



## Business Financing

**Free Funding/Grants:** You have to admit “free” funds sound great. The chances of getting “free” money are slim at best when looking to the government. Possible funding may be available from:

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

<https://www.illinois.gov/dceo/smallbizassistance/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://ambergrantsforwomen.com/business-grants-women-illinois/>

<https://www.fundera.com/blog/small-business-grants>

<https://www.nerdwallet.com/blog/small-business/small-business-grants-minorities/>

**Banks:** Local banks may be willing to work with you for a commercial loan but you need to be able to show a solid business plan and prove you can pay back the money from the bank.

**Bootstrapping:** Small business people often finance their business with their own monies, credit cards, home equity loans or money borrowed from family and friends.

**The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Development** has options for financing, grants and additional resources.  
<https://www.illinois.gov/DCEO/Pages/default.aspx>

The **Small Business Administration** does not give loans but they do give support to your bank loan request. There are also free online courses that can help get your business off the ground. Take a look at [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov) for useful information.

The **Village of Plainfield Economic Development** might be able to help. <https://www.plainfield-il.org/pages/economicdevelopment>

**Will County Center for Economic Development**  
<http://www.willcountyced.com/>

**Women’s Business Development Center**  
<https://www.wbdc.org/>

\*\* Beware of something that sounds too good. It probably is.



## Angel and Venture Capitalists

Wealthy private investors are sometimes interested in funding a new business venture that has potential for significant profit, and tend to work through a formal network of investors.

<https://www.angelinvestmentnetwork.us/illinois-angel-investors>



## Hiring Employees

It’s time to hire. Now what? What are the required steps you need to take when hiring?

<https://www.xperthr.com/topics/us-jurisdictions/illinois/>

<https://www.thevirtualattorney.com/blog/what-know-when-hiring-employee-illinois>

**Taxes      Hiring      Unemployment Insurance**

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

<http://www.revenue.state.il.us/>

<https://www.thevirtualattorney.com/blog/what-know-when-hiring-employee-illinois>

[http://www.ides.illinois.gov/Pages/employer\\_obligations\\_reporting\\_new\\_hires.aspx](http://www.ides.illinois.gov/Pages/employer_obligations_reporting_new_hires.aspx)

<http://help.legalnature.com/41869-articles/hiring-employees-in-illinois-an-overview-of-important-laws>



## Additional Handy Resources

Resources can include useful Business Links:

- [www.business.usa.gov](http://www.business.usa.gov)
- [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov)
- [www.irs.gov/business/small/index.html](http://www.irs.gov/business/small/index.html)
- [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)
- <https://www.sec.gov/smallbusiness>
- <https://www.illinois.gov/dceo/SmallBizAssistance/Pages/default.aspx>
- <https://www.chicagolandchamber.org/Resources/SmallBusinessDevelopmentCenter.aspx>



**Plainfield Public Library District**  
15025 S. Illinois St.  
Plainfield, IL 60544  
815-436-6639  
[www.plainfieldpubliclibrary.org](http://www.plainfieldpubliclibrary.org)



## Business Resource Partners

Organizations are available to help you get your business started and contribute to your economic success:

**The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Development** has options for financing, grants and additional resources.  
<https://www.illinois.gov/DCEO/Pages/default.aspx>

**Plainfield Chamber of Commerce**  
<https://www.plainfieldchamber.com/>

**SCORE**  
<https://foxvalley.score.org/>  
(630) 692-1162

**Village of Plainfield Business Evolution Center**  
<https://www.plainfield-il.org/>  
(815) 436-7093

**Will County Workforce Network**  
<http://www.jobs4people.org/>



## Some Library Resources

From the Plainfield Public Library webpage:  
<https://plainfieldpubliclibrary.org/services/business-resources/>

Business Source Premier  
Credo Reference  
Gale Virtual Reference Library  
Legal Information Center  
Lynda.com  
MasterFILE Premier  
Morningstar Investment Research Center  
ProQuest Chicago Tribune  
Record Information Services  
RefUSA  
Valueline



## Small Business Information Guide



## Unlock the Way to Starting a Business in Plainfield

What would you like to do?

Would you like to start your own business?

What’s your business idea? Is it developed, yet?

Can you do it?

Where do you start?

The **Plainfield Public Library Small Business Information Guide** offers information and help with the process of starting a small business. The Plainfield Public Library is strategically situated to deliver no cost, focused attention and resources for anyone who might want to start or improve a small business. Up-to-date business information combined with partnerships with local and national businesses and organizations can help guide you on your journey. The PPLSBIG is available to help direct you on your way with resources and contacts. Many people are interested in starting their own business. Join in the adventure!

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## Write a Business Plan

Your business plan is the foundation and framework for your business: a blueprint for success. Lenders, possible investors and others will be interested in seeing your plan. A clear business plan can make a difference in the success of your business.

A business plan is often about 20 pages long and has your Executive Summary, Business Description, Management, Market Analysis and Strategy, Customers and Competition, Operations and Financial Analysis.

Here is a useful guide:

<https://www.score.org/resource/business-planning-financial-statements-template-gallery>

Books available at the library can help guide you.

[http://pinnacle.polarislibrary.com/polaris/search/searchresults.aspx?ctx=11.1033.0.0.1&type=Keyword&term=&by=KW&sort=MP&limit=TOM=\\*&query=&page=0&searchid=3](http://pinnacle.polarislibrary.com/polaris/search/searchresults.aspx?ctx=11.1033.0.0.1&type=Keyword&term=&by=KW&sort=MP&limit=TOM=*&query=&page=0&searchid=3)

And articles are available at the library at the Online Resources on the library web page to help with this.

<https://plainfieldpubliclibrary.org/resources-online/>



## Not-for-Profit

A not-for-profit is a way to start a business and give back to the community, too.

<https://grantspace.org/resources/knowledge-base/starting-a-nonprofit/>

<https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/tools-resources/how-start-nonprofit>

<https://www.nerdwallet.com/blog/small-business/how-to-start-a-nonprofit/>



## Legal Ownership Structure

Before registering as a business, you need to decide on legal ownership structure, and you will need to file with the state.

<https://www.illinois.gov/dceo/smallbizassistance/beginhere/pages/stepbystepguide.aspx>

Check here for naming your business.

<https://www.ilsos.gov/ContactFormsWeb/corpform.jsp>

**Sole Proprietorship and General Partnership**  
**Limited Partnership**  
**Limited Liability Company**  
**Limited Liability Partnership**  
**"C" Corporation**  
**"S" Corporation**

See also:

<https://sbd.c.siu.edu/resources/choosing-a-business-structure.php>

Here, you can find out about the various structures, what your responsibilities as an owner are and what you will need to do next, including where to register your business, how to get an EIN (Employer Identification Number), and where you can go for help. (Note: you need to know your business structure before applying for an EIN.)

You can apply here for an EIN:

<https://www.irs.gov/businesses/small-businesses-self-employed/apply-for-an-employer-identification-number-ein-online>



## Register Your Business Name

You will need to register your business name.

- Be sure to check to make sure your name is available – or if it is already actively in use.

<https://www.illinois.gov/dceo/smallbizassistance/beginhere/pages/stepbystepguide.aspx>



## Business Taxes and Insurance

Find out more about taxes and insurance in the State of Illinois.

### Taxes

[http://search.revenue.state.il.us/search?btnG=Revenue+Search&site=revenue&client=revenue&proxystylesheet=revenue&output=xml\\_no\\_dtd&q=small+business&x=0&y=0](http://search.revenue.state.il.us/search?btnG=Revenue+Search&site=revenue&client=revenue&proxystylesheet=revenue&output=xml_no_dtd&q=small+business&x=0&y=0)

and

<https://www2.illinois.gov/business/manage-your-business/IDOR/file-business-taxes>

and

<https://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/illinois-state-business-income-tax.html>

and

<https://mytax.illinois.gov/>

### Insurance

- You might want to get property damage, liability and business interruption insurance coverage.
- Is there specialty insurance your business may need?

<https://www.illinois.gov/dceo/smallbizassistance/beginhere/pages/stepbystepguide.aspx>

<https://www.sba.gov/business-guide/launch-your-business/get-business-insurance>

<http://insurance.illinois.gov/>

Be sure you are protected.



## Intellectual Property

Don't allow anyone to steal your intellectual property. Be sure to register them with federal agencies.

Information about **patents and trademarks** can be found here. <https://www.uspto.gov/>

**Copyright** protection information can be found <https://www.copyright.gov/>



## Business Licenses, etc.

You can find out about business licenses here. You will need to see what licenses you are required to have. Zoning and building, environmental concerns, health and safety concerns will need to be addressed.

<https://www2.illinois.gov/business>

<https://www.licensesuite.com/search/>

<https://www.plainfield-il.org/pages/buildingdepartment>

<https://www.plainfield-il.org/pages/buildingdepartment>

<https://www.willcountyhealth.org/>

<https://www.thewillcountyclerk.com/>

<https://www2.illinois.gov/idol/Laws-Rules/safety/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://www.epa.illinois.gov/>

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