

# Start-ups & Entrepreneurs



## Starting a Business In Battle Creek

Start-ups and entrepreneurs are a big part of our local economy. Every business starts somewhere, and those who decide to start their business here are sure to receive resources and support from our organization and several others in the area.

Battle Creek offers a variety of retail and office spaces, even some incubator spaces for those who are truly in their start-up phase. We can connect you with other organizations who can provide mentoring, support services and additional funding options that you may not be able to find on your own.

## Entrepreneurial Resources in Battle Creek

Battle Creek is rich in small-business resources and support. Here are a few partners:

- **Oculus Fund** - The Oculus Fund is an annual grant of \$10,000 designed specifically for a for-profit startup based in Battle Creek. Established in 2022, this fund is named after its generous sponsor, 3Eye Technologies. All you need is an idea and a pitch.
- **Collab BC** - Coworking office space in downtown Battle Creek for individuals, small teams, and gatherings. Collab BC, which has several membership packages, offers both common and private work areas for startups, freelancers, consultants, and others.
- **Northern Initiatives** - Community development financial institution that manages the Battle Creek Small Business Loan Fund, a \$10 million program. Northern Initiatives also provides other business services to entrepreneurs.
- **SecondMuse** - A community-sourced incubator to help spearhead the development of Battle Creek's entrepreneurial ecosystem. The group offers a variety of startup services.

- **Chamber of Commerce** - The Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce provides information, connections, and services for small-businesses members. The group helps community partners address challenges and opportunities alike.
  
- **Small Business Development (SBD)** - The City of Battle Creek's own SBD provides economic development services to small businesses throughout the community. The team coordinates on projects with the City's planning and zoning, inspections, and community development branches.

If you're interested in starting a business in Battle Creek, then let's connect and see how we can help. Please contact us today.

## **Downloads**

[View our Strategic Plan](#)