

# Library Resources for Planning a Business



## Print Resources

**Business Plans Handbook** – Examples of more than five hundred completed business plans for different businesses. (Also available online, call for assistance.)

**Annual Statement Studies (RMA)** – Information on financial statements.

**Dun and Bradstreet Norms and Ratios** – Industry norms and key business ratios.

**NAICS/SIC code books** – Find the classification number for your type of business.

**Directory of National Trade and Professional Associations of the United States.**

There are also a variety of recently published books to help start, maintain, and grow your business. These materials will cover the many aspects of the challenges faced by start-ups. Ask a Business Librarian for assistance.

## Online Resources

(accessible from the Library's homepage)

- **AtoZ Database** – Search for sales leads and competitor lists by size, geography, NAICS/SIC codes, and more. Covers both business and residential.
- **Business Source Premier** – This source provides the full text for more than 8,800 business and academic serials back to the 1880's.
- **First Research** – Supplies hundreds of industry profiles, covering over 1000 industry segments.
- **Hoovers** – A business resource which provides information on over 85 million companies with flexible tools to easily search U.S. and international companies.
- **Mergent Intellect** – This database offers access to private and public U.S and international business data, industry news, facts and figures, and executive contact information.
- **Akron Beacon Journal** – Full text access to all content from 1984 to the present. Research local industries, locations and people.
- **Foundation Directory Online** – Directory of grants, grant making organizations, companies and IRS 990s of grant funding companies. (Use in Library only)
- **IbisWorld** – Full-text database of U.S. and Global industry market research reports including specialized industries for small business research. (Use in library only)



• **Helpful websites and  
Local Organizations on back**



## Helpful websites

**City-Data** – Various statistical information for cities around the U.S. <http://www.city-data.com/>

**Grant Space** – The Foundation Center website that offers workshops and articles concerning all aspects of grant writing and non-profit management. <https://grantspace.org/>

**Ohio Development Services Agency** – Demographic and industry reports <https://development.ohio.gov/>

**Ohio Secretary of State** – Information on starting and/or registering a business, check for business names, running your business, etc. <https://www.sos.state.oh.us/businesses/>

**Small Business Development Centers** – The website offers a list of requirements for your business through the 1st Stop Business Connection page. Check out the rest of their website for additional help. <https://clients.ohiosbdc.ohio.gov/folder.aspx?f=393>

**United States Patent and Trademark Office** – Look up a patent/trademark or learn how to apply for one. <https://www.uspto.gov/>

**U.S. Census** – Find demographic, business and economic information using American Fact Finder and County Business patterns from the index on the home page. <https://www.census.gov/>  
<https://factfinder.census.gov/>  
<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp.html>

## Local Organizations

**Akron Service Corp of Retired Executives (SCORE)**  
– Provides free workshops and consulting services to for-profit and non-profit businesses and organizations in all stages of development. 175 S Main St #204, Akron, OH 44308 (330) 379-3163, [www.akron.score.org](http://www.akron.score.org)

**Akron Small Business Development Center (SBDC)** – Provides free workshops and consulting services to for-profit businesses in all stages of development. 526 S. Main Street, Ste. 813, Akron, Ohio 44311, 330-375-2111, [www.akronsbdc.org](http://www.akronsbdc.org)

**Akron Urban League** – Helping Small Businesses Grow. 440 Vernon Odom Blvd., Akron OH 44307, 330-434-3101, [www.akronurbanleague.org](http://www.akronurbanleague.org)

**Bounce Innovation Hub** – Open innovation hub serving northeast Ohio's entrepreneurial and innovation community 526 S. Main St. Akron, Ohio 44311, [www.bouncehub.org](http://www.bouncehub.org)

- **Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship Research** - Entrepreneurial business research collection, ongoing lectures and workshops, technological support, and business mentoring opportunities. 96 Library St. Hudson, Ohio 44236, 330-653-6658, [www.hudsonlibrary.org/morgan-entrepreneurship-center/](http://www.hudsonlibrary.org/morgan-entrepreneurship-center/)
- **The Foundation Center** – Provides workshops and information on philanthropy, fundraising, and grant programs. 1422 Euclid Avenue, Suite 1600 Cleveland, OH 44115-2001, (216) 861-1933, [www.foundationcenter.org](http://www.foundationcenter.org)
- **Chamber of Commerce** – Check with your local Chamber of Commerce to see what information is available there.
- **Microbusiness Center** – Provides accessible business training, educational resources and individualized direction to business owners and entrepreneurs. 60 S. High St. Akron Ohio 44326, 330-803-0839, [www.akronlibrary.org/locations/main-library/microbusiness-center](http://www.akronlibrary.org/locations/main-library/microbusiness-center)
- **Small Entrepreneur and Economic Development (SEED) Legal Clinic** – Provides low cost legal assistance to emerging businesses in Northeastern Ohio. The University of Akron Law School, 150 University Ave, Akron, OH 44325, 330-972-2358, [www.uakron.edu/law/curriculum/clinical.dot](http://www.uakron.edu/law/curriculum/clinical.dot)  
• Check with your community's local Chamber of Commerce for information about that area of the County.  
• Please call the library if you need contact information.

• **Akron-Summit County Public Library**  
• Librarians are available to assist with the listed resources. Please call, email or visit to find out more.

• **Business and Government Division** –  
• 330-643-9020 [bgdiv@akronlibrary.org](mailto:bgdiv@akronlibrary.org)

• **Microbusiness Center** - 330-802-0839  
• [lhale@akronlibrary.org](mailto:lhale@akronlibrary.org)

• **Science and Technology**- Patent and trademark information 330-643-9075 [stdiv@akronlibrary.org](mailto:stdiv@akronlibrary.org)

• **TechZone-Maker Space and Digital Media Center** 330-643-9145 [es@akronlibrary.org](mailto:es@akronlibrary.org)



**Akron-Summit County Public Library**

330-643-9020

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60 S. High Street, Akron, OH 44326  
[www.akronlibrary.org](http://www.akronlibrary.org)