



OREGON LEGISLATIVE POLICY, RESEARCH, & COMMITTEE SERVICES

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September 18, 1998

Basics about . . .

INFORMATION RESOURCES FOR OREGON BUSINESSES

There are many resources available to small business owners in Oregon. This brief describes information sources and business services that are available through the public sector. Much of the information described in this brief is available on the Internet and Internet addresses are included where available.

“DOING BUSINESS IN OREGON”

1-800-233-3306

<http://www.econ.state.or.us>

“Doing Business in Oregon” is a valuable information resource for both first-time Oregon business owners and for owners of existing businesses who wish to restructure or expand their business. Published by the Oregon Economic Development Department, this is a guidebook that identifies important resources available to the Oregon entrepreneur through the public sector, including:

- organizations that provide general business advice, consulting and counseling services
- sources of economic statistics for market research and analysis
- business and industry training services
- local and regional agencies that assist in business development
- associations to assist companies who wish to expand to international trading markets
- associations that provide networking opportunities with other businesses
- information about capital access programs
- special needs information, including:
 - child care benefits programs and health care assistance
 - certification of minority, disadvantaged and women-owned business enterprises
 - and of emerging small businesses

OREGON BUSINESS INFORMATION CENTER

503-986-2222

<http://www.sos.state.or.us/corporation/bic/bic.htm>

This state referral center provides a “first-stop” number for general information and forms to register a business in Oregon. Callers receive a packet of information that is tailored to their needs, including information about state requirements for business registrations, employer

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information and tax requirements. This packet is mailed out within 24 hours. The center also refers callers to the appropriate regulatory agency for specific registration and licensing requirements and provides the appropriate forms.

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

541-726-2250

<http://www.ecib.state.orus/lstsbdc.htm>

Located in communities throughout the state, the Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) provide a valuable information and referral service to businesses in their communities. The SBDC assists Oregon businesses in every facet of business development: start-up problems, growing pains, marketing ideas and management skills, to name a few. A list of SBDC local offices is provided in "Doing Business in Oregon".

BRAND OREGON

(800) 233-3306

Brand.Oregon@state.or.us .

Developed by the Oregon Economic Development Department, the "Brand Oregon Tool Kit" was introduced to Oregon companies by Governor Kitzhaber and the Department in April 1998. This business tool targets the marketing needs of small and emerging businesses in Oregon and provides quality marketing assistance. The tool kit includes information demonstrating that small Oregon companies can enhance their product and increase market share in the global marketplace by connecting it to the reputation of Oregon's natural beauty and quality of life. The tool kit describes the experiences of Oregon companies that linked the image of "Oregon quality" to their product brand and increased their ability to compete in the marketplace. The tool kit is available from the Department for \$49.95 which covers the cost of printing and research and includes a subscription to the quarterly newsletter *Brand Oregon News*. It is also available through Small Business Development Centers and libraries.

OREGON MARKETPLACE

(800) 967-6734

www.oregonmarketplace.com

The Oregon Marketplace, helps Oregon businesses to compete in the market by matching Oregon suppliers of goods and services with buyers from regional, national and international markets. The program is administered by The Organization for Economic Initiatives, Inc., a non-profit private corporation and is supported in part by Oregon lottery funds. Oregon businesses that can supply raw materials, component parts or finished products to the marketplace are encouraged to sign up for the Oregon Matchmaker Business Database. The database can help a company make connections with qualified buyers. The Oregon Marketplace website also provides a list of information resources that may be helpful to Oregon businesses.

SMALL BUSINESS INTERNATIONAL TRADE PROGRAM

503-274-7482

Oregon businesses that wish to venture into the waters of international trade will discover a network of regional, state and federal agencies to assist them in achieving this goal. The Small Business Development Centers offer a series of seminars that provide basic training about developing international trade markets. The seminars are presented statewide by the Small Business International Trade Program and are presented in a friendly "how-to" format.

INTERNATIONAL DIVISION, OREGON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPT

800-448-7512.

The International Division of the Oregon Economic Development Department provides an information and networking service for Oregon businesses that are interested in international trade. This office maintains current international market information through its management of international offices in Japan, Korea and Taiwan and through targeted trade missions. The International Division also provides one-on-one counseling and product evaluation for interested businesses.