

## WASHINGTON STATE STARTUP RESOURCES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The State of Washington has one firm which provides funding for people with disabilities who aspire to entrepreneurship Business Impact Northwest. The state has a few other firms that offer microloans to all entrepreneurs, not just people with disabilities. Entrepreneurs with disabilities can benefit from these funding sources. The state also has a number of firms that offer higher level funding including venture capital funding to emerging technology companies.

### 1. WASHINGTON STATE OFFICE ON MINORITY AND WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

A government agency that provides basic information on microloans in Washington State; the average microloan size is \$13,000; the maximum SBA loan size is \$50,000.

<https://omwbe.wa.gov/faq/microloans>

### 2. CRAFT 3

Provides microloans for emerging small businesses of up to 250K. Fixed loan rates are 8-11%. For entrepreneurs of color they offer a lower loan rate of 5%.

<https://www.craft3.org/borrow/business>

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 [tclanke@vcu.edu](mailto:tclanke@vcu.edu).



### 3. SMALL BUSINESS FLEX FUND

Provides loans of up to \$150,000 to businesses negatively affected by Covid 19; 3-4% interest; company must have been in business for 1 year or been a previous client of the fund

<https://smallbusinessflexfund.org>

### 4. THE PORT TOWNSEND MAIN STREET PROGRAM

Provides microloans of \$500 to \$4,000 with interest rates under 5%; loans under \$1,000 must be repaid within a year and carry a 0% interest rate;

<https://ptmainstreet.org/business-resources/loan-programs/>

### 5. WASHINGTON STATE MICRO ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION

Provides a trade group for micro lenders in the State of Washington

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

### 6. BUSINESS IMPACT NORTHWEST

Provides loans to people with disabilities, BIPOC individuals, women, minorities, gay and lesbian people, and veterans; they provide loans of \$5,000 to \$350,000 at an average interest rate of 9.5% and free business coaching.

[Business Impact NW](https://www.businessimpactnw.org/)

### 7. MERCY CORPS NORTHWEST

Provides loans of \$500 to \$20,000 to undocumented immigrants, non-gender conforming individuals, women, and people of color;

<https://nw.mercycorps.org/what-we-do/business/loans>

### 8. RAINIER VALLEY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

Provides loans of \$50,000 to \$2 million with interest rates of 4-7%; also provides lines of credit for one year and business term loans of 3-5 years.

<https://rvcdf.org/loans>

## 9. PIONEER SQUARE LABS

An accelerator and venture capital fund for technology firms;

<https://www.psl.com/companies>

## 10. UNION KITCHEN

A food business accelerator

<https://www.unionkitchen.com/accelerator>

## 11. NAVIGATOR CRE

A commercial real estate accelerator for individuals with innovative ideas in this industry

<https://www.navigatorcre.com/asset-classes>

## 12. GRAHAM & WALKER

To provide venture capital to firms led by female founders

<https://grahamwalker.com/founders>

## 13. TECHSTARS SEATTLE

Local branch of a global accelerator firm that provides funding and mentorship to emerging technology companies

<https://www.techstars.com/faq#accelerators>

- Techstars contributes \$20,000 which is commonly used for living expenses during the program and then receives a 6% equity of the firm until they raise \$250,000 in an equity financing
- In addition, each firm receives a \$100,000 convertible note upon acceptance into the program

## 14. MADRONA VENTURES

To provide financial and mentorship support to emerging tech companies

<https://www.madronavl.com/process>

## 15. UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TECH INCUBATOR

A university incubator focused on life sciences, biotechnology, and technology firms

<https://comotion.uw.edu/startups-incubation/comotion-labs/>

## 16. ENTREPRENEURSHIP RESOURCES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

General information about entrepreneurship programs at the University

<https://www.washington.edu/innovation/programs/>

## 17. FLEDGE

A global accelerator focused on the tech industry

<https://www.fledge.co/locations>

## 18. PIVOTAL VENTURES

A venture capital firm created by Melinda Gates to promote businesses that reduce economic and cultural inequality

<https://www.pivotalventures.org/about-pivotal-ventures>

## 19. REVOLUTION

To provide funding to early stage companies and help them go public

<https://revolution.com/companies>

## 20. VILLAGE CAPITAL

To provide financial support and leverage to emerging entrepreneurs nationally and globally

<https://vilcap.com/entrepreneurs>

## 21. ALEXA FUND

Is a venture capital fund started by Amazon that provides \$200 million in funding to companies in the voice activated sectors

<https://developer.amazon.com/en-US/alexa/alexa-startups/alexa-fund>

## 22. ACCELERATOR LIFE SCIENCES PARTNERS

Builds biotech companies based on innovative scientific ideas

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

## 23. ALLEN INSTITUTE FOR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Provides funding of up to \$500,000 per startup in the artificial intelligence sector

<https://www.ai2incubator.com/about/>

## 24. FABLAB TACOMA

Provides education in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) to underrepresented youth

<https://www.fablabeducation.org>

## 25. WASHINGTON STATE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT

To provide self employment support services to people collecting unemployment benefits – through the self employment assistance program (SEAP)

<https://esd.wa.gov/jobs-and-training/self-employment-assistance-program>