

Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs)

Offered by: Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORES)

Target Credit

Union Participants: Entrepreneurs and Small Businesses

Program

Objective: SCORES is the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) largest resource partner and an initiative that enhances economic development by providing small businesses with management and technical assistance. There are more than 1,100 SBDCs centers located across the country. More than 1 million entrepreneurs use SCORES each year.

Credit Union

Eligibility: All credit unions that focus on business lending.

Program Features and Requirements:

SCORE is America's premier source of free and confidential business advice. SCORES consist of volunteers from Fortune 500 companies (executives) and successful entrepreneurs. SCORE mentors entrepreneurs through one-to-one business advising sessions on a full range of business topics. SCORES also offer workshops and seminars. Many financial institutions advise their members to consult with SCORES prior to applying for a business loan.

SCORE can also help with disaster planning and recovery advice. The SCORE website provides templates of free small business plans and financial projections.

Program Cost: Free or low-cost assistance

Contact: SCORE assistance and locations can be found on its website: www.score.org.