

OPEN FOR YOUR BUSINESS

The Small Business Resource Center at the Grand Rapids Public Library provides the timely and reliable business information you need to start and manage your small business. Whether looking for company or industry analysis, business plan samples, marketing tips, or current management theories and trends, we provide access to the resources that will make your business a success!

OUR RESOURCES

Use our resources to:

- Write your business plan
- Find sources of financing
- Locate and analyze industry and competitor data
- Assess start-up costs and profitability of your business idea
- Get to know your marketplace and target new customers
- Research local and national demographics
- Keep ahead of your competition with current information on industry trends
- Pinpoint trade associations that provide experts and specific information in your field
- Connect with area organizations that provide in-depth counseling services to entrepreneurs

FIND US

For more information or to get started, visit the Small Business Resource Center in person or online.

Main Library, Lower Level
111 Library Street NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

www.grpl.org/sbrc

CONTACT THE BUSINESS LIBRARIAN

Email businesslibrarian@grpl.org
or call 616.988.5400.

OPEN HOURS

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| Sunday | 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm* |
| Monday | 9:00 am – 9:00 pm |
| Tuesday | 9:00 am – 9:00 pm |
| Wednesday | 9:00 am – 9:00 pm |
| Thursday | 9:00 am – 9:00 pm |
| Friday | 9:00 am – 5:30 pm |
| Saturday | 9:00 am – 5:30 pm |

*Sunday hours Labor Day to Memorial Day



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GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC LIBRARY SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER

WE OFFER

- Smart and friendly librarians to help you track down the right resources for your needs
- Workstations with computers, word processing and spreadsheet software, and printer access
- Free access to powerful specialized business databases
- Internet access and links to the best business resources found on the web
- Reference materials covering a wide variety of small business topics
- Circulating small business books on topics that range from financing to managing to growing your business enterprise
- *Entrepreneur Magazine's* series of books on starting specific types of businesses
- Resource guides on how to get started, financing, legal aspects, essentials of market research and many more
- Selection of current magazines addressing trends and topics in the small business world
- Photocopiers and faxing service
- Referral information for other area business service organizations
- Various resources in Spanish

ONLINE RESEARCH DATABASES

The Grand Rapids Public Library provides free access to powerful research databases offering specialized and proprietary business information. Databases are available at the Library or from home with Internet access and your Grand Rapids Public Library card.

BusinessDecision

Specialized maps and reports that include powerful mapping technology to aid in understanding your market, adding more customers, identifying potential store locations, evaluating competitors and much more.

Reference USA

Multi-faceted business directory for gathering competitor information by searching for businesses by geographical location, type or number of employees.

Small Business Resource Center from Gale

Sample business plans, articles on market research and overviews of many other small business topics make this an excellent all-around resource for the small business owner.

Business and Company Resource Center

Detailed industry and company information, including company profiles and histories, brand information, rankings, investment reports and articles on a broad range of business topics.

Associations Unlimited

Contact information and trade publications for the international, national, state and local nonprofit organizations in your type of business. Contact these associations to learn more about your industry and network with other businesses similar to yours.

ProQuest

Articles from selected Michigan newspapers. Track down local trends and happenings in your industry and get a feel for what other local business owners in the same field are doing.

General Business File ASAP

Excellent article coverage from business magazines, especially useful for finding recent industry stories.

SMART librarians

We have librarians who specialize in subject areas such as business, law, government, and electronic resources. If you need information, we have the right person to help you find it.

EASY resources

All of our resources – both print and online – are free. And with the help of our staff, you'll quickly find out how easy they are to use.

OPEN for your business

Whenever the Main Library is open, so is the Small Business Resource Center. Plus all of our online resources are available 24/7 using your Grand Rapids Public Library card.