



## The Small Business Express: quick access to capital for growth

In Connecticut, we know small business growth drives economic growth. That's why we created the Small Business Express program — to provide the capital necessary to fuel small business progress. Whether you need an equity investment, capital purchase or working capital, you'll find Connecticut offers an array of financing programs for small businesses.

Through state programs, small businesses can access direct funding from the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) and Connecticut Innovations (CI). In addition, Connecticut has a network of local and regional revolving loan funds as well as a host of business development services.



### Program overview

**Types of financial assistance.** There are three types of financial assistance available under this program:

- **Revolving Loan Fund** (from \$10,000 to a maximum of \$100,000)
- **Job Creation Loan Fund** (from \$10,000 to a maximum of \$300,000)
- **Matching Grant Fund** (from \$10,000 to a maximum of \$100,000)

**Eligible applicants.** An established small business may apply for this funding as long as it: 1) employs not more than 100 employees; 2) has operations in Connecticut or is planning to relocate operations to Connecticut; 3) has been registered to conduct business for at least 12 months; 4) is in good standing with the payment of all state and local taxes and with all state agencies.

**Priority considerations.** This funding will be prioritized to business-creating jobs in economic-based industries, particularly those involved in exporting activities.

**Eligible expenditures.** This funding may be used for the purchase of machinery and equipment, construction, leasehold improvements, training, working capital and other business-related expenses approved by DECD's Commissioner.

### Terms and conditions

These funds are available at up to 4% interest and maximum 10-year term. DECD determines loan terms, conditions and collateral requirements in a manner that prioritizes job growth and retention. Approved applicants will be responsible for all closing costs before state funds are disbursed.

In order to apply to the Small Business Express Program, each prospective applicant must schedule a pre-screening session. To schedule a pre-screening session, please send an email to [DECDexpress@ct.gov](mailto:DECDexpress@ct.gov) or call 860-500-2333. A Project Manager will be assigned to contact you.