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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
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
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://sbdcnet.utsa.edu/bplanbib.htm
http://sbdcnet.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
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://sbdcnet.utsa.edu/