

From: BusinessUSA <business@subscriptions.usa.gov>
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The only thing small about small businesses is their name. Collectively, they're behemoths – employing the vast majority of people in this country, and serving as engines of growth and creativity in their communities. [As President Obama said this week](#), “Small businesses represent what is best about our nation.”

At BusinessUSA.gov, we support small businesses by providing them the best in federal government business resources. To help [commemorate Small Business Week](#), we'd like to highlight a few of these tools to help the next generation of small business owners get started, as well as help current business owners expand and mature.

Start a Business

Starting a business from scratch is exciting – as well as a challenge. [BusinessUSA's Start a Business tool](#) will help you find information on everything from conducting market research to finding business counselors that can provide one-on-one assistance.

Grow Your Business

Need help taking your business to the next level? [This collection of resources](#) will help you with a range of complex issues and activities, from developing a marketing plan and forecasting for growth, to franchising your business and finding international trade leads.

Expand Through Government Contracting

The U.S. government spends millions on goods and services every year, giving small businesses an excellent way to expand through contracts. Learn more about how you can tap into these opportunities with this course on [Government Contracting 101](#). You'll also want to make sure your business meets with [the federal government's definition of a small business](#). The distinction is important if you decide to pursue government contracts.

If you're ready to start digging into what kind of opportunities are out there, use our [government contracting tool](#) to help your research. Be sure to also check out the [Doing Business With GSA Video Series](#) created to make government contracting easier for small businesses.

Secure Stable Funding

Access to sources of reliable, low-interest money are the lifeblood of businesses. Take advantage of our [Access Financing tool](#) for some great options on securing funding. The Small Business Administration (SBA) also provides the [Leveraging Information and Networks to Access Capital \(LINC\) tool](#) that small business owners can use to connect with potential lenders.

Small Business Week Events

Be sure to check out some of the [Small Business Week events](#) still going on nationwide, including one for women entrepreneurs on [Friday in Washington, D.C.](#) The SBA will also be [live streaming events](#), beginning Thursday at 6:30 p.m. Eastern.

Don't let your chance to learn and connect end with Small Business Week—visit BusinessUSA's [online directory of events and webinars](#) any time to develop professionally and meet like-minded small business owners who may be facing the same challenges and opportunities as you.

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