



Maine Small Business Development Centers

*Building Maine's Future,
One Business at a Time*

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Starting & Growing Businesses in Aroostook County *Highlighting recent business successes!*

Business Advisor Josh Nadeau has been busy helping to start and grow businesses in Aroostook County. *Meet two recent successes:*

Autotronics, Frenchville and Bangor

Autotronics, a family-owned business that specializes in the building and restoration of emergency vehicles, has been in business since 1958.

Business Owner Lita Daigle approached Maine SBDC Business Advisor Josh Nadeau looking for help in

restructuring some current loans as well as obtaining funds to help build a new state of the art paint facility at their headquarters in Frenchville, Maine. [**Read more...**](#)



Aroostook Driving School, Caribou

When Ryan Deprey and Todd Albert, well known teachers and coaches in the local school system, heard that one of the longstanding driving schools in Caribou was closing due to retirement, they saw an opportunity. The pair approached Josh Nadeau, Maine SBDC business advisor at Northern Maine Development Commission (NMDC), to take advantage of that

opportunity - to start a driving school. [Read more...](#)



Meet a Business Advisor: Steve Lovejoy

Steve Lovejoy

Maine SBDC Business Advisor/Center Director since 2011

Territory: Cumberland and York Counties

Offices in: Portland



Steve manages the business advising centers located in Portland and Saco. He also works directly with small business owners and managers on matters relating to business startup, expansion and survival. He specializes in banking, financing and marketing.

For more information on Steve including his bio, [click here](#).

CONTACT STEVE NOW

Or to connect with a business advisor closer to you, [click here](#).

MEET OUR PARTNER: Small Business Administration

At the Maine SBDC, we consider ourselves the hub of an entrepreneur or small business' journey through self-employment. Part of our success is knowing the many resources available to you -- to connect you to the resources that can help your business succeed.

This month we introduce you to **Small Business Administration (SBA)**.

What does SBA do?

The SBA is a program of the federal government and has four main functions: access to capital (business financing), entrepreneurial development (education, information and technical assistance/training), government contracting (federal procurement), and advocacy (voice for small business).

U.S. Small Business Administration



Your Small Business Resource

The Maine District Office of the SBA is responsible for the delivery of the SBA's programs and services, which include financial assistance for new and existing businesses through guaranteed loans made by area banks and non-bank lenders, and free counseling advice and information on starting, operating or expanding a small business through the Maine SBDC, SCORE and Women's Business Center programs.

How can they help you/your business?

1. *Financing*: SBA provides a number of financial assistance programs to small businesses that have been specifically designated to meet key financing needs, including loan programs, surety bonds and equity financing. While the SBA itself does not make loans, it does guarantee loans made to small businesses by private and other institutions.
2. *Business advising*: SBA works with Maine SBDC, SCORE and WBC to provide no-cost small business advising to Maine entrepreneurs and small businesses.
3. *Information*: SBA's website is PACKED full of good information on starting and running a business. Check it out here.
4. *Resource guide*: Maine Resource Guide for Small Business (PDF download), published each year, provides vital information for business owners in one location.

We are lucky to have a great team at SBA District Office in Maine. They are available to answer your questions or to connect you to the resources you need. Contact them at 207-622-8551. Click here for more info on the Maine District Office.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 26 - Lewiston - L-A Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce

How to get the best profit when you buy/sell your business

October 26 - Norway - New Ventures Maine

Understanding Small Business Loans

October 31 - Brunswick - Maine Technology Institute

SBIR/STTR Workshop

November 1 - Bangor - Eastern Maine Development Commission

Quickbooks for Beginners

November 2 - Calais - Procurement Technical Assistance Center

Expand Your Business with Federal Small Business Programs

November 3 - Westbrook - Dale Carnegie

Creating a culture that engages & retains millennials

November 7 - Portland - SCORE

Quickbooks Basics for Small Businesses

November 7 - Bangor - New Ventures Maine

Introduction to Self-Employment

November 9 - Augusta - MaineBiz

Momentum Convention

November 10 - Belfast - Slow Money Maine

Capital means more than money

November 14 - Farmington - New Ventures Maine

Business Basics

November 16 - Portland - Maine Center for Entrepreneurial Develop.

Preparing for Maine Angels

November 17 - Brunswick - Maine SBDC

Starting a Small Business in Maine

November 17 - Portland - E2Tech

E2Tech Expo

November 17 - Augusta - Procurement Technical Assistance Center

Federal Small Business Programs

Have Questions? Need assistance? Contact us now:

mainesbdc@maine.edu * 207-780-4420 *  