



From start-ups to existing businesses, the **Bloomington SBDC** has programs and services to help individuals and companies reach their objectives, and most are available at no charge!

The Bloomington SBDC provides **one-on-one counseling** to existing business owners in such areas as the business planning, marketing issues, financial planning and financing alternatives and other topics related to the operation of a successful business.

The Center also counsels with new business start-ups, and free **Business Orientation Startup Sessions** are offered twice a month for people thinking about starting a business.

The Center houses other business assistance programs, including **SCORE** (the Service Corps of Retired Executives), and the **Regional Manufacturing Advisory Services** counselor.

Through partnerships with the Bedford, Bloomfield, Linton, Martinsville, and Mitchell Chambers of Commerce, and the Spencer-Owen County Economic Development office, the **Rural Entrepreneurial Assistance Program** provides business counseling to clients outside the Monroe County area.

The SBDC **Business Information Zone** (<http://www.sbdcbiz.com>) is a comprehensive web-site that contains information about local, state and federal permit and licensing requirements. The site also provides resource listings of sources of capital, tax information, and international trade.

The new **Indiana Private Investment Network (INPIN)** will provide a resource for people who need start-up or expansion capital, to get their information to private investors who are looking for investment opportunities.

Counselors from the State of Indiana's **Government Marketing Assistance Group** work out of the Center's office to advise people on how to increase their market by selling their product or service to government agencies.

The Center coordinates and sponsors **courses, seminars, half-day workshops, and all-day conferences** on a wide variety of business topics.

The Center's **Resource Library** has a wide selection of reference books, video tapes, CD's, planning workbooks, and computer software to assist clients in their start-up or expansion projects. It also houses two internet terminals available to existing or potential business owners.

The Bloomington SBDC is a partner in the **Bloomington Area Microenterprise Initiative (BAMI)** which makes **loans up to \$25,000**. The organization was founded by the Bloomington Urban Enterprise Association, the SBDC, Middle Way House, Bank One, The City of Bloomington and the State of Indiana Microloan Fund through the ISBD Corp. A 12-week **Small Business Planning Course** is offered twice a year through BAMI.

The Center also operates a **business incubator**, called **The STAR Center**. This project is designed to support businesses in their start-up phase by offering space, shared services and management assistance. (<http://www.thestarcenter.com>)

The SBDC is located at 216 W. Allen Street in Bloomington. The phone number is 812-339-8937.