable economy with thriving local communities, inclusive and sustainable growth and opportunity and mobility for all.

Core DEO Services:



Film and other
High-Growth
Industry Services



Entrepreneurship
Development



Jobs and
Training



Certifications and
Contracting



Small Business
Services



Capital Development
and Real Estate

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Resource Guide

Capital Opportunities

Having challenges covering general business expenses?

PACE - Small Business Grant Program

Provides grants of \$5,000 to \$10,000 to small businesses in Unincorporated Areas of LA County Supervisorial District 1. These grants can be used to cover business expenses including payroll, rent, working capital, and inventory. Applications are currently being accepted at:

Link: <https://pacelabdc.org/finance/pace-small-business-grant/>

I need help keeping my business doors open? Are there available loans that I might qualify for?

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

SBA offers a variety of loan programs to assist small businesses, ranging from microloans of up to \$50,000 to bank loans up to \$5 million.

Link: https://www.sba.gov/funding_programs/loans



Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs)

CDFIs are organizations that serve those left out of traditional banking. They provide financial resources for residents and small business owners, such as small business loans, personal financial services, and education and financial literacy. There are many CDFI's serving Los Angeles County. To learn more about how CDFI's can support your business, click here:

Link: <https://www.ofn.org/cdfi-locator/>

▶ **Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC):** A CDFI that offers working Capital loans from \$100,000 to \$500,000 for commercial and small businesses, as well as other loan products

Link: www.lisc.org/our-model/lending/loan-products/loans-business/



▶ **The Center by Lendistry:** Lendistry provides financing to small businesses, particularly in underserved communities and works with the SBA for small business funding and is CDFI certified.

Link: thecenterbylendistry.org/services/#capital



Capital Opportunities CONT'D

I need help identifying new revenue generating opportunities for my business. Where can I get support?



Office of Small Business

DEO's Office of Small Business (OSB) can help you get certified for County preference programs to give your business a leg up when bidding on County contracting opportunities. We also offer technical assistance to help you obtain contracts with a variety of public sector agencies. Thousands of certified businesses have received more than \$1 billion in County contracts in recent years. For more information contact OSB:

Link: <https://www.ajcc.lacounty.gov/businesses/office-of-small-business>

Also check out the Regional Alliance Marketplace for Procurement (RAMP) and LA Metro to find procurement opportunities with the City of LA and Metro:

Link: <https://www.metro.net/>

Link: <https://www.rampla.org/s/>

ONE LA Inclusive Procurement Program

The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce OneLA Inclusive Procurement Program creates pathways to contract opportunities for local, small and diverse businesses. Participating businesses have received more than \$30 million in contracts.

Link: lachamber.com/index.php?src=gendocs&ref=onela

Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture grant programs

Arts and Culture regularly offers calls for artists and competitive grant programs for arts organizations. Sign up to be notified when they open:

Link: <https://www.lacountyarts.org/>



Legal Assistance



Need assistance renegotiating commercial lease debt? Want to speak to an attorney?

DEO and the City of LA teamed up with Bet Tzedek Legal Services and Public Counsel to provide free legal assistance to small businesses. Eligible small businesses can connect with legal experts and access ongoing webinars, one-on-one counseling, and legal academies at no cost. Click below or call 866-375-9511 to learn more.

Link: <https://bit.ly/FreeLegalHelpToday>



Need free assistance mediating a business dispute?

DCBA offers free mediation services to all LA County residents that want to settle a dispute outside of court. This includes mediation services for businesses and customers, landlords and tenants, and more. Mediation is risk-free and requests can be submitted with or without a pending court hearing.

Link: <https://dcba.lacounty.gov/mediation/>



Rent and Mortgage Relief



I'm in danger of losing my housing or foreclosure of my property? Who can assist me with rent or renegotiating my lease?

Tenant Protections

DCBA helps LA County residents with housing and tenant protections. Available to residential tenants Countywide facing unpaid rent or possible eviction; DCBA can provide information and assistance about your rights. Residential landlords can also receive information about their rights and responsibilities.

Link: <https://dcba.lacounty.gov/rentstabilization/>

Resources for City of LA Renters

Certain tenant protections adopted by the City of LA during the COVID-19 pandemic come to an end August 1, 2023. Tenants have until August 1, 2023 to pay any missing rent due between March 1, 2020 and September 30, 2021. For rent due between October 1, 2021 and January 31, 2023, tenants have until February 1, 2024 to pay the missing rent. Here are resources available to support renters in the City of LA

Link: <https://mailchi.mp/lamayor.org/have-you-been-tested-for-covid-184222?e=94547928f6>



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
**CONSUMER &
BUSINESS AFFAIRS**

Foreclosure Prevention Technical Assistance

If you are having trouble paying your mortgage or facing foreclosure, DCBA's foreclosure prevention experts can help you understand the foreclosure process and explore all available options.

Link: <https://dcba.lacounty.gov/foreclosure-prevention/>

Rent and Mortgage Relief CONT'D



Need help paying your residential rent or commercial mortgage?

Mortgage Relief for Mom and Pop Landlords

DCBA administers a program where property owners with 1 – 4 units making less than \$117,840 a year can qualify for up to \$30,000 to eliminate debt caused by the Pandemic. This program is geared toward serving those in high need areas of LA County and City of LA residents are not eligible.

Link: <https://nhslacounty.org/programs-and-services/mortgage-relief-program-2-0/>



I'm couch surfing or sleeping in my car and in need of shelter. What resources are available to me?

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority provides resources for individuals and households experiencing homelessness or are at-risk of experiencing homelessness. LAHSA can help connect you to shelters and other immediate housing solutions depending on your circumstances.

Link: <https://www.lahsa.org/get-help>

Business Technical Assistance

How can I get support to help my small business succeed?

DEO's Office of Small Business

The Office of Small Business helps businesses start, grow and thrive through 1:1 counseling, workshops, referrals for legal assistance and financing; certifications and preference programs for County contracting; and help in contracting with other public agencies. OSB can help you navigate services and resources highlighted today.

Link: www.ajcc.lacounty.gov/businesses/office-of-small-business

Small Business Development Centers (SBDC)

SBDCs throughout the region provide free business consulting and training services in all areas of operations and management, marketing, financing, and business planning.

Link: <https://smallbizla.org/>



The Los Angeles Business Source Centers

Provides startups and small business owners with tools to make their business a success. Includes one-on-one consulting, entrepreneurship and business training, small business financing, tax incentives and credits, and workforce development (LA City only)

Link: <https://ewddlacity.com/index.php/local-business/businesssource-centers>

Also check out **Women Business Centers** including PACE and New Women's Business Center. The New Women's Business Center offers a Women in Entertainment program, among many others.

Link: pacela.org or new-wbc.org

Workforce Development

If I need help finding a job, what do I do? If I need help hiring qualified candidates, where do I go?

America's Job Centers of California (AJCC) and WorkSource Centers

LA County
America's Job Center
of California™

LA County, the City of LA, and five other Workforce Development Boards in the region operate more than 50 Job Centers and WorkSource Centers for employers and jobseekers. For workers, these centers offer job preparation, job connections, paid work experiences, and supportive services; and for businesses, they offer recruitment and training, layoff aversion, payroll subsidies/hiring incentives and more!

Link: <https://www.ajcc.lacounty.gov/>

Link: <https://ewddlacity.com/index.php/employment-services/adults-age-24-and-older/worksource-centers>

Youth@Work Elevate

Businesses in LA County can boost their workforce and elevate a career. Partner with us to get your business a highly motivated youth intern with 100% of the internship wages covered for up to 400 hours.

Link: <https://www.ajcc.lacounty.gov/>

Pandemic Recovery Rapid Reemployment

This program helps small businesses in LA County streamline their hiring process, reduce payroll costs and build a new team. Quickly hire qualified new talent with 100% wages covered.

Link: <https://opportunity.lacounty.gov/how-we-help/build-back-better/pandemic-rapid-relief-re-employment/>



LA County Library Tools for Job Seekers

Computers are available for use at the libraries or to check-out and take home. The libraries also offer free Wi-Fi and a quiet place to work. You can take online classes, watch career-related videos, explore the Work Ready book collection, research business information, find links to popular job boards and much more.

Link: <https://lacountylibrary.org/jobhelp/>



Workforce Development CONT'D

I'm worried I may have to layoff my workers. What layoff aversion or post layoff resources are available?

California Employment Development Department (EDD) Workshare Program



This program provides an alternative to layoffs if your business is experiencing financial impact by allowing payment of unemployment benefits to employees whose wages and hours have been reduced by 10 to 60%.

Link: <https://edd.ca.gov/>

Business Assistance Program



The Business Assistance Program operated by DEO offers free consulting services to help businesses overcome challenges and find alternatives to layoffs. Administered by the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC).

Link: <https://laedc.org/business-assistance/>

Rapid Response Services

If layoffs become unavoidable, LA County, City of LA and our workforce development partners can connect affected employees to services and resources, such as new job opportunities and social services to minimize the impact.



Los Angeles County Rapid Response
RapidResponse@opportunity.lacounty.gov



City of LA Rapid Response
<https://ewddlacity.com/index.php/local-business/transition-services>

Department of Public Social Services

The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) offers a vast array of programs and services that can help you connect to resources you need now! These programs have income restrictions.

- CalFresh: food benefit program for individuals and families;
- General Relief: cash assistance program for single adults;
- CalWORKs: cash assistance program for families;
- CalWORKs Childcare: may provide childcare help for up to 12 months;
- Medi-Cal: health benefits for individuals and families.



Apply for benefits: dpss.lacounty.gov

Mental Health Services

If you need to connect with someone about counseling and support, contact LA County's Department of Mental Health at dmh.lacounty.gov or call the 24/7 Help Line at (800) 854-7771



Link: <https://dmh.lacounty.gov/>

Access Critical County Benefits

How do I access critical county benefits, including cash assistance, health, or mental health support?



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Thank you!

Email us at deo@opportunity.lacounty.gov