

Steps To Start Your Business

We can help you start your business in four easy steps!

Step 1: Entrepreneurial Series: Starting a Business

Learn the steps to starting your own business. This two-hour workshop, taught by an MI-SBTDC Business Consultant, answers basic questions regarding starting a business and writing a business plan. Issues covered include financing, legal structure, taxes, and government regulations. A business start-up guide, including a complete checklist for starting a business, is included.

Cost: Free

Dates: Jan 21 (6-8pm), Feb 5 (4-6pm), Feb 18 (6-8pm), March 5 (4-6pm), March 18 (6-8pm), April 2 (4-6pm), April 15 (6-8pm)

Step 2: Entrepreneurial Series: Business Research

Discover resources available to you for free that can help you make informed decisions about your business' future. Our local library will share their techniques in collecting information on what industry trends might affect you, information to estimate the size of your market, potential customers and competitors, related associations, and other information that will impact your business.

Cost: Free

Dates: Jan 14 (7-9pm), Feb 11 (7-9pm), March 11 (7-9pm), April 8 (7-9pm)

Location is the Kalamazoo Public Library located at 315 South Rose Street.

Step 3: Entrepreneurial Series: Writing a Business Plan

Statistics show that one of the leading causes of business failures is poor management and lack of planning. Those who spend six months or more planning their business will significantly increase their success rate. Creating a business plan helps you set goals, determine the resources needed to carry out your plan, and foresee problems. This three-hour class provides an opportunity for you to begin putting your thoughts down on paper. We will discuss why to write a business plan, what to include in each section, as well as actual course time to begin creating your plan.

Cost: Free

Dates: Jan 29 (6-9pm), Feb 26 (6-9pm), March 26 (6-9pm), April 30 (6-9pm)

Step 4: One-On-One Consulting

Call the MI-SBTDC at (269) 387-6004 to schedule an appointment with an MI-SBTDC business consultant. Our business consultants can assist you with your business plan development, identify your target market and develop plans to effectively reach the market, work with you on your financial spreadsheets, supplement your plan with additional research, and answer questions about financing resources.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL WORKSHOPS

Classes will be held at the Kalamazoo Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Kalamazoo Public Library, and the Portage Public Library. When registering for the classes, you will be given specifics of your class location. Space is Limited. RSVP Today. To register or for more information, call (269) 387-6004 or visit our website at

www.misbtDC.org/region11

The Michigan -SBTDC Funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. All SBTDC programs or co-sponsored events are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Arrangements for persons with disabilities are made, if requested 2 weeks in advanced. (269-387-6004)