

## **Frequently Asked Questions**



### **What is the Chamber of Commerce?**

The Crete Chamber of Commerce is nonprofit, private business organization that is supported by more than 100 businesses, organizations and community members. It is considered a volunteer organization, supported by a professional staff.

### **What does the chamber do for the community?**

Together the volunteers and staff work to support, promote and establish Crete as an attractive place to live and do business. They do this in a variety of ways including:

- Creating a united effort against the persistent problems facing the business community
- Providing a platform for the exchange of ideas and methods
- Developing programs forming a strong foundation for growth and stability
- Supporting city officials, area businesses and the educational system
- Sponsoring events showcasing the area and the businesses it supports

### **How much is my investment?**

An investment is based on classification and certain criteria specified for that classification. An investment schedule can be found in the Membership Packet. Investments are tax deductible as an ordinary business expense and can be paid on an annual payment or automatic withdrawal.

### **Where does my investment go?**

An investment in the Crete Chamber of Commerce is an investment in the community. Your investment dollars provide:

- Educational seminars and Tech Tuesday Lunch and Learns for businesses and individuals in the area
- Low cost promotional opportunities through Facebook, e-blasts, newspaper, radio and additional advertising
- Networking events and events showcasing the Crete Community
- Support services for area businesses, government officials and educational system
- Government advocacy for a variety of issues impacting area residents

**Membership doesn't cost it PAYS!**  
**Become a member TODAY**

## Some statistics on being in a chamber:



- Consumers are **57%** more likely to think positively of a chamber member's local reputation.
- **82%** of consumers believe the local chamber of commerce helps create jobs and promotes local economic development
- Consumers are **63%** more likely to buy goods and services from chamber members
- Over 100 businesses in Crete reap the benefits of being chamber members

• \*Statistics are from a national study conducted by The Schapiro Group, an Atlanta based market research firm

## What's in it for me?

### Access to Support Services

The chamber works for the business community seeking and developing programs and providing services that make your job easier. These services and benefits include, but are not limited to the benefits listed on the Membership Benefits Flyer.

### Networking Opportunities

Every year the chamber hosts and takes part in hundreds of events. People do business with people they know, and the chamber provides a way for you to make connections with future investors and/or customers every month.

### Increased Exposure

Promotional opportunities available for members include event sponsorship, cost effective targeted advertising in our monthly newsletter the Member Connection, a featured business spotlight section

### Government Advocacy

The Chamber provides a voice for its members on business, community and governmental affairs at the federal, state, county and local level. Join with the chamber membership and let your voice be heard!

### Added Community Recognition

The chamber recognizes businesses throughout their years of membership and service through ribbon cuttings and anniversary salutes. Each business is also provided an updatable plaque and is recognized yearly in the Member Connection, the chamber's monthly newsletter.

**Also consider...**

- A business is only as successful as the area where it is located and by investing in the Chamber of Commerce you are helping to ensure a secure business environment for years to come.
- A chamber investment is also a great way to give back to the community where you live and earn a living. Plus, you will reap the benefits of the planning and action taken as a result of the chamber's work.
- Without a strong and effective Chamber of Commerce our area is less able to compete on a larger scale

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## Crete Chamber of Commerce

### List of Membership Benefits

- 10 Spotlight Businesses place on Chamber Facebook Page and Crete News
- 20 Spotlight Businesses place in Bi-weekly Newsletter
- Acceptance of Crete Cash
- Access To Chamber and Community Calendar
- Access to Chamber events at complimentary and discounted rates
- Alpha/Category listing in printed and online directory
- Authorized Use of Chamber logo
- Business Plan Access
- Chamber Membership Window Decal
- Chamber representative at local and state legislative meeting
- Claim Business on Nebraska Tourism Commission Website
- Grand opening, ribbon cuttings or relocation support
- Host a Chamber Sponsored Event, such as a Business Before Hours, Tech Tuesday, and/or Business After-Hours to promote your business and increase foot traffic in your store
- Incorporate events, hot deals and other information on bi-weekly newsletters and Facebook
- Information Included in Relocation Packets
- Information on Chamber Website, Google Map and Facebook
- Invitation to Chamber sponsored events and networking opportunities
- Leadership Through Committees and Taskforce
- Nebraska Passport Program
- Notary Services
- One Complimentary Chamber Mailing List for Chamber Members
  - Listings for Members After First Complimentary List is Given:
    - \$50 for List of All Chamber Businesses and Phone Numbers
    - \$75 for List of All Chamber Businesses with Contact Information and Preferred Means of Contact
  - Listing for Non-Chamber Members:
    - \$100 for List of All Chamber Businesses and Phone Numbers
    - \$250 for List of All Chamber Businesses with Contact Information and Preferred Means of Contact
- Online Mapping link to Business
- Post Job Opportunities
- Receive Bi-weekly Newsletters and additional e-blasts
- Receive electronic communication for you and your staff
- Referrals to Other Businesses
- Resources for Business Development Grants
- Resources for Marketing Grants
- Unlimited Membership Business Referrals
- Website listing and link in the on-line Chamber business directory

