

## Business Organizations

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Dozens of local, state, and national organizations operate in the Valley to help businesses connect with each other and operate smoothly. Some of these include:

The **Greater Phoenix Economic Council** is a one-stop resource for economic development contacts and demographic, economic, and related information about Maricopa County and the 18 communities that comprise the metropolitan area. Company executives searching for a place to expand or relocate business, or real estate consultants researching potential properties for a client will receive help to find information. GPEC's research associates are also available to provide free, customized data and answer questions. For details call (800) 421-GPEC.

The **Arizona Bioindustry Association** (AZBio) guides biotechnology companies from bench to boardroom with networking opportunities, educational events, job banks and lobbying efforts. Call (480) 752-2016.

The **Arizona Technology Council** is committed to driving the success of member companies across technology fields and building recognition of the state as a global leader in a knowledge-based economy. Representing over 30,000 employees across its more than 400 member companies, the Council champions technology and a common agenda for supporting the State's economic growth through a stronger technology industry. Along with member programs and events, the Council provides leadership on the issues vitally important to the technology community. Call (602) 343-TECH.

The **National Federation of Independent Business** (NFIB) is the largest advocacy organization representing small and independent businesses. NFIB was ranked the most influential business organization (and 3rd overall), in "Washington's Power 25" survey conducted by Fortune magazine. NFIB's purpose is to influence public policy at the state and federal level and be the resource for small and independent business in America. NFIB also provides timely information designed to help small businesses succeed. Call (602) 263-7690.

**SCORE** is a nonprofit association dedicated to entrepreneur education and the formation, growth and success of small business nationwide. It is a group of both working and retired executives and business owners who donate their time and expertise as business counselors. SCORE was formed in 1964 and there are now about 12,400 volunteers in 389 chapters throughout the country. SCORE operates under the sponsorship of the U.S. Small Business Administration and in cooperation with the Peoria Chamber of Commerce. Call (623) 979-3601.

The **Bureau of Economic Analysis** (BEA) promotes a better understanding of the U.S. economy by providing the most timely, relevant, and accurate economic data in an objective and cost-effective manner. BEA produces economic accounts statistics that enable government and business decision-makers, researchers, and the American public to follow and understand the performance of the Nation's economy. To do this, BEA collects source data, conducts research and analysis, develops and implements estimation methodologies, and disseminates statistics to the public. For details, call (202) 606-5556.

The **Peoria Chamber of Commerce** offers business support, lobbying, education and networking. Committees include: Business Development, Military Affairs, Governmental Affairs, Networking, and the Ambassadors. Call (623) 979-3601 for information.

The **Arizona Chamber of Commerce** promotes a business climate that enhances economic vitality and improves the quality of life for all Arizonans. Call (602) 771-1100.

**Arizona Small Business Association** (ASBA) is a non-profit corporation organized to provide services, benefits, information and legislative representation to its members and to contribute to the growth and success of its members' businesses. For additional information, contact the organization at (602) 265-4563.

**Small Business Development Centers** (SBDC's) Arizona's Small Business Development Center Network is an innovative partnership between the state's ten community college districts and the U.S. Small Business Administration. One-on-one confidential counseling is at the heart of SBDC work. Programs and seminars often complement the counseling customized to meet the needs of business owners in metropolitan and non-urban areas of the state.

The **Greater Phoenix Black Chamber of Commerce** (GPBCC) is an organization of business owners and professionals. The GPBCC promotes the growth, development and creation of Black-owned small businesses plus provides a higher level of visibility for the Black population in the Greater Phoenix area. Their mailing address is 201 E. Washington, Suite 350, Phoenix, AZ 85004. Call (602) 307-5200.

The **Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** (AZHCC) has considerable resources on small business. Along with business planning sources and classes in both English and Spanish, they can also provide you with information on opportunities with the United States Department of Transportation such as construction bonding, short term lending and procurement. Resources on international trade can also be obtained. They are located at 255 East Osborn Road, Suite 201, Phoenix, AZ 85012. The phone number is (602) 279-1800.

The **American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Arizona** provides support opportunities for American Indian business people in Arizona. The Chamber provides a mentoring environment for those individuals

beginning a new business and is a resource for education, networking, and growth opportunities for existing businesses. For additional information, contact the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development at (480) 545-1298.

The **Asian Chamber of Commerce** (ACC) represents the interest of businesses before city, county, state and federal government through legislation and governmental activities. They are located at 1219 East Glendale Avenue, #25, Phoenix, Arizona 85020. The telephone number is (602) 222-2009

The **Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Arizona** is an excellent source of information and assistance for anyone wishing to do business with the Chinese community in the U.S. or internationally. The mailing address is P.O. Box 36972, Phoenix, AZ 85067-6972. The telephone number is (602) 955-6665.

The **Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce of Arizona** (PACCA) is a professional networking organization that helps Filipino businesses and American Nationals and companies doing business with Filipinos in Arizona, within the United States and in the Philippines. Their address is P. O. Box 43338, Phoenix, Arizona 85080-3338. Call (602) 549-1011.