

THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE



The Governor's Office of Small Business Assistance works to establish the State of Texas as the premier place to start, grow and sustain a business. The Small Business Division executes a series of statewide initiatives, disseminating resources and information, identifying legal and financial barriers, and creating partnerships. Through collaborative efforts with federal, state and local agencies and partners, the Governor's Office assists entrepreneurs and businesses with expansion programs, promotion, policies, strategies, and outlooks for business development to help them succeed in the global marketplace.

The Governor's Office of Small Business Assistance offers the following to the business community:

- ★ **Governor's Small Business Forums** provide Texas businesses with timely, relevant, actionable advice to assist them in establishing, operating, sustaining and growing their business. Each forum includes the Governor's Small Business Awards to recognize outstanding businesses in Texas.
- ★ **Governor's Small Business Service Provider Workshops** build capacity amongst chambers of commerce, economic development organizations, SBDCs and other service providers. These workshops work to establish a network of small business service providers to create a mechanism for meaningful handoffs of small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs from one resource to another, assuring a continuum of services.
- ★ **Governor's Small Business Service Provider Grants** are designed to enable Texas-based small business service providers to enhance and diversify projects and activities benefiting the State's small businesses and Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs). The grants, up to \$10,000, afford small business service providers a greater degree of flexibility and creativity of offerings to small businesses, in their respective areas.

The Governor's Office of Small Business Assistance provides information and assistance relating to establishing, operating, or expanding small, midsize, women-owned, minority-owned, disability-owned, and veteran-owned businesses.

The Governor's Office of Small Business Assistance is led by a Small Business Advocate that serves as the principal focal point in the state, as it relates to assisting small businesses and HUBs. The Advocate works to identify conflicting state policy goals, state agency rules, and other barriers that may inhibit small business development. Additionally, the Small Business Advocate performs research, studies, and analyzes of matters affecting the interests of small businesses.

