



BE YOUR OWN BOSS

Small businesses create most of the new jobs and the majority of the wealth in the USA. The majority of new small businesses are started by females and minorities and are home-based businesses.

The Mississippi Small Business Development Center (SBDC) offers free counseling services to businesses and individuals who want to start a business. Call 662-680-6988 or 662-915-5001. The Small Business Development Center web site at www.mississippisbdc.org offers valuable information for existing businesses, individuals wanting to start a business, inventors, exporters, and a listing of other sources of information and assistance.

Most small businesses are funded by personal savings and bank loans. There are no grants available to start a business. A few sources of supplemental funding or loan guarantees for small businesses include:

- Northeast Mississippi Planning & Development District Revolving Loan Fund (<https://www.nempdd.com/departments/>);
- Small Business Administration loan funds (<https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans>); and
- Three Rivers Planning & Development District Loan Guarantees (<http://www.trpdd.com/loans>).

The Mississippi Contract Procurement Center assists small businesses free of charge in finding and bidding on local, state, and federal government contracts. Visit the web site at www.msccpc.com or call 662-329-1077, e-mail nmcpc@ebicom.net.

Tishomingo County Development Foundation publishes the Tishomingo County Business Directory and offers free ribbon cuttings for new and expanded businesses. The foundation schedules the ribbon cutting, provides the giant scissors and red ribbon, takes the photo, and writes the media article on the ribbon cutting at no cost to the business.

Free printed copies of the Tishomingo County Business Directory are available at the TCDF office. The business directory is updated and reprinted each year, depending on the budget. The online version of the business directory can be found at <http://www.tishomingo.org/PDFs/Business%20Directory%202020%20Update.pdf>.

Call 662-423-9933 or e-mail info@tishomingo.org for more information or for a free copy of the Tishomingo County Business Directory. Listings for Tishomingo County businesses and TCDF members are free.