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Research Guide

Internet Resources for Starting a Small Business

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SCOPE OF GUIDE

This guide is intended to help people wanting to start a small business in California, with resources specific to the city and county of San Diego.

WHAT KIND OF INFORMATION CAN I FIND IN THIS GUIDE?

- A listing of U.S., State of California, County and City of San Diego websites;
- Information about the process of starting a small business in San Diego, California;
- Web resources about tax issues involved with starting a small business in California and the County and City of San Diego;
- National, state and local websites with mentoring and consulting resources.

RESOURCES:

CITY OF SAN DIEGO RESOURCES

City of San Diego – Office of Small Business

www.sandiego.gov/economic-development/business-assistance/small-business/10steps.shtml

A guide entitled “10 Key Steps to Starting a Business” for those starting businesses within the San Diego city limits. This guide provides local information and links to resources.

Office of the City Treasurer – Business Tax Certificate

www.sandiego.gov/treasurer/businesstax/index.shtml

All businesses in the City of San Diego are required to have a Business Tax Certificate, including home-based businesses. This website explains the San Diego City Business Tax application process, required fees, forms to apply and links to other business resources.

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO RESOURCES

SCORE: Counselors to America’s Small Business – A Partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration

www.score-sandiego.org

SCORE is a source of free and confidential small business advice for entrepreneurs

Counselors are working or retired business owners, executives or operation managers with

specialized training in business counseling and mentoring. Entrepreneurs can receive advice via e-mail at the San Diego SCORE office or field counseling at your business location.

San Diego County Fictitious Business Name Statements

www.sdarcc.com/arcc/services/fbn_info.aspx

Website for the San Diego County Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk's Office. Any person who regularly transacts business for profit, UNDER A FICTITIOUS NAME, in the County of San Diego is required to file a Fictitious Business Name Statement with the Recorder/County Clerk.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA RESOURCES

State of California Business Portal

www.calbusiness.ca.gov/default.asp

This web site provides links to a number of resources for starting and growing a business in California. Information is organized by category and provides links to public and private organizations, Federal, State and County agencies and non-profit organizations.

CalGOLD – Business Permits Made Simple

www.calgold.ca.gov/

Website sponsored by the State of California. Site provides links and contact information that directs you to agencies that administer and issue business permits, licenses and registration requirements from all levels of government. The listings include descriptions of the requirements, the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the agencies that administer those requirements and issue the permits and licenses.

California Tax Service Center – State of California

http://www.taxes.ca.gov/Small_Business_Assistance_Center/index.shtml

Partnership of tax agencies including the State Board of Equalization, Employment Development Department, State Franchise Tax Board and the Internal Revenue Service. This website is a one-stop source for small business tax information. Information is organized by category and provides links directly to the appropriate tax agency.

NATIONAL RESOURCES

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

www.sba.gov/smallbusinessplanner/index.html

The Small Business Administration offers programs and services to help your small business. The Small Business Planner includes information and resources that will help you at any stage of the business lifecycle: business planning; starting a business; managing and dissolving your business. This website contains a lot of useful and detailed information.

Business Owner's Toolkit

www.toolkit.cch.com

The Commerce Clearing House (CCH) Business Owner's Toolkit is sponsored by CCH Tax and Accounting, published by Wolters Kluwer Company. This website provides information about starting a small business, including practical tips (samples and forms),

tax and legal information. Even though there is some commercial advertising on this website, all of the information within the website is FREE, detailed and extremely helpful.

Biz Tool Kit

<http://biztoolkit.org>

Sponsored by the James J. Hill Reference Library. This website provides FREE access to business information tools, databases and resources to help you research Business Plans, Financing, Demographics, Marketing and Managing for your small business. This is a website of links to other website resources. The information is gathered and organized for the convenience of the user. The website provides FREE access to sample documents and business tools.

Small Business Development Center – National Information Clearinghouse

<http://sbdnet.org>

This website contains links to sample business plans, industry information, business documents and publications. SBDC Business Advisors are available for FREE confidential business counseling.

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