

Resources for Starting a Business in Hampton Roads

The US Small Business Administration – The SBA is the place to start when looking to set up a new business, whether it is a for-profit or non-profit entity. The website will guide you through the many steps, documents and decisions that need to be made in the process. Such as:

Starting a Business

[Thinking About Starting](#)
[Create Your Business Plan](#)
[Choose Your Business Structure](#)
[Register Your Business](#)
[Obtain Business Licenses](#)
[Learn About Business Law](#)
[Finance Your Business](#)
[Explore Loans, Grants & Funding](#)
[Filing & Paying Taxes](#)
[Choosing Your Business Location & Equipment](#)
[Hire & Retain Employees](#)

Managing a Business

[Leading Your Company](#)
[Growing Your Business](#)
[Exporting](#)
[Running a Business](#)
[Business Law & Regulations](#)
[Getting Out](#)
[Business Guides by Industry](#)
[Local Resources](#)
[Health Care](#)
[Forms](#)

The SBA website also provides resources for assistance available to Minority, Women, Native American and Veteran Owned businesses, among others. For more information search under Business Types at:

<http://www.sba.gov>

Hampton Roads Small Business Development Center – The SBDC has 9 offices in the Hampton Roads region and provides assistance for both starting and expanding a business. They can help with more specific issues, such as doing business within a certain locality, tax implications, zoning, reference to local professionals, etc. They further offer classes on accounting, business law, and marketing, among others.

<http://www.hrsbdc.org/>

Virginia Department of Business Assistance – DBA has many resources on its site for establishing a business within the Commonwealth of Virginia, inclusive of guidance for small business financing, workforce training and a web tool known as **Business One Stop**, which is guided step-by-step process for establishing your business.

<http://www.dba.virginia.gov/>

<http://www.dba.virginia.gov/vsbf.shtml>

<http://bos.virginia.gov/>

SCORE Hampton Roads – SCORE is an invaluable resource of counselors and seasoned professionals that donate their time and expertise to provide free business advice to entrepreneurs and small businesses

<http://www.scorehr.org/>

Chambers of Commerce – The Chambers are an excellent resource for any business. They provide on-going training programs, leadership development, business and community updates and a plethora of networking opportunities to meet individuals and organizations with which you may be able to do business with directly or by referral.

Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
 South Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce
 Virginia Chamber of Commerce

<http://www.virginiapeninsulachamber.com>
<http://www.hamptonroadschamber.com>
<http://www.vachamber.com/>

Economic Development Agencies – It is the role of economic development to bring new jobs and investment to the community. Each agency has personnel in place to help facilitate the startup of new businesses and foster the growth of existing ones through various incentive and workforce training programs, and facilitating coordination through the various local agencies, such as zoning, permitting, etc. There is no charge for their assistance and we encourage you to explore what may be available.

Virginia Economic Development Partnership
 Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance
 Norfolk Economic Development
 Virginia Beach Economic Development
 Chesapeake Economic Development
 Portsmouth Economic Development
 Suffolk Economic Development
 Hampton Economic Development
 Franklin Economic Development
 Southampton County Economic Development
 Isle of Wight Economic Development
 Newport News Economic Development
 York County Economic Development
 Williamsburg Economic Development
 James City County Economic Development
 Poquoson Economic Development
 Gloucester Economic Development

<http://www.yesvirginia.com/startbusiness/default.aspx>
<http://hreda.com/>
<http://www.norfolkdevelopment.com/>
<http://www.yesvirginiabeach.com/Pages/default.aspx>
<http://www.chesapeakeva.biz/>
<http://www.portsmouthvaed.com/>
<http://www.suffolk.va.us/econdev/index.html>
<http://www.hampton.gov/ed>
<http://www.yesfranklincountyva.org/>
<http://www.southamptoncounty.org/T0.aspx?PID=2>
<http://www.co.isle-of-wight.va.us/>
<http://www.nngov.com/development/>
<http://www.yorkcounty.gov/econdev/Home.aspx>
<http://www.yeswilliamsburg.com/>
<http://www.yesjamescitycountyva.com/>
http://www.ci.poquoson.va.us/business/economic_development
<http://www.gloucesterva.info/EconomicDevelopment/tabid/950/Default.aspx>