

# *Financial Assistance*

1. *Does the City of Springfield have any financial programs that specifically assist small businesses?*

**Check out:** [http://www.springfieldmo.gov/egov/planning\\_development/grants/index.html](http://www.springfieldmo.gov/egov/planning_development/grants/index.html)

**Or call:** Ann Peck with the City of Springfield at (417) 864-1098 or  
Rusty Worley with the Urban Districts Alliance at (417) 831-6200

## **Small Business Loan Program**

Offers gap financing with a below-market interest rate over a 15 to 20 year amortization (10 years on equipment). It may be used for acquisition if jobs will be created and/or for rehabilitation. The maximum amount is based on available funding through Community Development Block Grants and program income. Over \$40 million has been loaned (\$14.7 million in City funds and \$25.8 million privately) since 1984.

## **Facade Loan Program**

Provides up to \$40,000 loans for 10 years with five years deferred principal and interest and payments with 5 percent interest starting in Year Six. Over \$1.2 million has been loaned since 1997.

## **Springfield Finance and Development Corporation**

This program uses funding through investments by local financial institutions to make loans of up to \$75,000, generally for five years, at interest rates of prime or below with a floor of 6 percent. The project must contribute to the SFDC's goals of attracting, retaining or creating new jobs. Over \$1.4 million has been loaned since 1998.

## **Property Tax Abatement**

Property taxes on improvements may be abated for 10 years by the Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority. Property taxes on improvements may also be abated by 100 percent for the first 10 years and 50 percent for the next 15 years for projects with an adopted redevelopment plan and a designated redevelopment corporation approved by City Council.

## **Developer Agreements**

When a developer pays for public improvements needed in conjunction with new retail development, he or she may be reimbursed through new sales taxes generated by the development with a 3 to 5 year payback and interest of 2 percent over the latest City bond issue.

(Over)

2. ***Does the City of Springfield sponsor any events to help small businesses with technical and financial assistance?***

Yes, the Urban Districts Alliance works with the City of Springfield to host quarterly informational sessions for small businesses on financial and business related issues for Center City. Please contact the UDA at 417-831-6200 to inquire about the upcoming schedule or to suggest a topic.

3. ***Are there other loans or grants available?***

([www.sba.gov/starting\\_business/financing/basics.html](http://www.sba.gov/starting_business/financing/basics.html))

The United States Small Business Administration guarantees loans made and disbursed by private lenders to small businesses when funding is otherwise unavailable on reasonable terms.

4. ***Do you need start-up capital?***

The Small Business Administration can help you calculate your start-up costs.

([www.sba.gov/starting\\_business/financing/startup.html](http://www.sba.gov/starting_business/financing/startup.html))

Get a list of venture capital firms that are licensed small business investment companies (SBIC).

(<http://www.sba.gov/aboutsba/sbaprograms/inv/forinvestors/index.html>)

Learn more about venture capital on the National Venture Capital Association website.

([www.nvca.org](http://www.nvca.org))

5. ***What do I need to know about financing a business from the IRS?***

(<http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=98434,00.html>)