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Web Based Business Information on a Budget

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NELA TO-DO

1. **Is starting and running a small business right for you? What kinds of business should you choose?**
 - Definition of a small business.
 - How many succeed and fail?
 - The U.S. Small Business Administration's web site offers a great deal of guidance with the initial steps of deciding to start a business.

U.S. Small Business Administration

<http://www.sba.gov/>

Starting Your Business – FAQ's (U.S. Small Business Administration)

<http://www.sba.gov/starting/indexfaqs.html>

Starting Your Business – Your First Steps (U.S. Small Business Administration)

<http://www.sba.gov/starting/indexsteps.html>

Starting Your Business – Startup Kit (U.S. Small Business Administration)

<http://www.sba.gov/starting/indexstartup.html>

- InfoUSA

InfoUSA.com

<http://www.infousa.com/toolkit/home/text/>

Starting Your Business

http://www.infousa.com/toolkit/text/P01_0000.htm?

The Right Small Business for You

http://www.infousa.com/toolkit/text/P01_0500.htm?

Choosing a Type of Business

http://www.infousa.com/toolkit/text/P01_0510.htm?

Evaluating Your Chance for Success

http://www.infousa.com/toolkit/home/text/P01_2000.htm?

Getting Started

http://www.infousa.com/toolkit/home/text/P01_4000.htm?

2. Researching your industry.

- **Trade & industry associations are often the best sources of industry information.**
[What is a trade / industry association and what do they do?]

National Restaurant Association

<http://www.restaurant.org/>

- **You can search for trade & industry associations using the following sites:**

Gateway to Associations Online

<http://www.asaenet.org/Gateway/OnlineAssocSlist.html>

Associations on the Net (Internet Public Library)

<http://www.ipl.org/ref/AON/>

3. Getting general assistance and financing

- **Small Business Development Centers – what they are and what they do...**

SBA – Small Business Development Centers

<http://www.sba.gov/SBDC/>

Association of Small Business Development Centers

<http://www.asbdc-us.org/cover.html>

SBDC National Information Clearinghouse

<http://sbdcnet.utsa.edu/>

New Hampshire Small Business Development Center

<http://www.nhsbdc.org/>

- **State Government (Secretary of State, Economic Development, Taxation, Labor, etc.)**

New Hampshire Business Finance Authority

<http://www.state.nh.us/bfa/bra.htm>

New Hampshire's Office of Business & Industrial Development

<http://www.ded.state.nh.us/obid/>

Guide to NH State Government Information by Subject

<http://www.state.nh.us/agency/stinfo.html>

- **Advice from the SBA**

SBA – Counseling Help

<http://www.sba.gov/starting/indexcounseling.html>

SBA – New Hampshire Office

<http://www.sba.gov/regions/states/nh/>

- **Other advice**

InfoUSA – Getting Financing for Your Business

http://www.infousa.com/toolkit/home/text/P10_0500.htm?

4. **Creating a business plan**

- **General advice**

Starting Your Business – Business Plans (U.S. Small Business Administration)

<http://www.sba.gov/starting/indexbusplans.html>

InfoUSA – Writing Your Business Plan

http://www.infousa.com/toolkit/home/text/P02_5001.htm

NH SBDC – A Guide to Writing a Business Plan for the Small Business Owner

<http://www.nhsbdc.org/busplans.htm>

NH SBDC – A Sample Business Plan Outline

<http://www.nhsbdc.org/outline.htm>

- **Finding information about your market (include difficulty of getting low-cost, up-to-date demographic information)**

American Factfinder – Community Profiles

<http://factfinder.census.gov/>

Manchester Chamber of Commerce

<http://www.Manchester-Chamber.org/>

Chamber of Commerce International Directory

<http://chamber-of-commerce.com/>

- **Finding information about your competition**

InfoUSA Sales Leads and Mailing Lists

<http://www.infousa.com/...>

Economic Census

<http://www.census.gov/epcd/www/econ97.html>

County Business Patterns

<http://www.census.gov/epcd/cbp/view/cbpview.html>

- **Online examples of business plans and related links**

SBDC National Information Clearinghouse

<http://sbdnet.utsa.edu/bplanbib.htm>

<http://sbdnet.utsa.edu/bplans.htm>

5. Registering your business and other paperwork

- **Form of organization**

Starting Your Business – Startup Kit (U.S. Small Business Administration)

<http://www.sba.gov/starting/getting.html>

New Hampshire Small Business Development Center – Different Forms of Business Organization in New Hampshire

<http://www.nhsbdc.org/incorp.htm>

- **Taxes**

New Hampshire Small Business Development Center – Starting Your Business

<http://www.nhsbdc.org/incorp.htm>

State of New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration

<http://www.state.nh.us/revenue/revenue.htm>

- **State wage and hour laws.**

State of New Hampshire Economic and Labor Market Information Home Page

<http://www.nhworks.state.nh.us/lmipage.htm>

- **Licenses, etc.**

6. Finding suppliers

Thomas Register

<http://www.thomasregister.com/>

Thomas Food Industry Register

<http://www.tfir.com/>

Trade Show Central

<http://www.tscentral.com/>

7. Additional sources of information

- **Franchises:**

The Franchise Registry

<http://www.franchiseregistry.com/>

International Franchise Association

<http://www.franchise.org/>

SBA: Franchise Workshop

<http://www.sbaonline.sba.gov/workshops/franchises/>

Entrepreneur Magazine's Franchise Channel

<http://www.entrepreneurmag.com/franchise/>

Federal Trade Commission – Franchises and Business Opportunities

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/franchise/netfran.htm>

BISON – The Franchise Network

<http://www.bison1.com/>

- **General Small Business Information, e.g. business plans, industry profiles marketing, etc.**

EntrepreneurMag.com

<http://www.entrepreneurmag.com/>

Many internet resources / pathfinders listed at:

SBDC National Information Clearinghouse

<http://sbdnet.utsa.edu/>