



Hello Pacifica Business Community!

March is bringing fresh opportunities for our business community, and this month's Business Matters is packed with resources to help you start, grow, and strengthen your business. From upcoming SBDC workshops like Micro Lending for Small Businesses, Cottage Food Start Up and Success, and How to Win Government Contracts, to the Block Advisors by H&R Block Small Business Financial Readiness Boost Camp, there are plenty of ways to build knowledge and momentum this spring.

We are also excited to share the Small Business Growth Fund and new funding opportunities including the Go Bold Grant Initiative by Pink Print for women entrepreneurs and the California Competes Tax Credit.

Whether you are looking for capital, contracts, or expert guidance, this month's newsletter is designed to connect you with the tools to move your business forward.

Alyssa Corsetti
Management Analyst II



HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING

SBDC Event: Micro-Lending for Small Businesses



This upcoming webinar will provide an overview of micro-lending programs, including typical loan amounts, eligibility considerations, and how these lenders differ from traditional financing options. Participants will also learn about federal and State of California-supported programs designed to expand access to capital. Join us to gain a better understanding of micro-lending and determine whether it may be a useful financing option for your business.

March 10th 10:30am - 12:00 pm

[Register](#)

Block Advisors, by H&R Block Small Business Financial Readiness Boost Camp



Boost Your Small Business Financially!

The Block Advisors Small Business Financial Readiness Boost Camp is an 8-week virtual accelerator helping entrepreneurs strengthen operations, optimize finances, and scale strategically. Selected participants will get live expert sessions, strategic planning tools, a collaborative digital community, and exclusive coupons for bookkeeping, tax, and payroll services. Up to 200 entrepreneurs will be accepted - don't miss this chance to build a stronger, more profitable business!

Application Deadline: March 24, 2026 at 6PM

[Learn More](#)

SBDC Event: Cottage Food Start-up & Success



Do you have an amazing food idea and want to start a business? And have you heard about the cottage food business programs but aren't sure how they work? Then this seminar is for you where we will look at all things cottage food and how to not only start but be a successful food business as well.

March 9 | 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

[Register](#)

Announcing the Pilot Small Business Growth Fund



Pilot Small Business Growth Fund



The **Pilot Small Business Growth Fund**, presented in partnership with Hello Alice and Pilot.com, is here to support small businesses as they grow and scale. Whether you're investing in operations, expanding your team, or strengthening your financial infrastructure, this fund is designed to help you take the next step forward.

Through the Pilot Small Business Growth Fund, eighteen business owners will receive grants to support their growth:

- One \$50,000 grant
- Two \$25,000 grants
- Fifteen \$10,000 grants

Additionally, all grant recipients will receive one year of free Pilot bookkeeping services to support their financial management and growth. This program recognizes businesses that are ready to grow and provides the resources to help them thrive.

Application Deadline: March 31, 2026

[Apply Here](#)

Go BOLD Grant Initiative by Pink Print for Woman Entrepreneurs



The Go BOLD Grant Initiative is a small business funding opportunity offering a \$2,500 micro-grant to a woman entrepreneur who is building boldly, making an impact, and showing strong confidence in her business idea or venture. The opportunity celebrates creative leadership and encourages women founders to highlight what makes their business unique as part of the application. This is aimed at women-led businesses in the U.S. and Canada ready to take a bold step forward

Application Deadline: March 9, 2026

[Learn More](#)

SBDC Event: How to Win Government Contracts 1

Introduction to Government Contracting



Join this informative workshop to learn how Federal, State, and Local government agencies purchase goods and services, and how your business can successfully compete for those opportunities. Participants will gain insight into the government buying and payment cycle, explore the different types of government contracts, and identify which levels of government are the best fit for their products or services. The session will also cover how to prepare a strong, effective Capability Statement to help position your business for success in the public sector marketplace.

March 11 | 11:30am - 1:00 pm

Register

GO-Biz Now Accepting Applications for California Competes Tax Credits



The Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) is now accepting applications for the California Competes Tax Credit (CCTC). There are \$308 million in tax credits available during this application period for businesses that are expanding and adding quality, full-time jobs in California that might not otherwise be created by the business or any other business. The deadline to submit applications is Monday, January 26, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. (Pacific Time) and the online application website will automatically close once this deadline has passed. The online application can be accessed at www.calcompetes.ca.gov.

In FY25-26, special consideration will be given to businesses within the "strengthen" and "accelerate" sector categories as outlined in the California Jobs First Economic Blueprint. More information can be found at jobsfirst.ca.gov/blueprint/.

Members of the California Competes team are available to provide technical application assistance. In addition, an updated application guide, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), a recorded webinar, and program regulations are available at www.business.ca.gov/calcompetes. For applicants that are reapplying for the credit, the FAQs include instructions on how to copy information from a previously submitted application.

Businesses interested in learning more about California Competes can participate in free application webinars.

For fiscal year 2025-2026, GO-Biz will accept applications for the California Competes Tax Credit during the following periods:

- March 2, 2026 – March 16, 2026

If you have any questions regarding the California Competes program or application process, please call **(916) 322-4051** or email CalCompetes@gobiz.ca.gov.

[Learn More](#)



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Meet Our Economic Development Team



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Learn More About Pacifica's Economic Development Committee

[Next EDC Meeting Details](#)
[Economic Development Agendas and Minutes](#)



RESOURCES

Visit our City webpage for a full list of available resources

Questions & Comments? Contact Us!
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