

Center on Self-Employment

National Center on Self-Employment, Business Ownership, and Telecommuting

IOWA SELF-EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

PART I: FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS WITH DISABILITIES

1. Targeted Small Business Program through Iowa Economic Development Authority

Provides loans and other support to businesses owned by people with disabilities, women, minorities, and service-disabled veterans.

Offers low-interest loans of up to 50K and free business counseling.

Allows companies to sell up to 25K of goods and services to state agencies without competitive bidding process.

<https://www.iasourcelink.com/guides/fund-your-business-guide/resources-for-women-minority-veteran-and-disabled-owned-businesses>

2. Linked Investments for Tomorrow Fund – Iowa Lift

Provides up to 200K of loans to small businesses owned by people with disabilities, women, and minorities. Half of the funds go to businesses owned by people with disabilities, women, and minorities.

[LIFT: Linked Investments for Tomorrow | iowatreasurer.gov](https://www.iowatreasurer.gov)

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3. Iowa Able Foundation

Provides loans of 500 to 25K for lowans with disabilities who wish to start a business.

Details:

- The maximum amount for employment equipment is \$15,000.
- The credit builder loan is for \$500 and is paid back in 1 year with an interest rate of 14.25%.
- The maximum for home modification and assistive technology is 15K.
- The maximum amount for a service animal is 25K.
- They offer financial coaching and benefits planning.

[Iowa-Able-Guidebook.pdf \(iowaable.org\)](#)

4. Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation

Offers up to 10K in financial assistance and 10K in technical assistance for entrepreneurs with disabilities who wish to start a business.

<https://ivrs.iowa.gov/agency-services/self-employment-program>

5. Iowa SBDC

Provides funding of up to 500K per business for black business owners with a disability

<https://www.iowasbdc.org>

PART II: FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR ALL SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS

6. Iowa Center for Economic Success

Offers loans of up to 30K for 5 years at a 6% interest rate for entrepreneurs

<https://theiowacenter.org/services/loans/>

7. Iowa New Jobs Training Program – Iowa Department of Economic Development

Provides funding for small businesses which wish to hire new employees.

<https://www.areadevelopment.com/stateResources/iowa/iowa-direct-financial-incentives2011-8743.shtml>

8. Iowa Microloan Fund

Provides funding for micro entrepreneurs. Offers direct loans of \$5,000 - \$50,000 (6-year term, 8.125% interest) and co-financing arrangement of up to \$150,000.

<https://www.iowamicroloan.org/how/>

9. Grow Iowa Loans

GROW IOWA provides low-interest financing for business starts, expansions and other community development projects.

They work in cooperation with local and regional banks to increase the availability of capital for small businesses. They also provide loans for up to 50% of project costs for a maximum of 250K.

<http://www.growiowa.org/loans.html>

10. Chamber and Development Council of Crawford County Microloan Fund

Provides funding of up to 15K for emerging small businesses

https://www.cdcia.org/financial_assistance.asp#:~:text=CDC%20Microloan%20Revolving%20Loan%20Fund,business%20plan%20and%20financial%20reports.

11. The Greater Des Moines Small Business Recovery Grant Program

Provides grants of up to 5K for small businesses of 0-30 employees who had restrictions placed upon them due to Covid-19.

<https://www.dsmpartnership.com/covid-19/small-business-recovery-grant>

12. ISA Ventures

A venture capital fund which provides funding of 25K to 1 million to early stage, high growth companies in Iowa, primarily in the technology industry.

Industry focuses include healthcare, biotech, and medical technologies, education technology, engineering and automation technologies, agriculture, and insurance and financial technologies.

[ISA Ventures](#)

13. Newbco

A business incubator that seeks to promote entrepreneurship including by women and minorities.

<https://newbo.co/story/>