

Arizona Microbusiness
Loan Program

Helping Arizona's smallest businesses succeed



Overview

Small businesses, particularly those with less than five employees known as “microbusinesses,” are the heartbeat of Arizona’s economy. Microbusinesses drive economic development and investment as well as create jobs for thousands across the state. Making funding available to help these microbusinesses grow their businesses will impact individuals, families, and communities across the state.

Coverage Across Arizona



Find your
local lending
partner

Lenders are available to help you today. Microbusiness owners who are interested in applying for a microbusiness loan can directly visit their regional lending partner application page by scanning or clicking the QR code.

Applicant requirements



Five or fewer employees



Owned and operated
in Arizona

Loan funds may be used for



Operation of the microbusiness,
including job creation and retention



Working capital



Acquisition or improvement
of real property



Acquisition of machinery
and equipment



Refinancing of debt obligations

How it works

The State of Arizona has designated \$5 million to be available to Arizona's microbusinesses in the form of loans administered by the Office of Economic Opportunity in partnership with Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) and non-profit community lending partners across the state.

- Microbusiness loans can range from \$2,000 - \$50,000 per qualified business. Our current regional lending partners include Growth Partners Arizona, Native Community Capital, Community Investment Corporation, Groundswell, Border Financial Resources, and Verde Valley Regional Economic Organization.
- CDFI lenders and community non-profit partners will provide loan recipients the financial education and support needed to improve the outcome of each loan.
- Partners like Startup Tucson, Local First Arizona, Bureau of Indian Affairs Division of Capital Investment, Navajo Nation State Small Business Credit Initiative, Northern Technology and Business Incubator and others will supplement awarded microbusiness loans by offering financial education and training, business planning and forecasting, accounting, credit counseling and other areas to accompany funding to ensure successful growth and development of microbusinesses loan recipients and deliver positive outcomes for borrowers.
- Visionary state leadership from Arizona's Executive and Legislative branches support and champion public investment designed to facilitate economic growth and development and foster job creation in every corner of the state.

By the Numbers

The impact of microbusinesses in Arizona local communities



Arizona has **85,491 microbusinesses** employing 155,449 people (average 2.1 employees per business).



Microbusinesses make up 40% of all businesses in Arizona and employ approximately 5% of the total Arizona workforce.



The top three counties with the largest percentage of total employment working at microbusiness establishments are Yavapai (9%), Santa Cruz (8%) and Gila (7%).

The top three industries with the largest percentage of total employment working at microbusiness establishments



Professional, scientific and technical services
17.3%



Real estate and rental leasing
17.0%



Other services
13.8%

**Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Q2 2023*