

Tulsa is a leader in the nation when it comes to programs dedicated to encouraging small business to thrive. These are some of the resources geared specifically to aid entrepreneurs locally and statewide. For a full list of the Tulsa Business Journal's Entrepreneur's Resource Guide, go to www.tulsabusiness.com.

Local Peer and Civic Entities

The Tulsa Collaboratorium
A startup to support startups, The Tulsa Collaboratorium is a nontraditional entrepreneurial resource center designed to provide discounted, shared space; hands-on business coaching; education; networking; and access to the specific resources that will grow a business. The Collaboratorium opened May 1 in downtown Tulsa in space donated by Kanbar Properties. First-place winners of the Tulsa Entrepreneurial Spirit Award receive a free one-year lease in The Collaboratorium. The Collaboratorium is seeking participants and sponsors. Entrepreneurs operating businesses in Tulsa and those with a good idea for a business qualify to apply for participation in The Collaboratorium. Visit www.tulsacollab.com to apply. Office: 111 W. Fifth St. Phone: 918.595.3672 Contact: Lou Ann Lissonnet

Counselors to America's Small Business (SCORE)
SCORE, the Counselors to America's Small Business, is a nationwide volunteer association dedicated to helping entrepreneurs and those already in business desiring advice. SCORE is a resource partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration. The Tulsa chapter has about 30 active members representing a variety of business experience. There is no charge for receiving advice from a SCORE counselor. Free monthly business planning workshops are held at Hardesty and Rudisill libraries. Office: 907 S. Detroit Ave., Suite 1012 Phone: 918.581.7462 Contact: Dave Mosinski

Entrepreneurs of Tulsa Inc.
Entrepreneurs of Tulsa Inc. is an organization dedicated to helping Tulsa area entrepreneurs start and grow successful businesses. Members include would-be entrepreneurs, startup business owners, mid- and later-stage business owners and professionals who serve such ventures. Since 1987, Entrepreneurs of Tulsa has been assisting its members by providing information on how to start and run a successful business, making referrals to other organizations that can be of assistance and mentoring, encouraging and providing emotional support to entrepreneurs. ET meetings are the last Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. at Baxter's Interurban Grill, 717 S. Houston Ave. Office: 401 S. Boston Ave., Suite 1810 Phone:

918.695.5352 Contact: Jeffrey Stoermer Entrepreneurs' Organization Oklahoma Chapter The Entrepreneurs' Organization

is a global network of more than 7,300 business owners in 42 countries. Founded

in 1987 by a group of young entrepreneurs, EO is the catalyst that enables

entrepreneurs to learn and grow from one another, leading to greater business success and

an enriched personal life. The EO Oklahoma Chapter was founded in April 2007 and

serves both Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Current members are ages 30 to 46, have

gross annual sales ranging from \$1 million to \$48 million and employ two to

160 in their businesses. To be eligible for membership, candidates must be under 50

years of age, be the founder, co-founder or controlling shareholder of a business that

has gross annual revenues in excess of \$1 million. EO is a member-led organization

of peers that become part of a confidential forum meeting once a month. In

forum, members discuss business and personal and family matters, gaining insight and experience from

their peers. EO forum is often equated to having an independent board of directors.

Members also meet once a month as a chapter for learning and social activities,

with the goal of creating once-in-a-lifetime experiences. Additionally, there are regional and international events

members may participate in. EO Oklahoma has partnerships with McAfee & Taft, Trailblazer Capital,

American Bank, First National Bank, Tulsa Business Journal, okcBIZ and i2E. Offices: Tulsa and

Oklahoma City Phone: 918-409-5330 Tulsa Economic Development Commission Tulsa Economic Development Corporation

corporation, was organized in 1979 to empower, encourage and finance small businesses as engines

of economic development. Through its "creative capital" brand of loan programs, TEDC provides progressive

lending to promising businesses using both public and private resources. As a direct lender,

TEDC partners with the City of Tulsa's CDBG Program, U.S. Small Business Administration, U.S.

Department of Treasury's CDFI Fund, U.S. Department of Agriculture and private funders. As a

facilitator in cooperation with financial institutions throughout the nation, the organization delivers the SBA's

504 loan program and accommodates government guaranties on behalf of banks and small business

borrowers. Through TEDC's Business Accelerator, small business owners learn, practice and apply strategic business

concepts using the Kauffman Foundation's FastTrac Programs. Additionally, TEDC Creative Capital Co. LLC, a community development entity, works with both federal and state tax credit programs available to eligible businesses. Office: 907 S. Detroit Ave., Suite 1001 Phone: 918.585.8332 Contact: Rose Washington Rentie, executive director North Tulsa Economic Development Initiative nTEDI, the Mayor's development initiative, was created to positively impact the development and economic success of north Tulsa. Office: 907 S. Detroit Ave., Suite 1001 Phone: 918-585-8332 Contact: Rose Washington, executive director Tulsa Metro Chamber of Commerce SourceLink Small Business Resource Center To help Tulsa's small businesses become successful, the Tulsa Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce has developed the SourceLink Small Business Resource Center. The center serves as an informational resource for new and expanding businesses. To meet this need, the center features computer workstations with specialized business databases, which include:

Tulsa-area business demographics database: Includes information on more than 50,000 businesses in an 11-county region in northeastern Oklahoma. These businesses can be targeted to produce a customized list using location, industry and employee count to pinpoint your target market. The download option for these listings is available to only members of the Tulsa Metro Chamber. Nationwide population and consumer demographics: Research by specific location criteria and discover the demographic makeup by age, race, income and more in the area of your new or expanding business. Salary assessor: Allows you to evaluate whether your employees' compensation is comparable to other companies like yours in Tulsa or throughout the nation. You may specify your company's industry, sales volume and size to narrow the field. The salary assessor program contains more than 6,500 job titles, and every title will provide you a basic job description to assure an accurate comparison. Relocation assessor: A useful tool when considering hiring an employee from another location in the U.S. The relocation assessor will compare the cost of living expenses from one city to another. www.sourcelinktulsa.com: The SourceLink website serves as a central referral system to more than 65 nonprofit and government agency resource partners in the Tulsa metro area that provide entrepreneurial and small business assistance. This free resource makes it easier than ever to find the assistance you need

to start or grow your business. The SourceLink Small Business Center is an extension of the site's services. Personal assistance is provided by Chamber staff to ensure you find the information you need. The SourceLink Small Business Center's research resources are made available free of charge and open to the public by appointment only. Office: 2 W. Second St., Suite 150 Phone: 918.560.0275 Contact: Warren Unsicker, small business program manager

Tulsa's Young Professionals TYPros' mission is to attract and retain young professionals to the Tulsa metro region and develop the next generation of leaders. TYPros hosts more than 50 events a year, ranging from professional development seminars to business and social networking events and community philanthropic opportunities. Office: 2 W. Second St., Suite 150 Phone: 918.560.0286 Contact: Brian Paschal, executive director

The Forge: TYPros' Business Development Center The Forge is a place where raw ideas and passionate Tulsans are shaped into successful, sustainable businesses. The Forge provides a trusted environment and network of people and information needed to avoid the pitfalls that small but growing businesses face. The Forge includes a physical space for small businesses, meeting place for entrepreneurs and resource of knowledge for creating the next generation of business leaders. Office: 206 S. Cheyenne Ave. Phone: 918.574.8700 Contact: Karisha Arnett, executive director

BRIDGE Networking & City Business Expo Hosted by the City of Tulsa, BRIDGE Networking & City Business Expo is an annual event that provides opportunities for businesses to display products and services while connecting and gathering information from businesses and resources in the Tulsa community. Office: 175 E. Second St., 15th floor Phone: 918.596.9875 Contact: Michelle Allen

Tulsa Library Research Center The Tulsa City-County Library Research Center can provide research tutorials from the very general to the very specific and offer tours to business and professional groups tailored to that group's focus. Library-goers may research businesses, potential customers and employers; build a dream business with entrepreneurial resources; or get the numbers with stats, demographics and GIS mapping. Office: 400 Civic Center Phone: 918.596.7945

Resources on Campus Langston University-Tulsa Center for Entrepreneurial Studies & Research Langston University offers a Master in Entrepreneurial Studies degree with classes conducted at the Center for

Entrepreneurial Studies & Research at Langston University-Tulsa. Office: 700 N. Greenwood Ave. Phone: 918.877.8

Contact: Surya Singh, dean Oklahoma State University Center for Executive & Professional Development The

OSU Center for Executive & Professional Development in the Spears School of Business offers

executive and management development programs to business and industry. Topics such as strategic planning,

critical thinking skills, conflict management, improving emotional intelligence, negotiation skills, finance for the nonfin

manager, quality customer service, team building, corporate entrepreneurship, ethics, avoiding fraud and abuse in

the workplace, crucial communications and improving business writing are examples of professional development pr

These programs include public, on-site programs, conferences, and retreat and conference planning. Distance learn

graduate degrees in business administration, information systems and entrepreneurship, as well as other online

graduate programs, certificates and courses, are also available. Office: 215 Business Building, Stillwater Phone:

405.744.5208 or 866.678.3933 Contact: Julie Weathers, director OSU Inventors Assistance Service The IAS is

a nonprofit, state-funded service that helps inventors navigate the invention process from idea to

the marketplace through education, information, and referrals. At Oklahoma State University, IAS provides workshop

and individual training on the patent process and intellectual property protection. IAS has a

strong working relationship with the regional U.S. Patent Library. Office: 395 Cordell South, Stillwater

Phone: 877.577.7632 Contact: Tom Bertenshaw OSU Patent & Trademark Library The Patent & Trademark

Depository Library at Oklahoma State University is the only PTDL in the state. It

offers assistance with preliminary patent searches and trademark searches by appointment. The services offered

by the library are free. Office: 501 Edmon Low Library, Stillwater Phone: 405.744.6546 Oklahoma

State University School of Entrepreneurship The OSU School of Entrepreneurship is housed in the

Spears School of Business and provides advanced, educationally based competencies in entrepreneurship through

offered for students with majors, minors, MBA concentrations, master's degrees or doctoral studies in

entrepreneurship. The school has a universitywide focus, connecting entrepreneurship with disciplines across the ca

In addition, the department conducts research that informs entrepreneurial practice. It organizes national programs

on best practices in the entrepreneurship classroom and curriculum development. Through experiential learning, the

department provides a link between the Riata Center for Entrepreneurship at OSU, which is

largely focused on practice and academics. Together, both units foster greater partnerships with academic units and state entities in supporting entrepreneurship activities within Oklahoma. Office: 104A Business Building, Stillwater Phone: 405.744.3325 Contact: Michael Morris, department head and N. Malone Mitchell Jr. chair

Riata Center for Entrepreneurship at Oklahoma State University The Riata Center for Entrepreneurship in the OSU Spears School of Business offers a diverse portfolio of experiential programs that immerse students in entrepreneurship, as well as outreach programs for entrepreneurs and aspiring entrepreneurs across the state. The center, in conjunction with the OSU School of Entrepreneurship, seeks to build a vibrant culture of entrepreneurship in Oklahoma. Core programs support student entrepreneurs, women entrepreneurs, Native American entrepreneurs, a cross-campus business plan competition, technology-based entrepreneurial internships, bootcamps for entrepreneurs, a bootcamp for disabled veterans and related initiatives. C 101 Business Building, Stillwater Phone: 405.744.7552 Contact: Nola Miyasaki, Norman C. Stevenson director

Rogers State University Innovation Center The Innovation Center at Rogers State University is charged with fostering economic development and addressing the educational needs of area business and industry. The center provides business counseling services and training for area entrepreneurs and expanding businesses in northeastern Oklahoma. It offers competitive business intelligence services to clients who want to identify new customers, better understand their competition, guide marketing strategies and add value to the products and services they sell. The center also conducts feasibility studies related to biofuel production. Office: 2000 University Drive, Claremore Phone: 918.343.7533 Contact: Ray Brown

Tulsa Community College Center for Creativity The Center for Creativity is Tulsa Community College's 48,000-SF, \$22 million, award-winning downtown Tulsa campus building. Opened in fall 2009, it is a space for transformational education and anchor for creative and aesthetic development in Tulsa. Through the Center for Creativity, TCC hopes to spur community and entrepreneurial development by providing studio space, meeting rooms and equipment for collaborations between students, the City of Tulsa, area businesses, organizations and other public education programs. TCC will educate a next-generation work force in computer information systems, journalism, communications, radio and broadcasting, television production, instruction and the visual arts. The facility includes one of Oklahoma's only commercial sustainable green

rooftops, a large event center and the newest technology and equipment to support its growing programs. Office: 909 S. Boston Ave. Phone: 918.595.7000 Contact: Flo Potts, provost for TCC Metro Campus Launch: Your Entrepreneurial Journey Launch: Your Entrepreneurial Journey is Tulsa Community College's noncredit program for aspiring entrepreneurs to take their startup concept to operating business in 16 weeks. It provides local entrepreneurs the resources and information to create a successful business startup. The program utilizes local business leaders as thought leaders throughout the 16 weeks to guide the participants through critical steps required to take idea to the marketplace. Sessions include: Building Your Business Model, Understanding Your Market Through Research, Intellectual Property and Building Your Revenue Model. The sessions are held at different locations throughout Tulsa, including the GableGotwals law office, TCC Center for Creativity and SpiritBank. Office: 10300 E. 81st St. Phone: 918.595.7723 Contact: Carol Messer, provost for TCC Southeast Campus Tulsa Technology Center Business and Industry Services As Tulsa Tech works to create a world-class work force for area industries and employers, the school also focuses its resources on programs and services designed to help businesses grow. Services include work force development, customized training, process and product improvement, and both organizational and performance consultation. If companies need off-site training, choices include Tulsa Tech's four campuses, a mobile computer lab, mobile classrooms or the 50,000-SF training center, which includes facilities for training and development. Office: 3638 S. Memorial Drive Phone: 918.828.5400 and 918.828.5429 The University of Tulsa International Business & Entrepreneurship Institute The International Business & Entrepreneurship Institute in the Collins College of Business serves as a gateway to the "real world" of international and entrepreneurial ventures for graduate and undergraduate students. The institute supplements classroom learning with programs that provide students with practical experiences in business competitions, entrepreneurial and international business clubs, internships, seminars and international study and employment opportunities. The IBEI partners with entrepreneurial and international business organizations in the state to support small- and medium-sized enterprises in an effort to assist entrepreneurs, promote export sales and stimulate international business activity. Office: 800 S. Tucker Drive Phone: 918.631.2684 Contact: Claire Cornell, assistant director Northeastern State University RiverHawk Center

Creativity & Innovation Supported by the College of Business & Technology on the university's

Tahlequah campus, the RiverHawk Center for Creativity & Innovation aims to encourage student entrepreneurship and establish a business incubator program. Students chosen by the RiverHawk Center can receive up to a \$5,000 grant to nurture their business ideas. The College of Business

& Technology will support the center by providing workspace; access to computers, printers, fax machines and other supplies; and infrastructure. Faculty of the college will also mentor program candidates. Funding is for one academic year, although students may apply for renewal, and funds can be used for travel and materials directly related to the project but

may not be used for salary or benefits. Office: 700 N. Grand Ave., Tahlequah

Phone: 918.444.2900 Contact: Ben Ofili, director Primary State Resources Oklahoma's Economic Development Gen

The mission of the EDGE Policy Board is to bolster Oklahoma's long-term economic growth

by investing the earnings from the EDGE endowment in the state's knowledge infrastructure. Technology-based research and development, commercialization of technology and entrepreneurial business successes attract capital, high-paying jobs, expand and diversify the state's economy and provide greater prosperity for Oklahomans now and in the future. Office: 800 Research Parkway, Suite 330, Oklahoma City Phone:

405.319.8288 Oklahoma Department of Commerce The Oklahoma Department of Commerce is the primary economic development arm of the state government. Its mission is to increase the quantity and

quality of jobs available in Oklahoma by supporting communities, supporting the growth of existing businesses and entrepreneurs, attracting new businesses and promoting the development and availability of a skilled work force. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce offers a number of services and tools to support Oklahoma entrepreneurs with business startup and existing business retention and expansion.

Office: 900 N. Stiles Ave., Oklahoma City Tulsa office: 700 N. Greenwood Ave., Suite

1400 Phone: 405.815.6552 and 918.594.8116 Whether you are starting a new business or trying to maintain or grow an existing small business in Oklahoma, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce makes it a priority to provide the information and connection to resources you

need. At the OKStartup.com website, you can find vital information, documents and resources needed

to build and sustain a business. Office: 900 N. Stiles Ave., Oklahoma City Phone:

405.815.5146 Contact: Shelli Todd Oklahoma Minority Supplier Development Council The Oklahoma Minority Supplier

Council issues Minority Business Enterprise certification for minority-owned businesses in Oklahoma, which encourages

corporations and private entities to increase the amount of purchasing and procurement with certified

MBEs. Office: 900 N. Stiles Ave., Oklahoma City Phone: 405.815.5218 or 800.879.6552 Contact: Ken

Talley Women-Owned Business Certification Regarding women business owners in Oklahoma, the Oklahoma Department of

Commerce provides a women-owned business certification. To qualify for certification in general, the female

applicant must be in full control of the operations of the business and have

51 percent or more ownership. Office: 900 N. Stiles Ave., Oklahoma City Phone: 405.815.5143

or 800.879.6552 Contact: Rana Steeds Commerce Business Solutions Make sure your business is taking

advantage of any qualifying state incentives by reviewing your options on the Department of

Commerce website or calling the Commerce Business Solutions group. Oklahoma has been recognized nationally

for its outstanding business incentives - a wide range of tax credits, refunds and

work force training benefits to help your company succeed. Office: 900 N. Stiles Ave.,

Oklahoma City Phone: 405.815.5262 Contact: Martin Roberts Executive Pulse The Oklahoma Department of Commerce

has partnered with state utilities to invest in Executive Pulse, a state-of-the-art business intelligence

system that helps communities make better, strategic decisions about how to best apply economic,

work force and community development resources. Executive Pulse will be available to all state

communities interested in retaining and growing companies in their communities and regions. The Web-based

database and communications platform allow economic, community and work force development organizations to connect

to meet the needs of existing companies. Office: 900 N. Stiles Ave., Oklahoma City

Phone: 405.815.5114 Contact: Vikki Dearing Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science & Technology

OCAST is a small, high-impact agency funded by state appropriations and governed by a

board of directors with members from both the private and public sectors. OCAST works

in partnership with the private sector, higher education, CareerTech and the Oklahoma Department of

Commerce. OCAST-funded research projects are first reviewed by out-of-state science and business experts and

ranked according to scientific merit and commercial potential. OCAST is the state's only agency that has the sole focus of technology - its development, transfer and commercialization. The agency also works closely with its strategic partners - the Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance, Oklahoma Technology Commercialization Center and Inventors Assistance Service - to improve conditions for Oklahoma's tech businesses. OCAST administers or provides state oversight for Oklahoma Applied Research Support, Oklahoma Health Research Program, Oklahoma Nanotechnology Applications Project, Oklahoma Plant Science Research, Oklahoma Seed Capital Fund, Oklahoma Technology Commercialization Center, Technology Business Finance Program, Inventors Assistance Service, Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance, R&D Intern Partnerships, Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer. Office: 755 Research Parkway, Suite 110, Oklahoma City Tulsa office: 700 N. Greenwood Ave., Suite 1400 Phone: 405.524.1357 and 918.594.8118 Contact: Mark Thompson, associate director i2E Inc.

With office locations in Oklahoma City and Tulsa, i2E Inc. provides a suite of entrepreneurial development and access-to-capital programs that help new innovation-based companies gain a solid footing as they work to take a new technology to market. The private, nonprofit corporation, founded in 1997, provides a structured process where entrepreneurs gain insight into the day-to-day task of building a company and access-to-capital sources from state appropriated programs and private investment funds that have provided critical funding for dozens of Oklahoma companies. The i2E commercialization process was recognized in 2009 with an international economic development award and has served as a template for similar programs throughout the nation. This year, it received an economic development award from the State Science & Technology Institute for the proof-of-concept fund it manages. A new angel group of investors is considering Oklahoma investment opportunities monthly, while i2E recently was awarded a \$1 million grant by the Federal Economic Development Administration to expand its role in providing mentoring to the state's entrepreneurs. The EDA award was matched with support from five local partners. In mid-2009, i2E launched the SeedStep Angels, which has become the largest angel group in the region. It is composed of high-net-worth Oklahomans who are seeking investment opportunities among local technology-based companies. The OCAST Technology Business Finance Program is a proof-of-concept fund, with awards of \$100,000.

The fund includes a payback provision that has yielded a return of 37 percent of original awards, which are then used for future proof-of-concept awards. The Oklahoma Seed Capital Fund provides seed and startup equity financing that attracts co-investors to the funding opportunities. i2E also has been heavily involved in fostering new entrepreneurs through the Donald W. Reynolds Governor's Cup business plan competition, which provides experience in research, writing and presenting business plans and the i2E Fellows program places entrepreneurial students in startup companies for a 10-week, paid fellowship every summer. i2E's impact on the growth of the state's knowledge-based economy will continue to expand as it adds to its capabilities to serve Oklahoma's entrepreneurial community. Office: 2 W. Second St., Suite 210 Phone: 918.582.5592 Contact: David Thomison, vice president for enterprise services Other Statewide Resources Oklahoma Business Incubator Association The Oklahoma Business Incubator Association provides entrepreneurs a one-stop location for starting a business in their hometown. Incubators nurture young startups and help them to survive and grow during the startup period when they are most vulnerable. Incubators provide hands-on management assistance, access to capital and exposure to critical or technical support services. Membership in the OBIA is not limited to incubator managers, sponsors or developers. Membership also includes area chamber of commerce's, economic development organizations and businesses that provide services to incubator tenants. Office: P.O. Box 26980, Oklahoma City Phone: 580.718.4262 Contact: Bonnie Cook, president Oklahoma Experiment Program to Stimulate Competitive Research EPSCoR is funded through a five-year, \$15-million National Science Foundation Research Infrastructure Improvement Grant. Oklahoma EPSCoR's central goal is to increase the state's research competitiveness through strategic support of research instruments and facilities, research collaborations and education and research programs. Office: 415 Whitehurst Hall, Stillwater Phone: 405.744.9964 Contact: Jerry Malay, program director Oklahoma Venture Forum The Oklahoma Venture Forum is a nonprofit networking organization of business professionals devoted to supporting the relationships between public and private entities providing capital and noncapital resources to Oklahoma entrepreneurial and growing innovative enterprises. Office: P.O. Box 20209, Oklahoma City Phone: 405.341.6545 Contact: Mindy Young, executive director Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma REI is a multifaceted economic development organization with a team of 36 economic development

professionals. Its mission is to create jobs through a diversity of economic development programs.

REI's client base includes those assisted with business financing, space and equipment needs, incentives for homebuyers, workshops and training, and tax credit programs. Services are available statewide from five locations: Durant, Alva, Lawton, Oklahoma City and Tulsa. The Native American Business Enterprise Center, located at REI's Tulsa office, is focused on serving minority entrepreneurs. Office: 2912

Enterprise Blvd., Durant Tulsa office: 7615 E. 63rd Place, Suite 201 Phone: 580.924.5094 or

918.994.4370 Contact: Debbie Partin Oklahoma Inventors Congress Oklahoma Inventors Congress is a nonprofit, e corporation dedicated to educating members about the process of securing and marketing intellectual properties during monthly meetings and through the OIC members handbook and other publications. Office: P.O.

Box 204, Edmond Phone: 405.348.7794 and 918.902.5730 Contact: Leo Byford, Tulsa chapter chair Small

Business Administration Programs: the Office of Technology The Office of Technology administers the federal

Small Business Innovation Research program and Small Business Technology Transfer program. SBIR and STTR

are competitively awarded federal programs designed to stimulate technological innovation and provide opportunities

small businesses. The SBIR program solicitations are issued by 11 federal agencies. Five of

those agencies also participate in the STTR program, which requires the small business to

team with a university or lab to conduct their research project. Through these two

competitive programs, SBA ensures that the nation's small, high-tech, innovative businesses are a significant

part of the federal government's research and development efforts. Located at OCAST, Oklahoma's SBIR/

STTR office provides both financial support and expertise to help qualifying firms develop their

federal proposals. The program defrays a portion of proposal preparation costs, up to \$3,000,

to help offset the costs of developing a federal proposal; provides critical "bridge" funding

between Phase I and Phase II, up to \$25,000; and provides Phase Zero program

services that include critical outreach and technical assistance. OCAST's Phase Zero assistance offers a

portfolio of services designed to guide small business owners and entrepreneurs through the steps

needed to successfully apply for and receive a portion of the \$3 billion in

federal R&D funding available through the SBIR/STTR programs. Office: 755 Research Parkway, Suite 110,

Oklahoma City Phone: 405.319.8418 Contact: Sherry Roberts, client services manager Oklahoma Small Business D

Center The mission of the Oklahoma Small Business Development Center is to provide high-quality, one-to-one business counseling, economic development assistance and training to small businesses and prospective businesses. OSBDC is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small

Business Administration. Counseling is available by appointment. Office: 2 W. Second St. Phone: 918.583.2676

Contact: Bill Mount, business development specialist Private Resources Idea Gateway Idea Gateway is an startup company that creates new business opportunities that are matched with managerial talent and investment capital. Its vision includes making Tulsa the entrepreneurial center of mid-America. It has assembled a team that is creative and entrepreneurial, focused and business-minded. Core skill sets

include a broad base of business management fundamentals and entrepreneurial and investment perspectives. Idea Gateway has transaction experience in buying, selling and integrating business. Thus, it creates new

business models that are screened for investment-grade criteria from their inception. Idea Gateway creates and publishes its own intellectual property and occasionally evaluates opportunities developed by outside sources. It also coaches individuals and companies on strengthening business models, strategic planning and startup.

Office: 300 Riverwalk Terrace, Suite 260, Jenks Phone: 918.528.3800 Contact: Mike Whitaker, CEO SpiritBank

Business Resource Center Not just a trusted bank officer who knows your business inside and out, SpiritBank's Business Resource Center thinks outside the box for you, going above and beyond what any other bank provides its business customer. With an unrelenting focus on the business community, the Business Resource Center delivers business owners and managers the information, tools and contacts they need to grow their businesses through the following core offerings: the Business Solution Series, which offers regular interactive forums; Strategic Partner Network, which offers help and advice on a myriad of business needs; and Virtual Business Center

with online tools for business planning, budgeting and more. Office: 1811 S. Baltimore Ave.,

Suite 100 Phone: 918.295.7236 Contact: Ted Cundiff, president Tribal Resources Cherokee Nation Micro-Enterprise

The Cherokee Nations' Small Business Assistance Center has money available in its Micro-Enterprise Development Fund to lend to tribal citizens who may be interested in establishing a small

business but might not otherwise be eligible for traditional lending. According to program guidelines, a micro-enterprise is defined as a business venture having fewer than five employees, including those businesses that operate from home, garage or other nontraditional location. Loans are limited to a maximum amount of \$25,000 with repayment terms of up to seven years.

Other guidelines apply. Office: P.O. Box 948, Tahlequah Phone: 918.207.3955 Contact: Veronica Hix