

The People Fund

Purpose

“PeopleFund creates economic opportunity by helping people:

- Build healthy small businesses
- Purchase safe and affordable homes
- Achieve financial security and independence
- Develop communities”

Services

- The Small Business and Non-Profit Loan Fund provides financing for equipment purchases, permanent working capital term loans, revolving lines of credit, and real estate.
- The Business Consulting and Technical Assistance Program offers a essential services (i.e. legal assistance, accounting services, web development, etc.) through a network of professional volunteers and partner organizations.
- Additional resources such as a collection of documents, templates and other helpful tools for small business owners and non-profit organizations are available on the website.

Required Documents

- Proof of secondary source of income or guarantor
- Business plan
- Personal tax returns
- Personal bank statements

Cost

2.5% closing fee

Contact

2921 E 17th St, Bldg D, Suite 1

Austin, TX, 78702

Phone: (512) 4728087

Online: <http://www.peoplefund.org>

Online Guides:

Basic Steps in Starting a Small Business (pdf)

City of Austin Small Business Development Program
<http://ci.austin.tx.us/sbdp/downloads/business.pdf>

Hire Yourself: A guide to starting a small business for ex-offenders (pdf)

Legal Assistance to Microenterprise Project
<http://lamp.texasbar.org/resource-library/legal/downloads/HireYourselfExOffenders09.pdf>

SBA: Starting a Business

<http://www.sba.gov/category/navigation-structure/starting-managing-business/starting-business/thinking-about-starting>

Legal/Licensing Advice:

Legal Assistance to Microenterprise Project

(LAMP) provides free legal services and referrals to pro bono attorneys to microentrepreneurs who are financially eligible. LAMP also runs free legal clinics.
Online: <http://lamp.texasbar.org/index.html>

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

The TDLR offers an online guide to license restrictions for people with criminal convictions:
<http://www.license.state.tx.us/crimconvict.htm>
Phone: 800-803-9202.
Online: <http://www.tdlr.state.tx.us/>

Financial Literacy:

Bank On Central Texas

<http://bankoncentraltexas.org/index.php>
On this website you can find information on opening a bank account and financial education classes in your area.

Professional Clothing:

Lisa's Hope Chest

This organization provides free gently used professional clothing to people in need.
3110 Manor Rd # A, Austin, TX, 78723
Phone: (512) 457-0999
Online: www.lisashopechest.org/

Entrepreneurship Resource Guide



“I want to blaze my own trail... There are a lot of talented people out here who just haven’t had the opportunities to sell their dreams.”

--Yusef Ismael, ex-offender and founder of Stop Shootin, Inc.



City of Austin Small Business Development Program

Purpose

“The mission of the Small Business Development Program (SBDP) is to foster job creation and support the growth of new and existing businesses by providing capacity building information, tools, and resources.”

Services

- SBDP offers classes on a variety of topics related to starting or running a small business, including weekly orientation classes providing an overview of the process of starting a business and the resources available in Austin. It also offers information on classes that are available through other organizations.
- The SBDP provides individual counseling, such as help on developing a business idea and writing a business plan.
- The Business Solutions Center (BSC), run by the SBDP, offers computer workstations with Internet connection and access to numerous business software programs and databases. The BSC also provides access to books, journals and other print materials, as well as a notary service.

Cost

All services available through the SBDP are provided at no cost.

Contact

One Texas Center
505 Barton Springs Rd.
Austin, TX 78704
Phone: (512) 974-7740
Online: <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/sbdp/>

ACCION Texas

Purpose

“The mission of ACCION Texas Inc. is to provide credit and service to small businesses that do not have access to loans from commercial sources, and to provide leadership and service to the micro-lending field on a national level.”

Services

- Provides a variety of loans for existing and start-up businesses, including small start-up loans for entrepreneurs looking to establish credit for the first time.
- ACCION Texas assists with the development of business plans, and linking clients to resources that will help their businesses succeed.
- Accommodation is provided for Spanish speakers.

Cost

Cost will depend on the loan product, but ACCION Texas specializes in low-cost loans. All other services provided through the organization are provided at no additional cost.

Contact

Wells Fargo Building, Suite 201
912 Bastrop Highway
Austin, TX 78741
Phone: (888) 443-2987
Online: <http://www.acciontexas.org/accion-loans-small-business>



BiGAUSTIN

Purpose

“BiGAUSTIN is Central Texas' single-source solution for entrepreneurial education, tailored business counseling and flexible loans. BiGAUSTIN remains the leading non-profit micro-enterprise development organization for a number of very specific reasons: BiGAUSTIN strives to be the leader as a self-sustainable small business development organization by providing innovative growth strategies to underserved entrepreneurs in Central Texas. BiGAUSTIN assists small businesses to successfully grow by providing comprehensive education, tailored business counseling and flexible loans.”

Services

- BiGAUSTIN provides up to \$15,000 in micro-loans for starting businesses in Austin and the surrounding area
- BiGAUSTIN offers a program geared specifically towards ex-offenders interested in entrepreneurship. They offer small business trainings and individual counseling.
- Services are provided in English with some accommodation for Spanish speakers.

Cost

All services provided through BiGAUSTIN are provided at no cost.

Contact

5407 N IH-35 Suite 200
Austin, TX, 78723
Phone: (512) 926-2997
Online: <http://www.bigAustin.org/>