



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
GROWTH ENGINE
FOR MEMPHIS & SHELBY COUNTY

POWERING PROGRESS THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

EDGE connects public resources, private investment, and community priorities to help businesses start, grow, and scale across Memphis and Shelby County.

FIND THE RIGHT RESOURCE AT THE RIGHT TIME

Wherever you are in your business journey, Memphis offers the connections, capital, and support to help you move forward.

Scan to explore programs, connect with partners, and access resources.



WHAT TYPE OF BUSINESS ARE YOU GROWING?

Startup or Innovation

High-growth or tech-enabled businesses

- Epicenter, Start Co., accelerators, capital readiness

Main Street or Small Business

Neighborhood-serving, brick-and-mortar businesses

- EDGE, Small Business Loans, suburban chambers, Black Chamber of Memphis, Downtown Memphis Commission

Scaling or Industry

Manufacturing, logistics, and expanding companies

- EDGE, Greater Memphis Chamber, TNECD, infrastructure partners

Next, identify where you are in your business journey.

WHAT STAGE ARE YOU IN?

Find the description that best matches where you are today.

Start & Learn

Exploring an idea or just getting started. Need help with basics and next steps.

Connect & Compete

Growing your business. Focused on customers, networks, and market traction.

Invest & Scale

Established and expanding. Looking for capital, hiring, and long-term growth.



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MEMPHIS & SHELBY COUNTY SMALL BUSINESS ECOSYSTEM MAP

Your guide to capital, coaching, connections, and customers at every stage of growth.

From idea to expansion, Memphis offers a coordinated network of public, private, and nonprofit partners ready to support entrepreneurs.

START HERE. FIND YOUR PATH.
BUILD WHAT COMES NEXT.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Are you starting, growing, or scaling a business? Begin by identifying your stage, then explore the resources that match your needs. This guide connects you to organizations that provide coaching, capital, connections, and customer access across Memphis and Shelby County.



START & LEARN

Ideation • Training • Business Basics • Early Coaching

Coaching & Training

- Tennessee Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
- SCORE Memphis
- City of Memphis Entrepreneurs Network Center
- Memphis Public Libraries (Entrepreneur and Small Business Resources)
- Southwest Tennessee Community College

Connections & Networks

- Greater Memphis Chamber
- Shelby County Chamber Alliance
- Black Chamber of Memphis
- New Memphis
- Leadership Memphis

Founder & Community Support

- Black Chamber of Memphis
- The Continuum



CONNECT & COMPETE

Customers • Markets • Branding • Networks

Coaching & Acceleration

- Epicenter
- Start Co.

Connections & Networks

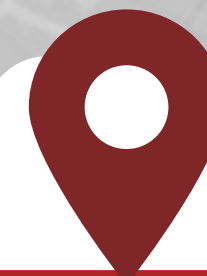
- Society of Entrepreneurs
- cityCURRENT
- Memphis Medical District Collaborative

Customers & Contracts

- City of Memphis: Procurement and contractor support
- Shelby County: Vendor and procurement opportunities
- Downtown Memphis Commission: District support and activation
- Greater Memphis Chamber: Business connections and growth

Capital (Early Stage)

- EDGE Small Business Loan Program: Forgivable loans
- Communities Unlimited: Microloans
- City of Memphis: Contractor financing
- TVA: Incubator loans
- Alt Consulting: Microloans



INVEST & SCALE

Capital • Incentives • Expansion • Workforce

Capital & Incentives

- EDGE
- Tennessee Department of Economic & Community Development (TNECD)
- U.S. Small Business Administration
- Tennessee Valley Authority
- Local and regional banks

Growth & Advisory Support

- Tennessee Small Business Development Center
- The Continuum

Connections & Expansion

- Greater Memphis Chamber
- TNECD International Division
- Memphis World Trade Club (MWTC)

Infrastructure & Strategic Assets

- International Port of Memphis
- Foreign Trade Zone 77
- Memphis logistics ecosystem

