Georgia Power Economic Development is pleased to offer TWO exciting educational opportunities coming up in August. Feel free to pass along to anyone in your community that could benefit! There is no limit to the number of attendees. Those who are likely to have interest are chamber staff, relevant committee chairs, downtown development staff, city, or county staff/leaders. Everyone must register for each individual event.

Retail Ready Showcase (Warner Robins) – August 12 (LINK)

CREATE Entrepreneur Summit (Macon) – August 13 (LINK)

These two events are free, but each requires separate registration. Come to one, come to both, or find something else to do and stay the week!

Retail Ready Showcase

We've taken the Retail Ready Roadshow events from last year and added more experts, more experience, more stories, and less PowerPoint. Even if you've attended previous events, you'll gain new insights and examples.

This session is designed specifically for local leaders, economic developers, and community partners who are looking to better position their communities for retail growth and recruitment. We'll walk through practical, real-world strategies that can help you:

- Identify your community's retail opportunities
- Better communicate your value to retailers and developers
- Strengthen your local retail development game plan

It's interactive, informative, and built with communities like yours in mind.

Event Details:
Retail Ready Showcase

Central Georgia Technical College – Warner Robins Campus

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

You can learn more and register here:
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1989912820814?aff=oddtdtcreator

CREATE – Entrepreneur Summit

Sign up for the CREATE Entrepreneurship Summit this August. The CREATE (Cultivating Resilient Entrepreneurs and Transforming Economies) program is designed to help **community leaders** like you implement entrepreneurship and small business growth plans.

Join us at CREATE 2026 to:

- Communicate the importance of small business support to local and regional economies to your stakeholders and residents.
- Identify community assets and gaps for entrepreneurial support and potential investment areas.
- Network with statewide partners, resources, and funding sources.
- Learn best practices from other Georgia communities.
- Hear what successful small business owners need to thrive and grow.

Following the program, you will leave with clear next steps on how to start or grow an entrepreneurship ecosystem for your community.

2026 CREATE Program Dates and Events

- Thursday, August 13, 2026, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Robert F. Hatcher, Sr. Conference Center at Middle Georgia State University, 100 University Pkwy, Macon, GA 31206-5100

Program materials and lunch will be provided. Space is limited so register today to save your seat.

You can learn more and register here:
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1991701085562?aff=oddtdtcreator