

Center on Self-Employment

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

NEBRASKA STARTUP RESOURCES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

1. Community Development Resources

SBA Microloans: Designed to assist new and existing small businesses with startup and growth capital. Available in amounts from \$1,000 to \$50,000 with a term from 1 to 7 years. Funds may be used for inventory and machinery. The rate on SBA loans under \$10,000 is 8.50%; for loans \$10,000 and over is 7.75%.

<https://cdr-nebraska.org/what-we-do/sba-micro-loans.html>

2. Nebraska Enterprise Fund

Provides micro loan funding and credit building for emerging businesses in Nebraska and Iowa.

<https://nebbiz.org/news-and-stories>

3. Catholic Charities of Omaha Diocese

Provides training and \$5,000 micro loans to emerging entrepreneurs including Latinos and has a Spanish language section of their web site focusing on microloans for entrepreneurs.

<https://www.ccomaha.org/program-and-services/microbusiness-and-asset-development-program>

The National Center on Self-employment, Business Ownership, and Telecommuting is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration (Grant#H263E200005). The ideas, opinions, and conclusions expressed do not represent recommendations, endorsements, or policies of the U.S. Department of Education. Virginia Commonwealth University, Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (VCU-RRTC) is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution providing access to education and employment without regard to age, race, color, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, veteran's status, political affiliation, or disability. If special accommodations are needed, please contact Teri Blankenship at tcblanke@vcu.edu.



4. Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District (NENEDD) and Northeast Economic Development Inc. (NED, Inc.) Revolving Loan Fund Program

The purpose of the Northeast Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) program is to provide “gap” financing for start-up and existing businesses that cannot obtain sufficient conventional financing or to attract new businesses within the NENEDD/NED, Inc. service area.

https://nenedd.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/RLF_Guidelines_4-29-20-signed.pdf

5. Nedco loans

Provides a source of 504 loan funding for emerging companies in Nebraska.

<https://nedcoloans.org/for-borrowers/>

6. Center for Rural Affairs

Provides micro loans and small business loans for emerging companies in rural Nebraska.

Additional Information:

- Express Loan Terms Amount for new and returning borrowers are up to 20K based on credit score.
- Small business loans are 1K to 250K.
- Meat processing loans are 50K to 5M.
- Also offers business counseling in English and Spanish.

<https://www.cfra.org/express-loans>

<https://www.cfra.org/small-business-loans>

7. Grow Nebraska

Provides training and mentoring and support to Nebraska small businesses.

<https://grownebraska.org/our-story/>

8. Nebraska Innovation Studio

Nebraska Innovation Studio, a makerspace, is where creators of all sorts can share ideas, tools, and knowledge. It features collaborative workspace and areas for woodworking, fine arts, and rapid prototyping and electronics. University faculty, students, staff, and community members can join the studio for a monthly fee.

<https://innovate.unl.edu/nebraska-innovation-studio>

9. Nebraska Innovation Campus

Provides opportunities for collaboration between University of Nebraska and private sector businesses and support for high-tech entrepreneurs and agri-tech and food entrepreneurs west of Lincoln and Omaha metro areas.

<https://www.nebraskacombine.com/incubator>

10. Biotech Connector

Provides incubation space and services to bioscience startups and high-growth biotech and research-based businesses. NIC provides the opportunity to become affiliate employees of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

<https://www.biotechconnector.com/about>

11. University of Nebraska Lincoln Entrepreneurship Resources

Provides support and resources for University of Nebraska entrepreneurship opportunities, including courses and one-on-one mentoring.

<https://business.unl.edu/academic-programs/center-for-entrepreneurship/>

12. NUTech Ventures

NUTech Ventures is the commercialization arm for technologies developed at the University of Nebraska.

<https://www.nutechventures.org/what-we-do-2/>

13. Invest Nebraska

Provides seed funding, loans, and venture capital to emerging companies in cooperation with the Nebraska Department of Economic Development.

They usually offer 100K to 250K in initial investments.

<https://www.investnebraska.com/our-funds>

14. Omaha Chamber of Commerce

Provides access to potential corporate customers and opportunities to connect with fellow founders for Omaha entrepreneurs.

<https://www.omahachamber.org/startups/>

15. West Central Nebraska Development District Business Incubator

Provides generalized support for emerging companies in Nebraska.

<https://west-central-nebraska.com/grants-available/>

16. Lending Link

Seeks to reduce poverty by providing micro-loans to companies in North and South Omaha that have difficulty accessing loans from traditional lenders.

<https://lendinglinkomaha.org/products-services/loan-products/>

17. McCook Economic Development Corporation Microloan Program

Provides microloans of 1K to 50K to McCook and Red Willow Counties to companies that create high quality, high-tech jobs.

Applicants must provide 10% equity from private funding sources.

<https://mccookne.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/1-MEDC-Microenterprise-Lending-Program-Guidelines.pdf>

18. List of Microlenders in Nebraska

<https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/business/microenterprise-assistance-program/>

19. Nebraska Seed Investment Fund

The Nebraska Seed Investment (Commercialization) program can award early-stage businesses up to \$500,000 to support product or service development. Awards occur in the form of matching equity investments held by Invest Nebraska.

<https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/business/nebraska-seed-investment-program>

20. Nebraska City Small Business Incubator

The Nebraska City Small Business Incubator is a collaboration with the SCC Entrepreneurship Center Business Incubator and American National Bank. It provides a wide range of services and support to entrepreneurs.

<https://www.nebraskacityareaedc.com/grow-your-business/small-business-incubator/>

21. Central Community College Entrepreneurship Center

Provides low-interest loans of up to 20K to entrepreneurs for startup and expansion costs.

<https://www.cccneb.edu/entrepreneurship-center>

22. Innosphere Ventures

Provides venture capital support for emerging technology companies and life science companies in Nebraska. They also provide an accelerator for clean tech companies.

<https://innosphereventures.org/>

23. Nebraska Angels

An angel may invest \$25,000 to \$100,000 investment per transaction, and \$250,000 to \$750,000 as a group. To fill larger capital raises, Angel groups will also syndicate with other Angel groups in their network. Angels seek returns of at least ten times their investment.

<https://www.nebraskaangels.org/entrepreneurs/>