Doing Business in Essex County - Resources

Local, State, and Federal Resources to Assist Businesses

**Essex County** – County Administration, Planning/Zoning, Building Official, Commissioner of Revenue

- [Essex County Virginia Home Page | Essex County Virginia (essex-virginia.org)](http://essex-virginia.org)

**Tappahannock - Essex Chamber of Commerce**

- [Tappahannock-Essex County Chamber of Commerce (tappahannockessexchamber.com)](http://tappahannockessexchamber.com)

**Historic Downtown Tappahannock** – Main Street program

- [Home - Historic Downtown Tappahannock](http://historicdowntowntappahannock.com)

**Mary Washington University Small Business Development Center**

- [HOME - Center for Economic Development (umw.edu)](http://umw.edu)
- VSBDC can assist you in several ways:
  - Accounting
  - Business Planning
  - Cash Flow Management
  - Financing Sources
  - Government Procurement
  - Licensing and Regulatory Information
  - Marketing
  - SBA Programs
  - Start Up Procedures

**U.S. Small Business Administration**

- Richmond Office located 400 N. 8th St., Suite 1150, Richmond, VA 23219 - Phone: 804-771-2400
- The Federal Agency will help answer questions such as:
  - Is there an advantage to being a woman-owned business in dealing with the federal government?
  - How do I finance my business?
  - How do I find a mentor?
  - How do I sell overseas?
  - Is there help for a business after a natural disaster?

**Virginia Business One Stop**

- [Home | Virginia Business One Stop](http://v็บesinessonеstop.org)
Virginia Economic Development Partnership

- Virginia Economic Development Partnership (vedp.org)

Department of Minority Business Enterprise

- Minority Business Enterprise page

Virginia Small Business Financing Authority (VSBFA)

- The VSBFA helps Virginia's start-up, existing & prospective businesses through an extensive portfolio of financing programs
- The Authority helps Virginia's financial institutions offer business loans that they might not be able to offer without assistance from the program
- The VSBFA also offers grants to individual investors in qualifying small businesses
- The VSBFA offers financing programs which can provide:
  - Direct loans for Economic Development projects (fixed asset purchases such as land, buildings & equipment)
  - Cash Collateral and Loan Guaranties to help Banks lend to Small Businesses
  - Microloans, Child Care Loans, and Investment Grants for Small Businesses
  - Cash Collateral, Loan Guaranties, Direct Loans, and Microloans for Existing Businesses, Minority-Owned Businesses, and Tourism Related Businesses
  - A Child Care Financing Program for Licensed Child Care Centers & Family-Home Providers
  - Bond Financing for Small Manufacturers & 501(c)(3) Non-profits

Additional Quick References

- Assistance in Seeking Federal Contracts
- Business U.S.A.: The one stop shop for starting and operating your business
- Guide to Establishing a Business
- How to Start a Business in Virginia - Information from Harbor Compliance
- How to Form an LLC in Virginia - Information from Harbor Compliance
- Small Business Counseling
- Starting a Small Business and Keeping Records, IRS Publication 583: For more information, call 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676)
- Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS): Marketing assistance for your crops
- Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) - Starting Your Food Business: What you need to know before you start a food related business
- Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation: Incentives for businesses to expand their telework programs
- Virginia Department of Social Services: Day care and elder care licensing
- Virginia Small Business Financing Authority: Financing a Small Business. Call 866-248-8814 for more information
- Virginia Tourism Corporation: Marketing your tourism business