



U.S. Small Business
Administration



Did you know that in 2021, 1.1 million of all businesses were owned by women? In celebration of Women's History Month, learn about counseling, training, contracting assistance, and other services and programs available to help women start, grow, expand, and recover their businesses.

[Learn more](#)

U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Women's BUSINESS SUMMIT

March 29 – 30, 2022 | Virtual

Register Now!

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U.S. Small Business
Administration



Entrepreneurial Center

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In celebration of Women's History Month, join the SBA's Office of Women's Business Ownership and the Nasdaq Entrepreneurial Center for the virtual Women's Business Summit on March 29-30, 2022. The free event will include power-packed panels, inspirational fireside chats, and 'Ask an Expert' workshops to help you build, scale, and grow your business. Panels and discussion topics include:

- Innovation and Investment
- Building an Equitable Recovery Framework for Women Entrepreneurs
- From Essential Worker to Essential Entrepreneur: CARE Economy Entrepreneurship Opportunities
- The \$100B Marketplace: Contracting Opportunities for Women-led Firms
- Exporting & E-Commerce
- The Changing Landscape for Entertainment and Hospitality Industries

[Register](#)



Get Inspired: Small Business Success Story

In celebration of Women's History Month, we are highlighting small business owners like Kayla Zuidema and Valerie Mackenthun who are making an impact on the economy and their communities. When Zuidema and Mackenthun opened Hutchinson, Minnesota-based Compass Occasions, they imagined growing the business but never during a pandemic. With help from SBA and two local resource partners, that's exactly what

happened.

When the pandemic first hit, Zuidema and Mackenthun reached out to a Small Business Development Center, which helped them apply for and receive financial assistance through SBA, state, and county relief programs. SBA microlender Southwest Initiative Foundation also provided funding for important technology upgrades. Zuidema and Mackenthun took part in the foundation's 10-week reinvention workshop, helping them navigate the evolving economic landscape and create a new vision for the business.

[Read more](#)



Statement by Administrator Guzman on President Biden's State of the Union Address

Earlier this week, Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman released the following statement after President Joseph R. Biden's State of the Union address:

"President Biden delivered a bold vision to the American people of an economy centered around families, workers, and small businesses. Our Union is strong and growing even in the face of major challenges, thanks to the hard work of the American people and significant policy

achievements in the first year of the Biden-Harris Administration. Thanks to President Biden's American Rescue Plan and a successful vaccination program, entrepreneurship has rebounded and is on the rise, and our economy is growing at the fastest pace in nearly 40 years. More Americans are opening new businesses – more than 5.4 million last year alone – and our Main Streets and industrial and manufacturing centers are open and flourishing. And as a result of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, small businesses will soon have access to new contracting opportunities to help rebuild our nation's roads and bridges, enabling us to move goods faster to market and strengthen our supply chains."

[Learn more](#)



This week, Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman visited [Philadelphia](#), [Baltimore](#), and [Cooperstown](#) to meet inspiring small business owners who were able to pivot, recover and grow with help from SBA programs and resources. Follow the Administrator on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#) to see photos and videos of all her visits to small businesses across America.



Earlier this week, the SBA announced that eligible non-profit organizations, state, local, and tribal government agencies, and institutions of higher learning may now submit their proposals to host [Boots to Business](#) courses at military installations outside the continental United States. The awarded organizations will provide B2B training to transitioning service members and military spouses at overseas military installations. Proposals must be submitted to [grants.gov](#) by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on March 28, 2022.

[Learn more](#)

How to Export



Are you thinking about exporting? Foreign sales opportunities are well within reach for small businesses. Take advantage of federal programs designed to build the bridge to new markets.

[Learn more](#)

Prepare for Tax Season



Join the IRS for a series of online meetings in March (divided by location/states) for small business organizations and owners. The meetings will include:

- Presentations from IRS leadership covering the top tax issues affecting small business owners regarding income, deductions, employment taxes and recordkeeping
- How to get ready for the 2022 filing season
- Tax scams targeting small businesses
- How the IRS is reorganizing to better serve small business taxpayers
- Listening session to hear concerns, feedback and suggestions from participants

[Learn more](#)

PPP Forgiveness Portal



Paycheck Protection Program borrowers: If your loan is \$150,000 or less, you may be eligible to apply for direct forgiveness through SBA using our [online portal](#). Follow the steps below.

1. [Find out](#) if your lender is participating.
2. Watch a [video](#) about how to use the portal.
3. [Apply](#) for forgiveness.

For additional information, visit the [SBA website](#).

Help small businesses fully reopen. **Get vaccinated.**

Find vaccines near you at vaccines.gov



Thanks to vaccines, small businesses across America have opened back up. Keep the momentum going by getting vaccinated. [Find a vaccine provider near you](#).

[Learn more](#)

U.S. Small Business Administration

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