

WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAMS

Various programs sponsored by the federal government, Commonwealth of Virginia and non-profit organizations are available to train and educate women business owners who want to start or expand their businesses.

Assistance For Women

In an effort to address the special needs and concerns of women who want to start or expand their business, the U.S. Small business Administration (SBA) has a partnership locally with the Women's Business Center (WBC) to provide low-cost and free training and counseling to women business owners. The Center's programs include comprehensive long-term training, hands-on workshops, and full-day seminars for women entrepreneurs at all levels of business development - from start-up through mature and growing companies, and introduces clients to business technology including the Internet and the World Wide Web.

Contact: For more information, please contact the *Women's Business Center, Inc.* at (202) 785-4922. See the appendix for the address of the Women's Business Center, Inc.

Women's Business Center Online

The Women's Business Center Online provides women business owners with business training and technical assistance, help in accessing credit and capital, and business opportunities, including federal contracts. Women's Business Center Online is the only office in the Federal Government established to help women become full partners in economic development through small business ownership.

Contact: For more information, please contact *Office of Women's Business Ownership, US Small Business Administration* at (202) 205-6673, or access its interactive free *website* for training and assistance in starting or growing a business at www.onlinewbc.org. See the appendix for the Women's Business Center Online address.