



SUMMERVILLE

FLOWERTOWN IN THE PINES *South Carolina*

Potential Resources for Businesses in the Town of Summerville

In addition to the Town of Summerville Planning and Economic Development Department, there are many organizations that offer resources and support for entrepreneurs doing business in Summerville. Below is a list of some local, state and federal agencies and nonprofits that you may find helpful. Please consult individual organizations/agencies to confirm available programs and eligibility.

BUSINESS COUNSELING

BizBuilderSC

<http://www.fasttracsc.org>

Offers entrepreneur and small business training classes at discounted rates, as well as resource information, for new and existing businesses in South Carolina.

Center for Women/SC Women's Business Center

<http://www.c4women.org>

Provides assistance and advocacy to support women in business, including training, leadership development, networking, and micro-lending services for women entrepreneurs.

Charleston Area Small Business Development Center (SBDC)/University of South Carolina

<http://charlestonsbdc.com>

Provides free one-on-one consultation to prospective and existing business owners, assisting with analyzing business opportunities, developing business plans and strategies, and creating loan packages.

Charleston SC SCORE

<https://charlestonsc.score.org/chapters/charleston-sc-score>

Retired executives who provide free, confidential business mentoring for entrepreneurs, and existing and start-up businesses.

SC Manufacturing Extension Partnership (SCMEP)

<http://www.scmep.org/>

Assists small to mid-size manufacturing companies within South Carolina to improve their competitiveness with a variety of detailed business improvement services, including onsite consultation and a no cost one-day Competitiveness Review.

SCRA Technology Ventures/SC Launch

<http://www.scra.org>

Provides funding, counseling, access to resource partners and other capital sources for knowledge economy-based businesses in South Carolina - primarily in the industries of advanced materials, chemical and engineering process, defense, energy, information technology, life sciences and transportation.

US Small Business Administration

<https://www.sba.gov/>

Provides information, resources, counseling and financial assistance for small businesses.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

BCD Council of Governments Revolving Loan Fund

<http://www.bcdkog.com>

Specializes in gap capital financing, or resolving cash shortages, that would prevent a successful closing for businesses whose projects will improve the economy for the Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester tri-county area.

Center for Women/SC Women's Business Center

<http://www.c4women.org>

Provides assistance and advocacy to support women in business, including training, leadership development, networking, and micro-lending services for women entrepreneurs.

Charleston Local Development Corporation

<http://www.charlestonldc.com>

Provides loans and extensive and specialized technical assistance to new or existing businesses in Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton and Dorchester Counties.

SC Community Loan Fund

<http://sccommunityloanfund.org>

Provides non-traditional loans and financing technical assistance for production of affordable housing, healthy food retail, community facilities, and community businesses that meet capital needs of underserved neighborhoods.

SCRA Technology Ventures/SC Launch

<http://www.scra.org>

Provides funding, counseling, access to resource partners and other capital sources for knowledge economy-based businesses in South Carolina - primarily in the industries of advanced materials, chemical and engineering process, defense, energy, information technology, life sciences and transportation.

US Small Business Administration

<https://www.sba.gov/>

Provides information, resources, counseling and financial assistance for small businesses.

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE/BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS

Berkeley Chamber of Commerce

<http://berkeleysc.org/chamber/>

Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce

<http://www.charlestonchamber.net>

Greater Summerville/Dorchester County Chamber of Commerce

<http://greatersummerville.org>

SC Small Business Chamber of Commerce

<http://www.scsbc.org/>

Represents the general interests of small business in state and local government in South Carolina.

The Oakbrook Civic Association

<http://www.oakbrookcivicassociation.com>

Advocates and implements initiatives to support planned growth and economic stability in the Oakbrook Area of Summerville.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/INDUSTRY RECRUITMENT

Berkeley County Economic Development

<https://www.berkeleycountysc.gov/drupal/econdev>

Serves as lead contact for economic development recruitment, retention, and expansion programs in Berkeley County.

Charleston County Economic Development

<http://www.charlestoncountydevelopment.com/home.aspx>

Serves as lead contact for economic development recruitment, retention, and expansion programs in Charleston County.

Charleston Regional Development Alliance

<http://www.crda.org>

Markets the tri-county region for economic development and assists targeted industries in Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties by providing demographic information, consulting on site location, and connecting to state and local economic development resources.

Dorchester County Economic Development

<http://www.dorchesterforbusiness.com>

Serves as lead contact for economic development recruitment, retention, and expansion programs in Dorchester County.

SC Works Trident

<http://www.toscc.org>

Provides a variety of workforce services, including local and state initiatives to aid in employee recruitment, employer training programs and business retention and expansion efforts.

South Carolina Council on Competitiveness

<http://sccompetes.org>

Advances the long-term economic competitiveness of South Carolina through research of the state's economy, regional and statewide industry clusters, and the state's workforce and public education system.

South Carolina Department of Commerce

<http://sccommerce.com>

Summerville DREAM

<http://www.SummervilleDream.org>

Promotes special events and directs cooperative programs for businesses in Summerville's downtown district.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

BCD Council of Governments

<http://www.bcdkog.com>

Provides mapping, geo-spatial data and demographic information, as well as regional planning information.

Better Business Bureau ó Central South Carolina and Charleston

<http://columbia.bbb.org/>

Provides accreditation services, distributes consumer and business education information, and offers dispute resolution programs for consumers and businesses.

SC Business One Stop (SCBOS)

<https://www.scbos.sc.gov>

Official state web portal for businesses to conduct transactions with the state, including electronic registrations, licenses, permits, and tax filings, as well links to a variety of sources and information for doing business in South Carolina.

SC Office of Small and Minority Business Assistance

<http://osmba.sc.gov>

One-stop shop for those looking for minority-owned businesses or looking to become certified as minority-owned businesses, as well as provides links to resources such as government contracting opportunities, permits and licensing agencies, and other business support organizations and agencies.

Note: This list of nonprofit and governmental agencies is provided by the Town of Summerville's Planning and Economic Development Department for informational purposes only, and may not be a comprehensive list of resources available to businesses in the area. Additional resources, including those provided by private entities such as traditional lending institutions, also may be available. The Town of Summerville is not responsible for any errors in information or omission.