Resources for Starting a Business in Arkansas

How do I start a business in Arkansas? What kind of permits and licenses do I need? Where do I go to get these licenses? Who can I talk to about starting a business in Arkansas?

This fact sheet describes resources that can help you start a small business in Arkansas. The resources include:

• A resource guide that lists entrepreneurial training materials,
• A new business checklist,
• A guide to starting a business, and
• A records portfolio.

These materials can be printed or ordered from the University of Arkansas – Extension web site at www.uaex.edu.

The materials cover the following business training topics:

• Assessing business potential
• Defining a business idea
• Determining the feasibility of a business idea
• Selecting professional business advisors
• Choosing a business legal structure
• Selecting a business location
• Developing a business financial system
• Writing a business plan

Understanding regulatory requirements
• Obtaining financial assistance

A Resource Guide to Latino Entrepreneurship Training Materials (MP505)

The resource guide lists and provides a brief description of entrepreneurship information and training materials from various U.S. for-profit and nonprofit associations. It focuses on materials in Spanish that have broad relevance and applicability and are available for public use. Resources are listed by organization and by topic.

Checklist for Licensing a New Business (CED80-CED117)

The checklist is a quad-fold brochure on legal size paper that contains contact information for local,
county and state agencies that issue business-related licenses, permits or information. One side of the brochure has a checklist of the required permits, and the other side lists agency contact information. Checklists are available for 26 counties in the Ozark and Ouachita regions.


The guide is a combination text and workbook and can be used for group study or self-guided education. Each section covers a topic that has been identified as a barrier or informational need by Arkansas business owners. Several sections include worksheets that can be used to form part of a business plan. The guide also contains contact information for Arkansas government licensing offices and business resource agencies. It is available in English and Spanish.


The portfolio is a three-ring binder filled with tabbed sheet protectors that are labeled to show the contents of each pocket. It is a portable record keeping system that can be used to store receipts, applications, etc, in the sheet protectors and label the contents on the outside. The binder also contains a yearly calendar and business card protector pages to assist in organizing and scheduling business activities.

These resources are meant to assist entrepreneurs in starting or expanding their business and identify other agencies and organizations that provide assistance to entrepreneurs.

This research was funded by USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture, the Arkansas Division of Agriculture and Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station. The authors are entirely responsible for the design, collection, analysis and interpretation of data, writing and decision to submit this fact sheet.

We thank the following individuals who reviewed and edited the Spanish translation of this fact sheet: Elizabeth Johnson, program associate - early child; Celia Boon, county extension agent - family and consumer science; Sandra Guzman, program assistant - family; and Estela Saenz, program assistant - EFNEP.

Printed by University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service Printing Services.

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