



Small Business Support

Explore resources and make connections to put your idea into action.

Business First (<https://rockfordil.gov/222/Business-First>)

Personalized sessions where entrepreneurs meet with regulatory stakeholders to discuss requirements to start a business in Rockford at a commercial location.

- Francisca French, Economic Development Diversity and Procurement Coordinator, City of Rockford | (779) 348-7419 | Francisca.French@rockfordil.gov

Illinois Small Business Development Center (<https://www.rockfordsbdc.org/>)

Business guidance, training, capital advisory, and resources to help both start-up and existing small businesses.

- (815) 921-4076 | N.Jordan@RockValleyCollege.Edu

Rockford Local Development Corporation (<http://www.rldc.us/>)

A service-oriented commercial lender that simplifies the loan application process as a small business champion and catalyst for community and economic development.

- (815) 745-5556 | info@rldc.us

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO)

(<https://dceo.illinois.gov/>)

DCEO has a mission to create equitable economic opportunities across the State of Illinois.

- (800) 252-2923

For more information, contact:

Community & Economic Development Department
779.348.7162 www.rockfordil.gov
Anna.Garrison@RockfordIL.gov

Illinois Secretary of State (<https://www.ilsos.gov/>)

Provides documents such as, incorporation documents, annual reports, and amendments for businesses.

Winnebago County Clerk (<https://wincoil.gov/departments/clerks-office>)

Administers “Doing Business As” or “DBA” business licenses and Certificates of Ownership.

- (815) 319-4250

Small Business Newsletter (<https://il-rockford.civicplus.com/FormCenter/Economic-Development-17/Economic-Development-Newsletter-70>)

Sign up to receive a monthly newsletter with resources and updates. This monthly newsletter provides information on new businesses in Rockford, events, funding opportunities and other small business resources

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Accelerating Creatives & Entrepreneurs (ACE): COMPASS

(<https://www.mybizcompass.com/home>)

Providing entrepreneurs with a guide to a network of resources throughout their business cycle.

Think Big (<https://www.thinkbig815.org/>)

Minority and women development organization focused on assisting and connecting entrepreneurs to start and sustain small businesses

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