

## Women-Owned Business Resources in Arizona

*(last updated May 2015)*

### **Arizona Commerce Authority**

Small Business Services (SBS) has a dual focus:

1. To provide information on business licensing and statewide resources for every stage of business development
2. To serve as an advocate by developing policies and programs addressing the needs of small businesses.

SBS works closely with entrepreneurs, government officials, community leaders and business organizations, focusing on support and opportunities for Arizona's small, minority, and women-owned and disadvantaged business enterprises.

### *SBIR Training Program*

Provides training and technical assistance, enabling high-growth potential small technology firms to compete more effectively for federal SBIR/STTR Phase I and II awards and ultimately commercialize their innovations in Phase III. The SBIR Training Program prepares business owners, especially woman-owned, socially and economically disadvantaged and veteran-owned to compete more effectively for Phase I and Phase II awards:

- Research and write compelling proposals
- Maintain the correct cost accounting systems required by the federal agencies
- Protect intellectual property

For more information- <http://www.azcommerce.com/programs/small-business-services>

### **Contact person**

Jill HowardAllen | Manager, Technology Commercialization

602-845-1291

[Jillh@azcommerce.com](mailto:Jillh@azcommerce.com)

### **City of Scottsdale**

The City of Scottsdale Economic Development Department provides a number of services to small business and startups. The Eureka Loft Scottsdale, located at the Civic Center Library provides free programming and services to small businesses and entrepreneurs. Specifically, SCORE provides free mentorship opportunities and there are weekly program offerings that may be beneficial to attend.

For more information- <http://www.scottsdalelibrary.org/eurekaloft>

### **Contact person**

Mark Paratore | Specialist, Economic Development  
480-312-2038  
[mparatore@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:mparatore@scottsdaleaz.gov)

---

### **Arizona State University**

The ASU SparXX Initiative is a series of programs and activities at Arizona State University that focus on supporting women in starting and growing new businesses. SparXX programs and activities are designed for women who are just beginning to explore entrepreneurship and business ownership, as well as women who have been business owners for years and are seeking support to take their business to the next level.

For more information- <https://entrepreneurship.asu.edu/sparxx>

### **Summer Program**

The Summer Program includes three parts:

1. A speed mentoring event
2. A full-day workshop focused on accelerating business success
3. An intimate and private dinner with interesting, diverse expert guests who will focus their collective creativity and experience to explore, discuss and provide counsel on women business owners' challenges.

For more information- <https://entrepreneurship.asu.edu/sparxxdinner>

### **Contact person**

Audrey Iffert-Saleem, Ed.D | Executive Director, Entrepreneurship & Innovation Initiatives  
480-727-5632  
[Audrey.iffert@asu.edu](mailto:Audrey.iffert@asu.edu)

## Additional Opportunities and Organizations

### **Arizona Women's Education and Entrepreneur Center**

The Arizona Women's Education and Entrepreneur Center (AWEEC) is hosted by the Arizona Women's Education and Employment (AWEE) and is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The AWEEC provides at no cost, education and resources, workshops, one-on-one counseling, mentoring and online resources to support the growth and development of women owned businesses.

For more information- <http://aweecenter.org/>

---

### **Ellevate**

A global professional women's network dedicated to the professional and economic engagement of women worldwide. The most expansive and diverse network of its kind, our community is made up of successful, motivated and passionate professional women from various industries and walks of life with one common belief—that investing in themselves and in other women is good business.

Phoenix Chapter Information- <https://www.ellevatenetwork.com/chapters/3-usa-phoenix>

---

### **Girls in Tech (GIT)**

Girls in Tech (GIT) is a global non-profit focused on the engagement, education and empowerment of influential women in technology and entrepreneurship. We focus on the promotion, growth and success of entrepreneurial and innovative women in the technology sector.

GIT Phoenix Information- <http://gitphoenix.org/>

---

### **Arizona Business and Professional Women**

AZ Business and Professional Women (AZ/BPW) is a statewide organization consisting of several local chapters. Memberships are open to any individual willing to endorse the objectives of the AZ/BWP. They promote full participation, equity, and economic self-sufficiency for working women. They are the leading advocate for today's workingwoman, and additionally support the cause through advocacy, education and information.

For more information- <http://www.bpwaz.org/AboutUs.htm>

---

### **Arizona Public Service**

Arizona Public Service (APS) has a business mentoring program that teaches small business owners important skills and resources to help their companies succeed. Advisors share their experiences with an eye toward promoting economic health and stability within the Phoenix metropolitan area. The Diverse Supplier Training Program (DSTP) has helped over 200 small business that have attended business training classes, built networks, developed resources and met with individual advisors all geared towards assisting them in reaching their next level of business success. They are currently taking applications for 2015.

For more information-

<https://www.aps.com/en/communityandenvironment/economicdevelopment/smallbusinessdevelopment/Pages/business-mentoring-aaame.aspx>