



SELECTED BUSINESS RESOURCES

The Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce (LPCC) has compiled this list of business resources, each with a short description and contact information. The list is in alphabetical order. The LPCC hopes that these organizations will help you find creative and exciting ways to help you manage your business.

American Business Women's Association (ABWA)

(800) 228-0007

www.abwa.org

The ABWA's mission is to bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership; education, networking support and national recognition.

Black Enterprise (BE)

(312) 664-8667

www.blackenterprise.com

Black Enterprise, the ultimate guide to financial empowerment, is the premier business, investing, and wealth-building resource for African Americans. Since 1970, BE has provided essential business information and advice to professionals, corporate executives, entrepreneurs, and decision makers. Black Enterprise is the definitive source of information for and about African American business markets and leaders, and the authority on black business news and trends.

Chicago Community Ventures (CVV)

(773) 822-0320

www.chiventures.org

CCV works with established small businesses in the Chicagoland area with a focus on companies in low and moderate income areas, and firms owned by minorities or women. CVV provides their services at little or no cost to small businesses to help them achieve growth so they in turn can provide opportunities within their communities.

Chicago-Cook Business Center (CCBC)

(312) 603-1070

www.chicago-cook.org

The CCBC is a public agency and is the principal economic development organization for the Chicago-Cook County region. It is a single source contact organization that works with prospect companies by providing market information, technical assistance, tax incentives, financing, building and land identification, strategic partner searches, and international expansion assistance. Business services are confidential and free of charge.

Chicago Prospector: Property Locator and Market Analysis Information

www.chicagoprospector.org

Chicago Prospector is a free online commercial real estate listing service and research tool for business owners as well as those involved in community and economic development. Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology, Chicago Prospector provides valuable data for available property in low-income areas. Available data includes current neighborhood demographics, information on existing businesses by industry, and tax incentive information.

Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce

(312) 494-6700

www.chicagolandchamber.org

The Chicagoland Chamber serves as the “unified business voice of greater Chicago,” aggressively representing business interests at the city, county, regional, and state levels.

Chicagoland Entrepreneurial Center (CEC)

(312) 494-6777

www.chicagolandec.org

The Chicagoland Entrepreneurial Center (CEC) is a nonprofit affiliate of the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce that seeks to make a perceptible and lasting economic impact on the Chicago region by helping entrepreneurs and high-growth businesses build viable, sustainable, and profitable enterprises. The CEC works with entrepreneurs to create and sustain opportunities for business success, job growth, and profitability.

Chicagoland Express Network (ABWA)

www.abwa-chicago.org

The Chicagoland Express Network is a streamlined membership option offered by the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) to meet the needs of today's busy professionals. The mission of ABWA is to bring together women (and men) of diverse backgrounds and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking, support and national recognition.

City Clerk of Chicago

(312) 744-6861

www.chicityclerk.com

The City Clerk's office is responsible for: maintaining official records of city government; publishing the Journal of Proceedings of the Chicago City Council; issuing all business, liquor and other city licenses; the sale of more than 1.1 million vehicle stickers and over 100,000 residential permit parking stickers.

City of Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Licensing (DBA)

(312) 744-6249

egov.cityofchicago.org/businessaffairs

The Department of Business Affairs & Licensing's mission is to empower businesses to grow and succeed by providing information and services to help businesses act responsibly and create economic vitality and vibrant communities for the people of Chicago. DBA's "one-stop-shop" for businesses provides business consultants to guide businesses through the government process.

City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development

(312) 603-1000

egov.cityofchicago.org/planning

The mission of the department is to promote community and economic growth in the region by investing in affordable housing, public infrastructure/safety, and the retention and expansion of businesses and jobs in Cook County.

City of Chicago Department of Revenue

(312) 603-6870

egov.cityofchicago.org/revenue

The Department of Revenue collects and enforces the Home Rule Taxes and various fees of Cook County which includes the Amusement, Cigarette, Gasoline/Diesel Fuel, Liquor, Parking, New Motor Vehicle, Wheel (vehicle stickers) and Use Tax on titled property.

City of Chicago Department of Streets and Sanitation

(312) 744-4611

egov.cityofchicago.org/streetsandsanitation

Many of the most essential municipal services in Chicago are provided by the Department of Streets and Sanitation. These include garbage collection, street lamp maintenance, rodent abatement, graffiti removal, abandoned vehicle towing, street sweeping, snow plowing, and tree trimming and planting.

Crain's Chicago Business

(312) 649-5200

www.chicagobusiness.com

ChicagoBusiness.com takes the *Crain's Chicago Business* brand-known for its insight, analysis and high journalistic standards and extends it to the Internet. But it provides more than just an electronic version of this week's newspaper and ten years of back issues. ChicagoBusiness.com is a portal that offers daily local business news, plus links to public records and hundreds of local and national business-oriented sites.

DePaul University Coleman Entrepreneurship Center

(312) 362-8625

cec.depaul.edu

The Coleman Center provides access to resources, knowledge, and people. Within its offices, a library is available for clients, including books, software, and reference guides. The Center also connects entrepreneurs with people and organizations that can further help grow their businesses.

Illinois Attorney General

(312) 814-3000

www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov

The Attorney General is the state's chief legal officer and is responsible for protecting the public interest of the state and its people. The job of the Attorney General is to: advocate on behalf of all of the people of Illinois; legislate with members of the General Assembly for new laws; and litigate to ensure state laws are followed and respected. The Attorney General provides services that cover a broad range of issues, reaching every corner of Illinois. Protecting consumers and businesses that have been victimized by fraud, deception or unfair competition is one of the primary functions of the Attorney General.

Illinois Business Financial Services (IBFS)

(309) 674-5800

www.ibfs.org

IBFS is a certified development company that works in cooperation with the Small Business Administration, (SBA) by submitting 504 and 7A loan applications. The IBFS can help businesses with new equipment, updating facilities or even building a new one. The IBFS professional staff will assist businesses in start up and expansion needs, helping to make a dream a reality.

Illinois Chamber of Commerce

(312) 983-7100

www.ilchamber.org

The Illinois Chamber of Commerce is a pro-business advocacy membership organization representing the state's employers on issues of economic development and jobs; employment law topics, such as workers' compensation and healthcare; business taxes and infrastructure investment.

Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC)

(217) 782-5793

www.icc.illinois.gov

The ICC's mission is to pursue an appropriate balance between the interest of consumers and existing and emerging service providers to ensure the provision of adequate, efficient, reliable, safe and least-cost public utility services.

Illinois Data

(815) 753-0934

www.nibidc.com

The Center for Governmental Studies develops, maintains, and provides access to an extensive array of data resources. Federal data sources include but are not limited to the Bureau of the Census, Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. State sources include the Illinois Department of Employment Security and the Illinois Department of Revenue. Data from Woods & Poole, Inc., and Dun & Bradstreet also are available. These sources provide hundreds of demographic, economic, and socio-economic variables such as population, income, employment, and tax receipts. The Center's data resources are available for different geographies and in a variety of formats including electronic, internet, print, and thematic maps. Service fees apply.

Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO)

(312) 814-7179

www.commerce.state.il.us

The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) is charged with enhancing Illinois' economic competitiveness by providing technical and financial assistance to businesses, local governments, workers and families.

Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES)

(888) FOR-IETC ((888) 367-4382)

www.ides.state.il.us

The IDES is mostly known for administering the state's unemployment insurance program. But they offer a lot more than that. IDES helps job seekers find jobs and employers find workers. They also analyze and publish a gold mine of information on the Illinois economy and careers.

Illinois Department of Labor

(312) 793-2800

www.state.il.us/Agency/idol

The mission of the Illinois Department of Labor is to promote and protect the rights, wages, welfare, working conditions, safety and health of Illinois workers through enforcement of the state labor laws, to safeguard the public through regulation of amusement rides, and to ensure compliance with all other labor standards.

Illinois Department of Revenue

(217) 782-3336

www.revenue.state.il.us

The primary responsibility of the Department of Revenue is to serve as the tax collection agency for state government and for local governments. The department also regulates riverboat gaming and the state's horse racing industry, administers the state's lottery, and regulates the manufacture, distribution and sale of alcoholic beverages. The department also oversees local property tax assessments, and functions as the funding agent for the Illinois Housing Development Authority.

Illinois Liquor Control Commission

(312) 814-2206

www.state.il.us/LCC

Institute for Women's Leadership

(650) 556-8800

www.womensleadership.com

The Institute for Women's Leadership believes being an extraordinary leader is more about who one is and how well they harness the resources in their environment, so that's where the Institute concentrates. In their training, one will examine the context underlying their business decisions. Moreover, one will discover and practice how changing their context can make breakthrough change an exciting reality. The Institute for Women's Leadership chooses to focus on developing women leaders because they believe this vector leads to exponential increases in organizational innovation, collaboration and performance.

International Trade Club of Chicago (ITCC)

(312) 368-9197

www.itcc.org

The International Trade Club of Chicago (ITCC) is a not-for-profit trade association that aims to foster and expand international trade and investment; encourage the profession of international business management on a high ethical plane; furnish its members with a medium for exchange of experience and a forum for the discussion of problems of mutual interest; seek by concerted action to remove barriers and obstacles which may interfere with the development of international trade and investment; and, promote better understanding and appreciation of the significance of international trade and investment.

IRS Small Business

www.irs.gov/businesses/small/index.html

Latin American Chamber of Commerce (LACC)

(773) 252-5211

www.latinamericanchamberofcommerce.com

The LACC has over 1,300 members, making it the largest Hispanic Trade Association in the Midwest. The LACC is also one of the largest Minority Business Consulting Groups in Illinois. The areas of expertise include: business financing: writing loan packages and obtaining financing for its business clients; contract procurement: preparing MBE/WBE certification packages and assisting companies in obtaining contracts with government agencies and prime contractors; general business consulting: assisting clients in all aspects of business development from writing business plans to formulating marketing strategies; management development: providing specialized training to upgrade the expertise of business management.

Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce (LPCC)

(773) 880-5200

www.lincolnparkchamber.com

With approximately 600 members, the Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce (LPCC) is Chicago's largest neighborhood chamber. The LPCC believes that business prosperity contributes to the vitality of the Lincoln Park community. The LPCC's mission is to serve as a catalyst for business success and economic development in Lincoln Park. The LPCC promotes and champions members; advocates for members with city, country and state governments; connects members to each other and to valued programs and services; and educates members on strategies for business success.

Lincoln Park Business Development Institute (LPBDI)

(773) 880-5200

lpbdi.org/home

The Lincoln Park Business Development Institute (LPBDI), developed by the Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce, is a not-for-profit organization that aims to educate and provide resources for business owners in the Lincoln Park area. Founded in 2001, the organization develops and sponsors activities and events including useful business seminars and joint programs with DePaul University.

Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA)

www.mbda.gov

The Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) is part of the [U.S. Department of Commerce](http://www.commerce.gov) and is the only federal agency created specifically to foster the establishment and growth of minority-owned businesses in America. The Minority Business Development Agency mission is to enhance the growth and expansion of minority business enterprises.

National Association of Women Business Owners- Chicago Area Chapter (NAWBO)

(312) 609-1300

www.nawbochicago.org

NAWBO is the premier organization in the United States representing the interests of all women business owners. NAWBO Chicago, among the largest of the organization's more than 80 chapters, offers a wealth of opportunities ranging from contacts and networking to learning, advocacy and growth.

National Black Chamber of Commerce

www.nationalbcc.org

The National Black Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to economically empowering and sustaining African American communities through entrepreneurship and capitalistic activity within the United States and via interaction with the Black Diaspora.

North Business & Industrial Council (NORBIC)

(773) 594-9292

www.norbic.org

NORBIC is an economic development organization that promotes job growth and community advancement through the provision of professional and technical services to manufacturers located in the State of Illinois' Northeast Economic Development Region. Founded in 1975, Chicago based NORBIC works to revitalize Northeast Illinois' manufacturing base, and to retain and create jobs. It does this by proactively identifying manufacturing clients through partnerships with local governments, trade associations, and other economic development organizations, objectively assessing these manufacturer clients' needs, and then leveraging the capabilities of its own programs with those of its partners to create integrated focused solutions that address the identified needs and produce measurable positive change.

SCORE: Counselors to America's Small Business

(312) 353-7724

www.score.org

SCORE "Counselors to America's Small Business" is a nonprofit association dedicated to educating entrepreneurs and the formation, growth and success of small business nationwide. SCORE is a resource partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

Social Security Administration

(800) 772-1213

www.ssa.gov

Small Business Growth Corporation

(773) 880-1455

www.growthcorp.com

Small Business Growth Corporation (Growth Corp) is a statewide, not-for-profit corporation that works in conjunction with financial institutions to provide financing assistance to small businesses throughout the entire state of Illinois, and parts of Missouri, Indiana, Iowa, and Kentucky.

State of Illinois Business Portal

business.illinois.gov

The Illinois Business Portal can help at any stage in the business life cycle. The Illinois Business Portal can help with answers to questions about starting a new business, running a business, or changing an existing business.

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

(202) 659-6000

www.uschamber.com

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation representing more than three million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions. It includes hundreds of associations, thousands of local chambers, and 106 American Chambers of Commerce in 94 countries. Its core mission is to fight for business and free enterprise before Congress, the White House, regulatory agencies, the courts, the court of public opinion, and governments around the world.

U.S. Department of Labor

(866) 4-USA-DOL

www.dol.gov

The Department of Labor fosters and promotes the welfare of the job seekers, wage earners, and retirees of the United States by improving their working conditions, advancing their opportunities for profitable employment, protecting their retirement and health care benefits, helping employers find workers, strengthening free collective bargaining, and tracking changes in employment, prices, and other national economic measurements. In carrying out this mission, the Department administers a variety of Federal labor laws including those that guarantee workers' rights to safe and healthful working conditions; a minimum hourly wage and overtime pay; freedom from employment discrimination; unemployment insurance; and other income support.

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

(202) 663-4900

www.eeoc.gov

U.S. Export Assistance Center & Small Business Administration

(312) 353-8065

www.sba.gov/aboutsba/sbaprograms/internationaltrade/useac/index.html

U.S. Export Assistance Centers located in major metropolitan areas throughout the United States, are one-stop shops ready to provide small- or medium-sized business with local export assistance. Receive personalized assistance by professionals from the U.S. Small Business Administration, the U.S. Department of Commerce, the U.S. Export-Import Bank and other public and private organizations. It's a partnership that makes it easier to get the help you need to compete and succeed in the global marketplace.

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

(312) 353-4528

www.sba.gov

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) was created in 1953 as an independent agency of the federal government to aid, counsel, assist and protect the interests of small business concerns, to preserve free competitive enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of the nation. The SBA helps Americans start, build and grow businesses. Through an extensive network of field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations, SBA delivers its services to people throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, the U. S. Virgin Islands and Guam.

Women's Business Development Center

(312) 853-3477

www.wbdc.org/default_Flash.asp

WBDC services are available in Spanish and English, and include business assessments, loan packaging, public and private sector procurement assistance, classes/workshops, and individualized counseling on all aspects of business development, management, and strategy. The WBDC also provides assistance to develop home- and center-based child care businesses. In addition, the WBDC offers a nationally recognized certification for Women Business Enterprises (WBEs) and is active in advocacy issues related to women-owned businesses on the local, state, and federal levels.

Women's Leadership Exchange

(212) 209-1567

www.womensleadershipexchange.com

Women's Leadership Exchange® (WLE) is a social entrepreneurship organization founded by and for successful businesswomen. Recognizing the unique challenges facing women in business – whether they are leading their own companies or are leaders in the corporate, government or not-for-profit sectors, WLE offers a program that helps them fill the information gap and provides a venue for building connections that will facilitate their success in business and in life. At the center of this program are conferences - featuring leading experts, accredited business coaches and interactive programming - in major markets around the U.S. In addition, WLE offers a resource-packed website, a leadership development program (LEXCI), teleconferences, and an e-newsletter.

World Business Chicago

(312) 553-0500

www.worldbusinesschicago.com

World Business Chicago (WBC) is Chicago's not-for-profit economic development corporation. The office fosters the Chicago region's global position as a thriving business location. WBC is a public-private partnership funded jointly by the City of Chicago and the private sector. WBC coordinates the city's business retention and attraction efforts, raises Chicago's profile as a prime business location and serves as a resource for companies. The staff navigates the site selection process for businesses by providing economic and industry data, site location assistance, state and local incentive information, and bringing together key parties in the public and private sectors to spur and accelerate economic growth.

World Trade Center Chicago

(312) 467-0550

www.wtcc.org

Since 1987, the WTCC has been a member of the World Trade Centers Association, the world's largest, private business network. Chicago has already established itself as the crossroads for domestic trade, and through the efforts of the WTCC, Chicago has become a significant entryway for international trade.