

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 subcenters. 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 subcenters so that they are as accessible as possible to small businesses;
- (b) Open all subcenters 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 subcenter.

Dated: April 13, 2000.

Johnnie L. Albertson,

Associate Administrator for Small Business Development Centers.

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Public Meeting

The Heartland States Regulatory Fairness Board will hold a Public Hearing on June 13, 2000. The meeting hearing will be held at the Marriott Hotel located at 1250 74th Street, West Des Moines, IA 50266 at 1 p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to receive comments and testimony from small businesses and representatives of trade associations concerning regulatory enforcement or compliance actions taken by federal agencies. Transcripts of these proceedings will be posted on the Internet. These transcripts are subject only to limited review by the National Ombudsman. Contact: John Greiner (312) 353-0880.

Bettie Baca,

Counselor to the Administration/Public Liaison.

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Public Meeting

The Rocky Mountain States Regulatory Fairness Board will hold a public hearing on May 1, 2000 at the Sheraton Hotel/Sioux Falls Convention Center, 1211 N. West Av., Sioux Falls, SD at 1 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to receive comments and testimony from small businesses and representatives of trade associations concerning regulatory enforcement or compliance actions taken by federal agencies. Transcripts of these proceedings will be posted on the Internet. These transcripts are subject only to limited review by the National Ombudsman. Contact: Gary P. Peele (312) 353-0880.

Bettie Baca,

Counselor to the Administrator/Public Liaison.

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Public Meeting

The Mid Atlantic States Regulatory Fairness Board will hold a public hearing on May 17, 2000 at the Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico located at 377 Ponce de Leon Avenue, University Theatre Hato Rey, Puerto Rico 00919 at 9 a.m. The space is being donated by the University and the event is being co-hosted by Banco Popular. The purpose of the meeting is to receive comments and testimony from small businesses and representatives of trade associations concerning regulatory enforcement or compliance actions taken by federal agencies. Transcripts of these proceedings will be posted on the Internet. These transcripts are subject only to limited review by the National Ombudsman. Contact: Gary P. Peele (312) 353-0880.

Bettie Baca,

Counselor to the Administrator/Public Liaison.

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Region III Advisory Council Meeting; Public Meeting

The U.S. Small Business Administration Region III Advisory Council, located in the geographical area of Clarksburg, West Virginia, will hold a public meeting at 1 p.m.-4 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16, 2000, and 9-12 noon on Wednesday, May 17, 2000, at Holiday Inn Express, Morgantown, WV, to discuss such matters as may be presented by its members, staff of the U.S. Small Business Administration, or others present.

We would appreciate it if you would publish this notice in the **Federal Register** on a timely basis. For further information, write or call Donald S. Carter, Acting District Director, U.S. Small Business Administration, 320 West Pike Street, Suite 330, Clarksburg, WV 26301, (304) 623-5631, Ext. 223.

Bettie Baca,

Counselor to the Administrator/Public Liaison.

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