



Starting a New Business

With an abundance of business-building resources, Dumas Texas is an outstanding environment to start a new business! This page will outline some of the key first steps in starting your small business or franchise, and connect you with resource organizations that can help you get started.

"No one plans to fail; they just fail to plan" -Unknown

The first step in starting a new business is planning. Implementing a sound business plan improves your chances for having a successful business by developing solutions to future opportunities and challenges in advance. The process of developing a business plan does not have to be difficult - the key is to follow a structured approach and to develop the plan as a series of logical steps or sections.

Benefits of writing a business plan include:

- The creative thought process involved forces a critical, objective and non-emotional look at the business.
- The completed plan provides a "road map" or operating tool for managing the business and lowering the risk of failure.
- The plan forms the basis for communicating your ideas to others (i.e., lenders and investors) in order to obtain financing for the business.

The WTAMU Small Business Development Center specializes in helping aspiring business-owners write business plans and marketing plans, developing and incorporating financial projections to round out the package. Call the WTAMU SBDC at 806.372.5151 or visit their website at www.smallbusinessdevelopmentcenter.com. They work by appointment only.

The WTAMU Small Business Development Center can also help with the following steps in business ownership:

1. Register for a free "Introduction to Business Ownership" workshop
<http://www.smallbusinessdevelopmentcenter.com/seminars.htm>
2. File a DBA (Assumed Name)
3. Download a Business Plan Outline
4. Download a Financial Projection Worksheet
5. Request free & confidential consulting

For information on doing business in Dumas, please contact the Dumas Economic Development Corporation at 806-934-3332 or check out their website at www.dumasedc.org. Your start-up business may qualify to be included in the Dumas Business Growth and Development program designed to help new businesses succeed. Qualified businesses may be enrolled into the program and become eligible for small grants. (See Dumas Business Growth and Development rules and guidelines on www.dumasedc.org)