



WIB

Business Resources

Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE)

Monroe County has implemented the Minority and Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE) Certification and Utilization Program. The purpose of this is to encourage increased participation of minority and women-owned businesses in County contracting

- M/WBE Program Information Page
 - <https://www.monroecounty.gov/dei-mwbe>
- M/WBE Application Portal
 - <https://www.monroecounty.gov/mcapp/mwbe/login>
- M/WBE Application Guide
 - <https://www.monroecounty.gov/files/dei/Monroe%20County%20M%20WBE%20Certification%20Guide%20Version%201-o.pdf>

Urban League of Rochester NY

The Urban League of Rochester's Entrepreneurship and Wealth Building Division supports minority, women, and veteran-owned businesses. They help entrepreneurs and small business owners launch and/or grow their businesses through classroom instruction and one-on-one technical assistance

- <https://www.urbanleagueroc.org/small-business>

National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC)

The NMSDC supports communities of color (Asian-Indian, Asian-Pacific, Black, Hispanic, and Native American) by helping connect minority business enterprises to potential sources of capital, contract opportunities and supply chain partners. To take advantage of its resources, minority-owned businesses must apply and pay for Minority Business Enterprise certification, which enables them to be listed in NMSDC's Minority Supplier Management Information Database.

➤ <https://nmsdc.org/>

Minority Business Development Agency

The U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) is the only federal agency solely dedicated to the growth and global competitiveness of minority business enterprises.

➤ <https://www.mbda.gov/grants>

Grants for Small Businesses

Corporate Business Grants

- **FedEx's Small Business Grant:** To enter, you deliver a pitch on how your business makes a difference to your community and demonstrate there is a need for the reward money.
 - 10 Winner of \$30,000.
 - <https://www.fedex.com/en-us/small-business/grant-contest.html>
- **Lending Tree Grant:** Primarily loans, however, does run contests.
 - 4 winners of \$10,000
 - <https://lendingtreebowl.com/community/lendahand/>
- **Idea Café Small Business Grant:** news and resource site for small business owners and entrepreneurs. They offer \$1000 for winners, and you do not need to be an established organization.
 - https://www.businessownersideacafe.com/business_grants/
- **Walmart Foundation Grant:** Specifically, to non-profits
 - Community grant program for local non-profits: \$250 to \$5000

- National giving program is for national non-profits with awards at \$250,000.
- <https://walmart.org/how-we-give/grant-eligibility>

Business Grants for Woman

- **The Amber Grants:** Apply for \$25.00 free. Easy application. Each month 2 businesses owned by a woman wins \$10,000. At the end of the year, 2 of the 24 grant winners have a chance to win \$25,000.
 - <https://ambergrantsforwomen.com/>
- **Cartier Women's Initiative Award:** Very prestigious award. 21 Finalists received coaching, training, networking opportunities and media visibility. The top 7 receive a grant of \$100,000, plus mentoring.
 - <https://www.cartierwomensinitiative.com/regional-awards>

Grants for Start-up Businesses

- **Black Founder Start Up Grant:** The SoGal Foundation's Black Founder Startup Grant provides startup capital grants for Black women. The program offers several \$5,000 or \$10,000 grants and consulting help on fundraising and other entrepreneurship topics.
 - <https://www.iamsogal.com/black-founder-startup-grant/>
- **Hello Alice:** provides information on several different grant programs. You can sign up for a free account to apply for multiple grants, including:
 - \$5,000 Small Business Growth Fund Grant
 - Requirements: for-profit business with less than \$1 million in gross annual revenue
 - \$15,000 Stacy's Rise Project grant
 - Requirements: For women entrepreneurs in the food and beverage consumer packaged goods space
 - \$25,000 NAACP Powershift Entrepreneur Grant
 - Requirements: For Black entrepreneurs
 - \$10,000 Alibaba.com Manifest Grants Program
 - Requirements: Registered business based in the U.S. with a new or existing innovative physical product currently on the market or expected to be viable within six months.
 - \$10,000 Restaurant Disaster Relief Fund

- Requirements: For restaurants experiencing hardship due to a state or federally declared natural disaster, independently owned, brick-and-mortar location, three stores or fewer currently operating, revenues of \$3 million or less per location in the last 12 months, 50 or fewer employees per store
 - <https://helloalice.com/funding/grants/>
- **Tory Burch Foundation Fellows Program:** is a one-year fellowship for women business owners. The program includes training, a peer community, a paid-for trip to the Tory Burch offices and \$5,000 for business education. To qualify, you must:
 - Be a woman entrepreneur who owns the largest or equal stake in a for-profit business that is majority owned and controlled by women
 - Be at least 21 years old, proficient in English and a legal resident of the U.S. or its territories
 - The program also prefers that the business has been in operations for less than five years and generates annual revenues of at least \$75,000.
 - <https://www.toryburchfoundation.org/fellows/?section=rules>

Other Business Grants

- **National Association for the Self-Employed (NASE) Growth Grants:** NASE grants are awarded both for growing your business and for paying for your dependents' education.
 - Business grants are for \$4,000 and can be used for a range of purposes, including buying supplies, training employees or investing in new equipment.
 - Any NASE member can apply for a grant.
 - The organization serves business owners who have up to ten employees.
 - <https://www.nase.org/become-a-member/grants-and-scholarships>
- **The Coalition to Back Black Businesses Grants:** offers grants of \$5,000 to Black-owned small businesses. Several applicants may be invited to apply for \$25,000 enhancement grants.
 - To qualify, your business needs to be at least 51% Black-owned, have three to 20 employees and be located in a community facing economic hardships, as defined by the Distressed Communities Index.
 - <https://webackblackbusinesses.com/>

Where to find Grants for Small Businesses

Government Sources

- www.Grants.gov: is a database of all grants currently offered by federal agencies, as well as useful educational information on how to navigate the grant application process. While there's no specific search field for minority-owned businesses, you can narrow your search according to your [type of business entity](#) and industry.
 - To apply for a grant, you will need an [Employer Identification Number](#) (EIN) and a Unique Entity ID (UEI), obtained on the SAM.gov website. Allow as much as three weeks to obtain your EIN and UEI if you don't have them already.
- **Small Business Administration:** The SBA is a government agency created to help small business owners and entrepreneurs.
 - <https://www.sba.gov/>
- www.Sam.Gov: like Grant.GOV containing federal grants and loans.
- www.Challenge.Gov: Predominately focuses on prize money for solving challenges facing a variety of industries
- <http://grants.com/>
- <https://www.usa.gov/grants>

Local Business Loans, Grants, and Services

- <https://www.cityofrochester.gov/businessResources/>
- <https://monroecountybusiness.org/incentives-and-programs/startup-small-business-programs/>