



## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

### Notice of Action Subject to Intergovernmental Review

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice of Action Subject to Intergovernmental Review Under Executive Order 12372.

SUMMARY: The Small Business Administration (SBA) is notifying the public that it intends to grant the pending applications of 22 existing Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) for refunding on October 1, 2014, subject to the availability of funds. A short description of the SBDC program follows in the supplementary information below.

The SBA is publishing this notice at least 90 days before the expected refunding date. The SBDCs and their mailing addresses are listed below in the address section. A copy of this notice is also being furnished to the respective State single points of contact designated under the Executive Order. Each SBDC application must be consistent with any area-wide small business assistance plan adopted by a State-authorized agency.

DATES: A State single point of contact and other interested State or local entities may submit written comments regarding an SBDC refunding within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice to the SBDC.

### ADDRESSES:

#### ADDRESSES OF RELEVANT SBDC STATE DIRECTORS

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Ms. Kristina Oliver

State Director

State Director

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Louis Peasley, Director of Financial Oversight, Office of Small Business Development Centers, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 Third Street, SW, Sixth Floor, Washington, D.C. 20416.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Description of the SBDC Program**

A partnership exists between SBA and an SBDC. SBDCs offer training, counseling and other business development assistance to small businesses. Each SBDC provides services under a negotiated Cooperative Agreement with SBA, the general management and oversight of SBA, and a state plan initially approved by the Governor. Non-Federal funds must match Federal funds. An SBDC must operate according to law, the Cooperative Agreement, SBA's regulations, the annual Program Announcement, and

program guidance.

### **Program Objectives**

The SBDC program uses Federal funds to leverage the resources of states, academic institutions and the private sector to:

- (a) strengthen the small business community;
- (b) increase economic growth;
- (c) assist more small businesses; and
- (d) broaden the delivery system to more small businesses.

### **SBDC Program Organization**

The lead SBDC operates a statewide or regional network of SBDC service centers. An SBDC must have a full-time Director. SBDCs must use at least 80 percent of the Federal funds to provide services to small businesses. SBDCs use volunteers and other low cost resources as much as possible.

### **SBDC Services**

An SBDC must have a full range of business development and technical assistance services in its area of operations, depending upon local needs, SBA priorities and SBDC program objectives. Services include training and counseling to existing and prospective small business owners in management, marketing, finance, operations, planning, taxes, and any other general or technical area of assistance that supports small business growth.

The SBA district office and the SBDC must agree upon the specific mix of services. They should give particular attention to SBA's priority and special emphasis groups, including veterans, women, exporters, the disabled, and minorities.

### **SBDC Program Requirements**

An SBDC must meet programmatic and financial requirements imposed by statute, regulations or its Cooperative Agreement. The SBDC must:

- (a) locate service centers so that they are as accessible as possible to small businesses;
- (b) open all service centers at least 40 hours per week, or during the normal business hours of its state or academic Host Organization, throughout the year;
- (c) develop working relationships with financial institutions, the investment community, professional associations, private consultants and small business groups; and
- (d) maintain lists of private consultants at each service center.

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Office of Small Business Development Centers.

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