YOUR FIRST STEP: KCSourceLink
KCSourceLink connects aspiring and existing business owners to a network of hundreds of business-building organizations in the bistate 18-county Kansas City region. Our mission is to help small businesses thrive by providing easy, free (yes!) one-stop access to needed resources.

That is why KCSourceLink should be your first stop when you’re ready to start or grow a business—and why you should stop back often.

WELCOME TO THE RESOURCE RAIL
KCSourceLink’s Resource Rail™ is your map to entrepreneurial experts across our region who are ready to help your business start and grow, whether you’re launching a company or ready to scale it, whether you’re leading an innovation-led business or a Main Street retail icon.

WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO
Ready to connect with resources on the Resource Rail? Call us at 816-235-6500 (talk with real people) or visit The Resource Navigator at kcsourcelink.com (open 24/7/365) to find the resource you need right now. (And to peek up the ones you’ll need as you grow.)

For further tricks, tips, inspiration, and events, visit our blog. Entrepreneurs in Action page, Shop the Kansas City business calendar.

WHAT’S YOUR NEXT STEP?
The Resource Rail is the big picture of KC’s business-building resources, from inception to exit. But what’s your next step?

Call us at 816-235-6500 to find out whom you need to talk to next, or fill out the Quick Request form on your personal action plan at kcsourcelink.com/myplan, and we’ll get back to you with a hand-crafted list of whom you need to meet and what you need to do next. Yep, it’s free and for anyone.

PlANNINg your TRIP
How does the Resource Rail™ work? Just choose your line below and follow it on the Rail to find the resources to help you start and grow your business through all four stages: inception, proof of concept, rollout and expansion.

Yellow: Innovation Line
Follow this line if you’re a tech or high-growth company. These companies form around a new technology or breakthrough process that has the potential for a very large market, probably beyond the immediate region. These businesses go through the same stages as other startups but often at a faster pace. And they sometimes need assistance with proof of concept, pitching for equity investments and building leadership teams.

Blue: Main-Street Line
Follow this line if you have a brick-and-mortar store: Think restaurants, coffee shops, dry cleaners, retailers. These companies have employees, need operations support and are typically focused on sales: That means getting customers in the door and getting them to come back. Other challenges include cash flow and funding.

Lime: Microenterprise Line
Follow this line if you’re starting small but have big dreams. Companies in this category require little capital to launch. Most are focused around the kind of personal expertise—consulting, design, lawn care—and they may not require a physical location. Online businesses and solopreneurs also fall into this group.

Purple: Second-stage Line
Follow this line if you’ve survived the startup phase and you’re ready to scale. Second-stage firms have enough employees to exceed the comfortable control span of one owner and benefit from bringing in professional managers. A business typically enters second stage when it approaches $1 million in total receipts, and that business can be in any industry.

Green: Money Line
Follow this line if funding is your goal. From inception to expansion, the Money Line takes you through the Kansas City resources that help fund businesses, from equity to debt and every stop in between.

What ARE YOU THERE YET?
GET CONNECTED WITH RESOURCES FOR YOUR STARTUP OR ESTABLISHED BUSINESS.

Call our Resource Navigators to find the right resource for your business, right now: 816-235-6500.

Find classes and events on Kansas City’s most comprehensive business calendar.

Read stories of KC’s Entrepreneurs in Action.

Additional Resources
Asterisks on the Resource Rail™ refer to these additional resources.

Libraries/Research
- County Economic Research Institute
- Johnson County Library
- Kansas City Area, Kansas Public Library
- Missouri, MO & Block Center for Business and Innovation
- Mid-America Regional Council
- Missouri Innovation Office
- Square One Small Business Services by Mid-Continent Public Library

Business Membership Organizations
- Pathfinder Business Association
- Central Exchange
- Downtown Council of Kansas City
- Kansas City Area Exchange of Commerce
- KC Data-Driven Marketing Association (KCDMA)
- KC International Association of Business Communicators
- KC Metro Chamber of Commerce
- Missouri Women’s Council at Missouri Department of Economic Development
- National Association of Women Business Owners
- North Kansas City Business Council
- Southeastern Chamber
- Waldo Area Business Association

Chambers of Commerce
- Asian American Chamber of Commerce of Kansas City
- Blue River Chamber of Commerce
- Blue Springs Area Chamber of Commerce
- Bonner Springs - Edwardsville Area Chamber of Commerce
- Derby Springs Area Chamber of Commerce
- Gardner Edgerton Chamber of Commerce
- Grandview Area Chamber of Commerce
- Grandview and Development Economic Council
- Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce
- Harrisonville Area Chamber of Commerce
- Heartland Black Chamber of Commerce
- Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City
- Independence Chamber of Commerce
- Kansas City, Kansas Chamber of Commerce
- Kansas City Women’s Chamber of Commerce (Missouri)
- Kansas City, Kansas, Women’s Chamber of Commerce
- Keahey Chamber of Commerce
- Leavenworth-Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce
- Lee’s Summit Chamber of Commerce
- Lenexa Chamber of Commerce
- Liberty Area Chamber of Commerce
- Mid-America Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce
- Northeast Johnson County Chamber of Commerce
- Northwest Kansas City Chamber of Commerce
- Northland Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Olathe Chamber of Commerce
- Overland Park Chamber of Commerce
- Paola Chamber of Commerce
- Parkville Area Chamber of Commerce
- Platte City Area Chamber of Commerce
- Platte County Economic Development Council
- Raytown Area Chamber of Commerce
- Riverside Area Chamber of Commerce
- Shawnee Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Council
- Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce
- South Kansas City Chamber of Commerce
- Spring Hill Chamber of Commerce
- Weston Chamber of Commerce

Financial Opportunity Centers
- Community Services League
- Guadalupe Centers
- Prosperity Center for Financial Opportunity
- Women’s Employment Network

Economic Development Corporations and Councils (EDCs)
- BioNexus KC
- City of Blue Springs, Missouri
- City of Budweiser, Missouri
- City of Olathe, Missouri
- City of Paola, Missouri
- Clay County Economic Development Council
- Economic Development Corporation of Kansas City, Missouri
- Gladstone Economic Development Department
- Green Valley Partnership
- Hispanic Economic Development Corporation
- Independence Economic Development Council
- Johnson County, Missouri, Economic Development Corporation
- Kansas City Area Development Council
- KC SmartPort
- Leavenworth County Development Corporation
- Leavenworth Main Street Program Inc.
- Lee’s Summit Economic Development Council
- Liberty Economic Development Corporation
- Martin City Community Development Council
- Miami County Economic Development Department
- Missouri Department of Economic Development – KC Area
- Olathe Economic Development Council
- Overland Park Economic Development Council
- Parkville Economic Development Corporation
- Platte County Economic Development Council
- Raytown Office of Economic Development
- SBA HUBZone Program – Kansas City
- Southwest Johnson County Economic Development Corporation
- Wyandotte Economic Development Council

Registration, Licenses and Permits
- City of Independence, Missouri
- City of Kansas City, Kansas (KC BizCare)
- Kansas Department of Agriculture
- Kansas Department of Agriculture-Business and Community Development Division
- Kansas Department of Commerce-Office of Minority and Women Business Development
- Kansas Department of Revenue
- Kansas Department of Revenue
- Kansas Insurance Department
- Kansas Secretary of State
- Missouri Department of Agriculture
- Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
- Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
- Missouri Department of Natural Resources
- Missouri Department of Revenue
- Missouri Department of Social Services
- Missouri Division of Professional Registration
- Missouri Secretary of State, Kansas City Branch Office

SBA-Backed Loans
- EDC Loan Corporation of Kansas City
- Frontier Financial Partners
- Heartland Business Capital
- Midwest Small Business Finance
- MO-IAN Development Inc.
- RMI
- Wakana Valley Development

SBDCs/SBTDCs/P/TCs
- Jackson County Extension
- Johnson County Community College
- Kansas PTAC – Johnson County Community College
- MO-PTAC – University of Missouri-Kansas City
- SBA procurement programs for disadvantaged businesses
- SBA procurement programs for small businesses
- University of Missouri-Kansas City

Venture Capital
- B2 Capital Partners
- C3 Capital Partners
- Five Elms Capital
- Great Range Capital
- Konza Valley Capital
- MidStates Capital L.P.
- Nuelle Capital
- OpenAir Equity Partners
- Open Prairie Ventures
- TG2 Investments
- Tradebot Ventures

More than 80 Kansas City economic development agencies, organizations and public officials; CCEDC; National Community Economic Development Administrators; University of Missouri–Kansas City

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION
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