



## WOMEN'S SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCES AND USMCA EXPORT ASSISTANCE

USMCA can help more American small businesses grow and support jobs in their communities, by increasing sales to international customers in Canada and Mexico, and supporting regional trade and investment in North America.

### ONLINE RESOURCES

#### **The U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Office of Women's Business Ownership (OWBO):**

<https://www.sba.gov/business-guide/grow-your-business/women-owned-businesses>

*Helps women entrepreneurs through a national network of Women's Business Centers (WBCs).*

*WBCs seek to level the playing field for all women entrepreneurs by offering free business counseling and mentoring, and low-cost training.*

#### **Find your local WBC**

<https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance>

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES

#### **ASCENT:**

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

*ASCENT is SBA's latest free digital e-learning platform geared to help women entrepreneurs grow and expand their businesses, including preparing and recovering from disasters, strategic marketing and financial strategy development.*

#### **The Women's Global Trade Empowerment Program:**

<https://www.trade.gov/womens-global-trade-empowerment>

*The International Trade Administration (ITA) provides this platform to women businesses to help them gain the necessary skills to build an export strategy and develop international business connections.*

#### **Enterprising Women of Color Initiative:**

<https://www.mbda.gov/enterprising-women-of-color>

*The Minority Business Development Agency's (MBDA) Enterprising Women of Color (EWOC) focuses on supporting minority women entrepreneurs and increase employment opportunities.*

#### **The National Women's Business Council:**

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

*NWBC is a non-partisan federal advisory council which provides access to webinars, data and public meetings as the U.S. government's only independent voice for women entrepreneurs.*

#### **SBA's Business Guide for Women:**

[www.sba.gov/women](http://www.sba.gov/women)

*For additional information on resources.*



### BUSINESS COUNSELING

#### **SBA Trade Tools:**

[www.sba.gov/tradetools](http://www.sba.gov/tradetools)

*Trade Tools is a one-stop shop for identifying resources across the U.S. Government for small business selling internationally, including exploring opportunities in other markets, learning about U.S. trade agreements, such as USMCA, and exploring programs and services for small businesses who want to go global. It is available in English and Spanish. SBA's OIT also provides free counseling to help small businesses export.*

Contact the hotline via email at [international@sba.gov](mailto:international@sba.gov).

#### **Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs):**

<https://americassbdc.org>

*In addition to WBCs, women-owned small businesses can also access no-cost business counseling and low-cost training from SBA's SBDCs.*

#### **Find your local SBDC**

[www.sba.gov/sbdc](http://www.sba.gov/sbdc)

#### **Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE):**

[www.score.org](http://www.score.org)

*Through a network of 10,000 dedicated volunteers, SCORE provides business mentoring and most services at no cost.*

#### **Find a mentor specialized in your area of focus**

[https://www.score.org/content/search-mentor?f\[0\]=content](https://www.score.org/content/search-mentor?f[0]=content)

#### **Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA):**

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

*The U.S. Department of Commerce's MBDA's national network of MBDA Business Centers, Specialty Centers, and Grantees offer customized business development and industry-focused services for minority business enterprises. U.S. Commercial Service: The International Trade Administration's network of U.S. Commercial Service offices are located in more than 100 cities across the United States. They are staffed by international trade specialists who can help you develop an export strategy. Some locations include Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM) and SBA trade finance specialists.*

#### **To find a location near you for free counseling or fee-based customized services sell your products and services to Canada, Mexico and other export destinations**

<https://www.trade.gov/commercial-services-offices-us>

#### **State Regional Trade Groups:**

<https://www.fas.usda.gov/state-regional-trade-groups>

*The U.S. Department of Agriculture supports four non-profit regional groups focused on assisting small businesses of agricultural products export, by providing training; analysis of export opportunities; trade shows; and support for international marketing.*

## ONLINE RESOURCES

### **SME Trade Financing:**

<https://www.sba.gov/about-sba/sba-locations/headquarters-offices/office-international-trade/sba-export-products#section-header-0>

*SBA's loan portfolio features a variety of export financing products that provide lenders with up to a 90 percent guaranty, and can cover things like day-to-day operations, advance orders with suppliers, and refinancing existing debts.*

### **Find your local SBA Export Finance Manager**

<https://www.sba.gov/article/2017/nov/01/list-useacs-sba-staff>

### **Additional solutions offered through EXIM**

<https://grow.exim.gov/small-business-overview>

### **Additional solutions offered through USDA**

<https://www.fas.usda.gov/programs/export-credit-guarantee-program-gsm-102>

### **E-commerce & Export Solutions:**

<https://www.trade.gov/export-solutions>

*ITA's export solutions website helps U.S. exporters develop an export plan, conduct market research, and learn about export mechanics. create successful international sales strategies and provides additional online training and resources for companies.*

### **The E-Commerce Innovation Lab**

<https://www.trade.gov/ecommerce>

*Provides assistance with improving your global online presence and digital strategy.*

### **Menu of Virtual Services**

<https://www.trade.gov/virtual-services>

*Available to help small businesses identify new customers and foreign partners.*

### **Going Green: The SBA's Green Business Guide:**

<https://proxy.www.sba.gov/managing-business/running-business/green-business-guide>

*Provides insights into marketing, certification and ecolabeling, green business practices, and U.S. federal agency resources available.*

### **Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Grant:**

[www.sbir.gov](http://www.sbir.gov)

*The SBIR program is highly competitive and encourages domestic small businesses to engage in Federal Research/Research and Development (R/R&D) with the potential for commercialization.*