

Center on Self-Employment

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

MARYLAND SELF-EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

1. Maryland Microenterprise Loan Program

This program provides loans for small business owners in cooperation with micro lenders in the state and seeks to increase the availability of lending for small businesses in the state.

Details:

- The project is designed to assist retail, manufacturing, and goods and service-related businesses.
- The business must be located in a designated area called a Sustainable Community area. The small business cannot have more than 5 employees and \$500,000 in annual revenue at the time of application for funding.
- The micro loan portion of the loan cannot exceed \$50,000, and the loan interest rate is less than 12%. The loan term cannot exceed 5 years.
- <https://dhcd.maryland.gov/Business/Pages/microenterprise.aspx>

2. Baltimore Community Lending

This lender Provides loans which are designed to promote entrepreneurship in underserved communities in Baltimore.

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Details:

- They offer emerging loans of up to \$50,000 for startups with a loan term of 3-6 years.
- They also offer growth loans of up to \$150,000 for companies that have been in business for at least two years. The loan term is 5 to 10 years.
- The interest rate is 7.25% to 9.25% for both emerging and growth loans.
- They also offer a special loan rate of 3% for hair salons, barbershops, childcare centers, and arts-based businesses in partnership with Wells Fargo.
- They are unable to accommodate restaurants at this point.

<https://bclending.org/small-business-loans/>

3. Maryland Community Enterprises

They provide loans for small businesses and promote economic development in Eastern Maryland.

Details:

- They provide startup loans of \$5,000 to \$35,000 to companies that have been denied a loan by a bank.
- They also offer expansion loans of \$5,000 to \$150,000 for companies that have been in business for 2 years.
- Both loans carry an interest rate of 6% to 12% and a term of up to 10 years.

[Our Mission](#) | [Maryland Capital Enterprises](#) | [Micro Loans & Resources](#)

4. Women's Business Center at Maryland Community Enterprises

They offer training and mentoring for female entrepreneurs. They also offer the same startup and expansion loans as for all other entrepreneurs at the Maryland Community Enterprises, and a Community Advantage loan of \$100,000 to \$250,000.

[Women's Business Consulting - Women's Business Center
\(womensbusinesscenteratmarylandcapitalenterprises.org\)](http://womensbusinesscenteratmarylandcapitalenterprises.org)

5. FSC First

They provide a Level Up Program which is designed to assist small and minority owned businesses in Prince George's County with training, technical assistance, mentorship, and loans.

Details:

- They provided a series of webinars on how to enter the federal contracting world.
- They also provided a 2-day virtual accelerator for emerging companies.
- They provide loans of up to \$50,000 for small businesses under the Mt. Rainier Million Dollar Incentive Fund.
- They also provide loans of \$10,000 to \$50,000 for women, minorities, and service-disabled veterans who looking to enter the natural gas industry. This program is called the Washington Gas Strive for 35 funds.
- They also provide loans of \$25,000 to \$250,000 to small, women and minority owned businesses through the Small Business Flex Fund. The loans carry an interest rate of Prime + 3-6% and a 10-year period.

<https://fscfirst.com/learn/programs/>

6. Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation.

Provides generalized support for small and minority-owned businesses including information on bidding opportunities for local government agencies. They also provide a business incubator for small businesses called Innovation Station.

<https://www.pgcedc.com/bid-opportunities>

<https://www.pgcedc.com/small-business-servicescore>

<https://www.pgcedc.com/innovation-station>

7. Maryland Business Innovation Challenge

Provides an opportunity for small businesses in Maryland to compete for corporate funding.

<http://mdbic.org/corporatechallenges/>

8. Kennedy Krieger Institute

Provides general medical information for children and young adult with disabilities.

<https://www.kennedykrieger.org/community/initiatives/resource-finder/lifespan-resources/adulthood>

9. Baltimore Impact Hub

A business incubator which provides support for small businesses including networking opportunities and a co-working space and works on issues with social impact.

<https://baltimore.impacthub.net/faq/>

10. University of Maryland Baltimore County

Provides graduate education programs and certificates in entrepreneurship.

<https://professionalprograms.umbc.edu/entrepreneurship-innovation-leadership/>