



BUSINESS THRIVE GUIDE

STARTING TIPS TO SET YOUR
BUSINESS UP TO THRIVE AS A
BOBC MEMBER!





1. THRIVING BASICS: SETTING A STRONG FOUNDATION

KEY STEPS:

- ✓ REGISTER YOUR BUSINESS WITH YOUR STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT.
- ✓ OBTAIN AN EIN (EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER) FROM THE IRS.
- ✓ OPEN A BUSINESS BANK ACCOUNT TO SEPARATE PERSONAL AND BUSINESS FINANCES.
- ✓ STAY COMPLIANT WITH LICENSES, PERMITS, AND RENEWAL DEADLINES.

TIP: ACCURATE AND UPDATED BUSINESS INFORMATION ENSURES TRUST AND PREPARES YOU FOR FUNDING, GRANTS, AND PARTNERSHIPS.

2. ORGANIZATION & RECORD-KEEPING

BEST PRACTICES:

USE TRUSTED DIGITAL TOOLS TO KEEP DOCUMENTS ACCESSIBLE.
TRACK INCOME, EXPENSES, AND RECEIPTS REGULARLY.
USE ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE LIKE QUICKBOOKS OR WAVE.
ORGANIZE CLIENT RECORDS, CONTRACTS, AND COMMUNICATIONS.
WORK WITH A CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANT AND IT COMPANY TO STAY ON TRACK FINANCIALLY
AND KEEP YOUR BUSINESS INFORMATION SAFE.

TIP: STAYING ORGANIZED SIMPLIFIES TAXES AND STRENGTHENS YOUR BUSINESS CREDIBILITY.

3. EDUCATION: THE KEY TO GROWTH

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF:

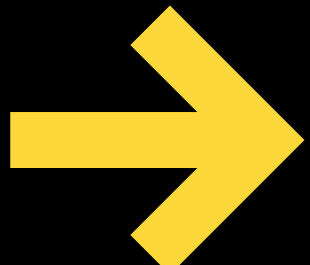
FREE AND DISCOUNTED WORKSHOPS FOR MEMBERS.
EXPERT ADVICE FROM CORPORATE PARTNERS AND EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONALS.
HANDS-ON TRAINING IN FINANCE, MARKETING, OPERATIONS, AND LEADERSHIP.

TIP: CHECK OUR EVENTS CALENDAR AND MEMBER NEWSLETTER FOR UPCOMING WORKSHOPS.

4. MARKETING: BUILD YOUR BRAND, GROW YOUR AUDIENCE

ACTION STEPS:

- CREATE A MARKETING PLAN IDENTIFYING YOUR TARGET AUDIENCE AND GOALS.
 - USE SOCIAL MEDIA TO SHARE YOUR STORY AND ENGAGE YOUR COMMUNITY.
 - BUILD OR MAINTAIN A PROFESSIONAL WEBSITE.
 - KEEP YOUR BUSINESS INFORMATION UPDATED IN THE BOBC DIRECTORY.
- NEED HELP? SCHEDULE A MARKETING CONSULTATION WITH A BOBC VOLUNTEER EXPERT.





5. NETWORKING & COMMUNITY

WHY IT MATTERS:

- BUILD MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ENTREPRENEURS.
- GAIN REFERRALS, COLLABORATIONS, AND PARTNERSHIPS.
- ACCESS CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES.

TIP: ATTEND BOBC MIXERS, EVENTS, AND ONLINE EVENTS TO EXPAND YOUR NETWORK.

6. FUNDING & GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

NEXT STEPS:

- STAY UPDATED ON GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AND FUNDING ALERTS SHARED WITH MEMBERS.
- PREPARE BUSINESS PLANS AND FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS IN ADVANCE.
- EXPLORE LOCAL AND STATE PROGRAMS FOR MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES.

PRO TIP: ATTEND BOBC FUNDING AND FINANCE WORKSHOPS TO APPLY STRATEGICALLY.

7. STAY ENGAGED & KEEP GROWING

ONGOING SUCCESS TIPS:

- ATTEND WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS REGULARLY.
- PARTICIPATE IN THE BOBC ONLINE COMMUNITY.
- SHARE WINS AND CHALLENGES WITH FELLOW ENTREPRENEURS.
- KEEP LEARNING, CONNECTING, AND GIVING BACK.

YOUR SUCCESS STARTS HERE!

AT THE BLACK OWNED BUSINESS COMMUNITY, OUR MISSION IS TO SUPPORT, SHARE, AND ADVOCATE FOR YOUR BUSINESS. MEMBERSHIP GIVES YOU ACCESS TO THE PEOPLE, PROGRAMS, AND RESOURCES TO HELP YOUR BUSINESS THRIVE.