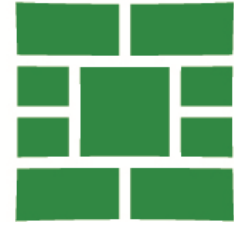


SAVANNAH

Office of Business Opportunity



Monthly Newsletter, May 2018

Volume 2, Issue 5

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Welcome! How Can We Help Your Business?



Housed within the [Savannah Entrepreneurial Center](#), the new [Office of Business Opportunity](#) is responsible for administering and coordinating the City's economic and small business development programs. We offer a variety of free services including classes, incentives, and loans to help businesses start, operate, and expand.

Here are some links to more information about our programs:

- [Savannah Business Enterprise \(SBE\)](#): Gives access to City contracts for small Savannah-based firms.
- [Business Classes and Events](#): We partner with service providers throughout the city to offer workshops covering business planning, marketing, financing, legal structure, government contracting, and more.
- [Mentorship](#): We partner with SCORE to offer free mentorship sessions with local business experts.
- [Business Loans](#): The City offers low-interest small business loans for start-ups and existing businesses.
- [Incentives](#): We offer a variety of business incentives for those investing or creating jobs in targeted corridors.
- [Navigating Government](#): We help businesses understand the permits and licensing requirements for operating in the City of Savannah.



For more information about our programs and opportunities to help your business, give us a call!

[Office of Business Opportunity](#) | [Savannah Entrepreneurial Center](#)
801 E. Gwinnett Street, Savannah, Georgia 31410. Phone: (912) 652-3582

Business News



[Fire Fee Discount Program Now Accepting Applications](#)

The City of Savannah's fire fee provides an equitable, stable, and dedicated revenue source for fire services. The City is accepting applications for a discounted fee for property owners who have taken action to reduce the risk of fire to their property. Discounts are available for qualifying Houses of Worship, Non-Profits, Commercial Properties, and Single Family Residences. For more information, visit SavannahGA.gov/FireFee.



[Applications Open for Summer 500](#)

LAST CHANCE FOR BUSINESSES!

The City of Savannah and area businesses will join forces to match 500 students with 500 paid internships this summer to invest in Savannah's future workforce. The eight week program will run from June 4 to July 27, and aims to provide students with soft skills training, literacy and numeracy development, financial management, and career-path guidance. This is the **last chance** for businesses to participate in the initiative. [Sign up now!](#)



[Are You Interested in Selling Your Product on QVC?](#)

Are you a small business owner, inventor, or entrepreneur? A Major Cable Network wants to put your product on QVC. Send an email including your name, phone number, a photo of yourself, and a brief description of your to sellit@thehousethatcastingbuilt. Submission does not guarantee participation in the program.

Launch Your Business and Access Capital

SCORE BUSINESS LAUNCHPAD

Saturday, May 19, 9:30am-3:30pm
SCORE Office, 111 E. Liberty Street

Led by a team of Savannah SCORE business mentors with extensive experience in all facets of starting and operating a business, and many different industries, the Business Launchpad will give you the tools, knowledge, and insights you need to start, operate, and grow a successful business during a unique 1-day workshop. [Register online](#) or by calling the SCORE office at (912) 652-4335.

SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING

Wednesday, June 6, 2:00pm-4:00pm
Savannah Entrepreneurial Center, 801 E. Gwinnett Street

The Small Business Assistance Corporation (SBAC) provides loans and technical assistance for new and existing businesses in the Southeast Georgia and the Low Country of South Carolina. The SBAC presents this workshop to review the need for capital, discuss common financing options and requirements to obtain it. Register now by calling SBAC at (912) 232-4700.

Upcoming Events

[Business Education and Events](#)
Savannah Entrepreneurial Center (SEC)
801 East Gwinnett Street

[ATDC@Savannah: Raising Capital for Tech](#)
Tuesday, May 22, 12:00pm-1:30pm
Bull Street Labs, 2222 Bull Street

**[She HUSTLES:
Women's Entrepreneurship in Savannah](#)**
Thursday, May 24, 6:00pm-9:00pm
Bull Street Labs, 2222 Bull Street

**[Statistical and Financial Tools to
Track Business Performance](#)**
Thursday, May 31, 11:30am-1:00pm
SCORE, 111 East Liberty Street

[Are You Ready to Start a Business?](#)
Monday, June 4 & 25, 11:30am-1:00pm
SEC, 801 East Gwinnett Street

[Small Business Financing Workshop](#)
Wednesday, June 6, 2:00pm-4:00pm
SEC, 801 East Gwinnett Street

[How to Become a City of Savannah Vendor](#)
Wednesday, June 13, 12:00pm-1:00pm
SEC, 801 East Gwinnett Street

Featured Resource: Jasmin Smith, 2016 Woman Entrepreneur of the Year



Business Expert, Jasmin Smith

The Office of Business Opportunity is delighted to welcome award winning business expert Jasmin Smith to instruct a "Marketing Made Easy" workshop on June 11th at the Savannah Entrepreneurial Center. [Click here for more information and to register!](#)

Ms. Smith will lead an interactive and fun workshop designed to get your business more customers. The workshop will include:

- Learn the ins and outs of good marketing.
- Learn the essential that all small businesses need to reach paying customers.
- Leave with resources to create the materials you need to find the customers you want.

The "Marketing Made Easy" event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. For more information, please call the Savannah Entrepreneurial Center at (912) 652-3582.

Ms. Smith is a licensed and accredited Small Business Development Consultant, a small business owner of "[The Business Boutique](#)", Co-Chair of SCORE Alaska, and was awarded the 2016 Woman Entrepreneur of the Year from Women Entrepreneur of Alaska. She brings 12 years of verifiable business development experience with a focus on community revitalization, minority owned business development, and strategic and financial planning in Alaska's most diverse urban and rural communities.

City of Savannah
Office of Business Opportunity
Savannah Entrepreneurial Center
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"To coordinate economic and small business development programs to foster a strong local economy, spur business and job growth, and provide for a better quality of life in Savannah."

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