



SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

The Small Business Administration (SBA) is responsible for ensuring that small businesses, entrepreneurs, innovative startups, and disaster-impacted communities have access to the tools and resources they need to start, recover, build, and grow. The President's 2025 Budget for SBA supports comprehensive and equitable access to business technical assistance services, affordable capital, and Government contracting opportunities.

The Budget requests \$971 million in discretionary budget authority for 2025, a 25-percent increase over the 2021 enacted level at the beginning of the Administration. The Budget continues to build on the historic small business growth achieved under this Administration by expanding access to capital, counseling services, contracting opportunities, and disaster recovery assistance.

The President's 2025 Budget:

- **Expands Access to Capital for Small Businesses.** Building on the historic growth in small business applications under the President and Vice President's leadership, the Budget supports historic lending levels across SBA's business lending programs, including: the 7(a) business loan guarantee; capital for major fixed assets, otherwise known as a 504 loan guarantee; the Small Business Investment Company (SBIC) program; and Microloan programs. The over \$58 billion in lending provided in the Budget would address the need for greater access to affordable capital, particularly in underserved communities. The Budget proposes a new direct 7(a) lending program, which would further enable SBA to address gaps in access to small dollar lending. In addition, increasing the authorized lending level for the SBIC program by 16 percent to \$7 billion would significantly expand the availability of venture capital funding for small businesses.
- **Supports Disaster Mitigation and Recovery.** As communities across the Nation face increased risks from natural disasters, the Budget continues to support SBA's Disaster Loan Program, a program that is vital to ensuring SBA can continue to administer low-interest disaster loans that provide a financial lifeline for homeowners and businesses recovering from natural disasters.
- **Delivers Equitable Access to Counseling and Training Resources.** The Budget provides \$20 million for the Community Navigator Pilot Program, which works with community organizations to provide and amplify awareness of free and low-cost business counseling and training resources. Community Navigators are reducing resource and access barriers in underserved communities, including veterans, women, rural communities, and communities of color.

- **Invests in Innovators.** The Budget provides \$30 million to support SBA's Growth Accelerator Fund Competition, Regional Innovation Clusters, and the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program to provide entrepreneurs at various technical readiness levels with a network of technical assistance providers including accelerators, State and local economic development agencies, colleges and universities, and other technology-based economic development entities. This technical assistance provides small business entrepreneurs access to the tools, networks, and services they need to commercialize cutting-edge innovation and bring solutions to the market.
- **Invests in Veteran-Owned Small Businesses.** In January 2023, SBA began accepting applications for the Veteran Small Business Certification program to expand small business contracting opportunities for veterans. The Budget provides \$16 million to support this important program, including the cost to review certification and recertification applications for veteran and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses.