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Top 10 Free Websites for Small Business Planning

SMALL BUSINESS CATEGORY

Build Your Business Wisconsin - <http://www.wisconsin.gov/state/byb/index.html>

From **Wisconsin.gov**, this site was designed to make it easy for you to obtain the information you need to seriously plan and prepare for the start or expansion of your Wisconsin business. The **Business Wizard** tool identifies permit, license, tax and employment requirements specific to your business. Links to popular topics include: Sales Tax, Sellers Permit, Tax ID -FEIN, Limited Liability Company (LLC), Non-Profit Corporation, Doing Business As, Grants, Business Plan, Financing, Start-up and Business Forms.

BizStarts Milwaukee

<http://www.bizstartsmilwaukee.com/Home.htm>

BizStarts Milwaukee connects resources, content, and contacts that will assist entrepreneurs to launch new enterprises. **BizStarts Milwaukee** was formed by a group of forward-looking business leaders in the Milwaukee 7 Region who saw a need to accelerate early stage businesses and ideas.

Bplans.com - <http://www.bplans.com/samples/sba.cfm>

125 free sample business plans from the SBA and Palo Alto software. These business plans contain realistic sample content for all sorts of businesses. See examples of how to write an effective executive summary, craft a mission statement, and put together accurate cash flow projections, expense budgets, break-even analysis, and more.

Business Plan Templates. http://www.score.org/template_gallery.html

SCORE has Business Plan Templates for start-up and established businesses. Other forms include Balance Sheet, Bank Loan Request, Financial History & Ratios, and more. Download the template to your computer and have the format created for you. **SCORE**, The Service Corps of Retired Executives, is a resource partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)

<http://www.census.gov/epcd/www/naics.html>

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) has replaced the U.S. Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system. It is the standard used by Federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments for the purpose of collecting, analyzing, and publishing statistical data related to the U.S. business economy.

CENSUS DEMOGRAPHICS CATEGORY

American FactFinder U.S. Census Bureau <http://factfinder.census.gov/>

THE main source for the latest and past U.S. census and survey data on population, housing, economic demographics. Fast access to census summaries, maps, as well as detailed tables.

Purchasing Power Profiles - <http://www4.uwm.edu/eti/MilwPurchase/MilwZips.htm>

A goldmine for demographic research within the metro Milwaukee area. Comparison data on estimated resident expenditures for 16 categories of common consumer items for 53 residential ZIP codes in the Milwaukee metropolitan area.

Neighborhood Strategic Planning Statistics-Milwaukee

http://itmdapps.ci.mil.wi.us/publicApplication_SR/neighborhood/index.jsp

Access to a wide variety of information for each of the 18 Neighborhood Strategic Planning (NSP) areas in the City of Milwaukee. By clicking on a name of the NSP, you can view a summary of housing, criminal, census data, safety and health information.

LABOR MARKET CATEGORY

Salary.com - <http://www.salary.com>

Useful for finding salary information for a particular metro area or zip code. Salary.com purchases the most current salary surveys available from well-recognized, reputable compensation consulting firms. This survey data is used for analysis and benchmarking by extracting and reporting the market salary data for each position. Hundreds of job titles are listed and the free portion of the site does a wonderful job of tailoring the data to specific regions.

RESEARCHING A COMPANY CATEGORY

ThomasNet.com <http://www.thomasnet.com/index.html>

Useful for researching manufacturers. Searchable by type of product, company name and/or brand name. Gives contact information for manufacturers. It is the online version of the no-longer-in-print source *The Thomas Register of American Manufacturers*

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