

RESOURCE GUIDE TO STARTING A BUSINESS IN FORT SCOTT, BOURBON COUNTY

FUNDING/FINANCING ASSISTANCE

- Local: Revolving Loan Fund
- Regional: SEK Prosperity Foundation low-interest loans
- National: SBA (Small Business Administration)
- National: USDA Business & Industry (B&I) Guaranteed Loan Program

GRANTS

- Local: BEDCO (forgivable loan of up to \$2,500 per new FTE, as funds are available)
- Local: Architectural Footprint Assistance, ½ of fees up to \$2,500
- Downtown - Local: Buildings & Infrastructure Grant (1/2 of repairs, up annual property tax)
- Downtown - Local: Buerge Paint Grant (up to \$500 of exterior paint cost)
- Downtown - State: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Downtown Commercial Rehab. Grant
- State: KDHE/EPA Brownfields Grant funding for site assessment and cleanup
- National: USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG), up to \$500,000
- National: SBIR/STTR Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs, offer federal government dollars to entrepreneurs, small businesses and researchers to fund innovative ideas

EMPLOYEE HIRING/TRAINING GRANTS

- State: H-1B Engineering Grant for hiring unemployed or underemployed degreed engineers
- State: On the Job Training (OJT)
- State: Kansas Industrial Training (KIT), up to \$2,000 per trainee
- State: Kansas Industrial Retraining (KIR), max. of 50% of total costs
- State: Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)

TAX REBATES & INCENTIVES

- Local: Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) (rebate on increased property taxes from improvements, 5 years residential, 10 years commercial property, 15 years downtown historic property)
- State: Historic Tax Credits
- State: Machinery & Equipment Expense Deduction
- State: Promoting Employment Across Kansas (PEAK)
- State: High Performance Incentive Program (HPIP)
- State: Research Tax Credit
- State: KANSASWORKS Employer Partner Incentive, hiring job seekers with disabilities

Resources for Information on these Programs and more:

- City of Fort Scott Economic Development: Rachel Pruitt 620-223-0550, rpruitt@fscity.org
- Fort Scott Area Chamber of Commerce: Lindsay Madison 620-223-3566, lindsay.madison@fortscott.com
- Kansas Department of Commerce: Craig VanWey (Pittsburg) 785-633-8407, cvanwey@kansascommerce.com or Barbara Anderson (Iola) 620-717-5713, banderson@kansascommerce.com
- Kansas Small Business Development Center: Tom Byler, Pittsburg, 620-235-4921, tbyler@pittstate.edu
 - Online business plan tool: <https://bigcat.fhsu.edu/ksbdc/business-tools/index.php>
- MAMTC (Mid-America Manufacturing Technology Center): Steve Davis, 620-235-4139, sdavis@mamtc.com
- USDA: Katie Casper, Iola, 620-365-2901, katie.casper@ks.usda.gov
- SBA:
- FSCC Business Training Programs: Ralph Beacham, 620-724-0390, ralphb@fortscott.edu