

## Where Can I Get Help?

Small business owners face many challenges in staying afloat, yet they play a vital role in the community. Where can the owner turn for financial help, for marketing guidance, or even deciding whether or not to sell the business? Following are a number of important resources that can help with these questions and more.

Get free counseling at the Small Business Development Center office located at William Rainey Harper College. Counselor Bonita Richter will be happy to sit down with you and offer suggestions based on your particular business problems and needs. Contact her at 847 / 925-6072 or [brichter@harpercollege.edu](mailto:brichter@harpercollege.edu)

To learn what is offered through these Business Development Centers or find other locations, go to [www.illinoisbiz.biz/dceo/Bureaus/Entrepreneurship+and+Small+Business/Small+Business+Development+Centers](http://www.illinoisbiz.biz/dceo/Bureaus/Entrepreneurship+and+Small+Business/Small+Business+Development+Centers)

The Small Business Administration offers a large variety of online training programs for small business management at [www.sba.gov/training/courses.html](http://www.sba.gov/training/courses.html)

SCORE, the "Counselors to America's Small Business" offers free counseling services provided by retired business executives. The nearest location is the Des Plaines Chamber of Commerce, 1401 Oakton St. 847 / 824-4200. More information is available at their websites:

[www.score.org/explore\\_score.html](http://www.score.org/explore_score.html)  
and [www.chicagoscore.org](http://www.chicagoscore.org)

Find a wide variety of "How-To" help guides at [www.inc.com/guides](http://www.inc.com/guides)

The **State of Illinois** provides online information at a number of sites, including:

Illinois Registration and Tax information for business  
[www.revenue.state.il.us/Businesses/index.htm](http://www.revenue.state.il.us/Businesses/index.htm)

Business Services/Publications and Forms @ Cyberdrive Illinois  
[www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/business\\_services/publications\\_and\\_forms/home.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/business_services/publications_and_forms/home.html)

State of Illinois Business Portal  
<http://business.illinois.gov/> Click on the Site Map link to see the many useful links for starting, running, changing, and even selling a business in Illinois. There is a link to forms as well.

Consider the support provided by membership in organizations and associations:

National Association for the Self-Employed [www.nase.org](http://www.nase.org)

National Association of Women Business Owners [www.nawbochicago.org](http://www.nawbochicago.org) (Chicago Chapter)

Don't forget to contact your local **Mount Prospect Chamber office**. Phone 847 / 398-6616  
[www.mountprospectchamber.org](http://www.mountprospectchamber.org)

and the **Downtown Merchants Association** [www.mpdma.org](http://www.mpdma.org)

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 632, Mount Prospect IL 60056

Finally, contact Business Reference Librarian, Isabelle Flemming, at Mount Prospect Public Library [iflemming@mppl.org](mailto:iflemming@mppl.org) or 847 / 253-5675, to learn of other resources or to set up a one-on-one training session in the use of library databases or gain business research tips.