

SOUTH JERSEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT



Guide to Economic Development Resources
2023



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South Jersey Economic Development District Economic Development Programs and Contacts Guide

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INTRODUCTORY NARRATIVE

South Jersey Economic Development District
Economic Development Program and Contacts Guide



INTRODUCTION

Established in the early 1980s, the South Jersey Economic Development District encompasses Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland and Salem Counties. The District is headquartered in Vineland, New Jersey which is geographically central to the region it serves. The District is funded in part by the U.S. Economic Development Administration, (US EDA) and its member counties. Its mission is to encourage economic development and redevelopment in one of the most economically distressed regions of New Jersey.

The Board of Directors of the Economic Development District is a conduit for grant funding and provides other development and redevelopment resources for the general public, business people, industry officials, and other stakeholders throughout the region. The Board believes in offering a diverse range of services for the community it serves, from technical assistance, strategic planning, grant funding, project financing, and informational resources. This document is provided both in hard copy and online as an electronic copy in order to facilitate information about the range of economic development programs, resources, organizations and personnel available to assist public officials and business people both within the region as well as those interested in expanding in the District.

OVERVIEW OF THE DOCUMENT

This document provides an easy one-stop reference for individuals and organizations throughout the South Jersey Economic Development District and other interested parties to obtain information about programs, contacts, and agencies involved in economic development. This information is also available on the District's website. The website address is: www.sjedd.com

The information provided in this document is presented as follows:

Organizational Information

Contact information is included about various organizations at the municipal, county, and regional levels that are engaged in economic development activities. This includes city and township contacts; chambers of commerce; regional agencies; county organizations; state agencies; and federal organizations.

Program Information

These pages also include information on a range of the most typically used programs, including grant and funding programs, for economic development projects. This includes contact information for the various individuals managing the Federal, State and other programs listed.

The District is also responsible for preparing and updating a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, or CEDS, which in collaboration with the member counties and other stakeholders, outlines the principal development and redevelopment priorities of the region. It also provides considerable economic and demographic data that is useful to developers and other investors interested in locating in the four-county area. A copy of the CEDS is available on the District's website. (The web address is provided on the previous page.)

For More Information

Please contact the South Jersey Economic Development District directly:

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South Jersey Economic Development District
Economic Development Program and Contacts Guide

ATLANTIC COUNTY

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CAPE MAY COUNTY CONTACTS

South Jersey Economic Development District
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CAPE MAY COUNTY

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CAPE MAY COUNTY

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CAPE MAY COUNTY

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CUMBERLAND COUNTY CONTACTS

South Jersey Economic Development District
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CUMBERLAND COUNTY

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CUMBERLAND COUNTY

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CUMBERLAND COUNTY

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SALEM COUNTY CONTACTS

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SALEM COUNTY

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SALEM COUNTY

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SALEM COUNTY

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GUIDE

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FEDERAL

USEDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs

The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) provides grant funding and other resources to support economically distressed areas by encouraging job creation and attracting private investment. Eligible uses of funding include construction, non-construction costs and revolving loan fund investments. Grants are intended to leverage other assets and should align with regional economic development strategies.

Funding is also available to build regional capacity that will translate innovations into jobs. They assist with operational support to organizations that provide early-stage capital to entrepreneurs and provide commercialization assistance for entrepreneurs. Under this program there are two separate competitions: the Seed Fund Support Grants competition and the i6 Challenge. The Seed Fund Support Grants competition provides technical assistance funding to create, launch or expand seed funds that invest in start-ups with a potential for high growth. The i6 Challenge supports the creation of centers for innovation that supports entrepreneurship.

Phone: (215) 597-4603

Website: <https://www.eda.gov/about/leadership/philadelphia>

USDA Rural Development Program, New Jersey Office

The USDA provides a range of grant and loan programs for a multitude of purposes. Principal programs include:

- Single Family Housing Direct Home Loan Program
- Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program
- Water and Waste Loan and Grant Program
- Rural Energy Loan and Grant Program
- Value Added Producer Grant Program
- Business and Industry Loan Guarantees

Phone: (856) 787-7700

Website: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/nj>

U.S. Small Business Administration (US SBA)

The Small Business Administration provides funding programs, counseling, federal contracting certifications, and disaster recovery assistance for businesses. It can also be an important conduit to partner organizations, lenders, and other community groups that help small businesses succeed.

The NJ Office of the SBA is located in Newark.

Phone: (973) 645-2434

Website: <https://www.sba.gov/district/new-jersey>

U.S. International Trade Administration

The mission of the International Trade Administration (ITA) is to create prosperity by strengthening the international competitiveness of U.S. industry, promoting trade and investment, and ensuring fair trade and compliance with trade laws and agreements. The agency can provide help with finding international markets, navigating the foreign regulatory environment, helping with patents and trademark information, understanding import and export controls, and many other issues.

Phone: (800) 872-8723

Website: <https://www.trade.gov>

Philadelphia Commercial Service Center:

<https://www.trade.gov/pennsylvania-philadelphia>

U.S. Minority Business Development Agency

The mission of the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) is to promote the growth of minority owned businesses through the mobilization and advancement of public and private sector programs, policy, and research.

Phone: (202) 482-2332

Website: <https://www.mbda.gov/>

USEPA Brownfield Grants

There are several opportunities available to address brownfields ranging from assessment to cleanup and establishing a revolving loan fund. Planning grants are available for communities to develop implementation strategies for cleaning up and revitalizing brownfield sites.

Phone: (609) 292-3226

Website: <https://www.njbrownfieldsproperties.com/default.aspx>

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

NJ EDA

The New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) grows the state's economy and increases equitable access to opportunity by supporting high-quality job creation, catalyzing investment, and fostering vibrant, inclusive community development. NJEDA works in partnership with a diverse range of stakeholders to implement a wide range of programs and initiatives that improve quality of life, enhance economic vitality, and strengthen New Jersey's long-term economic competitiveness. For detailed information, see the Authority's website.

Phone: (609) 858-6700

Website: www.njeda.gov

NJ Business Action Center

The New Jersey Business Action Center (NJBAC) is housed within the New Jersey Department of State and is the "one-stop shop" for businesses to access a variety of resources and support. NJBAC offers free and confidential assistance to help businesses grow. Government navigation and permitting assistance are just two of many important services offered. The team helps companies of all sizes save time and money by getting answers from government agencies, directing businesses to appropriate officials and contacts, and facilitating meetings and follow-ups from regulatory agencies.

Phone: (800) 537-7397

Website: <https://nj.gov/state/bac/>

NJ Small Business Development Center Headquarters)

The New Jersey Small Business Development Centers (NJSBDC) consist of recognized business leaders that provide management consulting and training programs to entrepreneurs, start-ups, and existing small businesses as well as specialized and more advanced services to high-impact, growth-oriented businesses. NJSBDC is a major force in leading the way for state, local community, and small business development. (See Regional Offices for more information.)

Phone: (973) 353-1927

Website: <https://www.njsbdc.com>

Small Business Development Centers

Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) offer Start Your Business classes, training, technical assistance, growing a business, seminars and resources to small businesses. All SBDC'S work in conjunction with a local University. Assistance provided by a SBDC is free for small businesses.

NJSBDC at Richard Stockton College in Atlantic City (Atlantic, Cape May & Cumberland Counties)

Phone: (609) 626-3889

Website: www.njsbdc.com/njsbdc-at-stockton-university-in-atlantic-city

NJSBDC at Rutgers University in Camden (Burlington, Camden, Gloucester & Salem Counties)

Phone: (856) 225-6221

Website: <https://njsbdc.com/10345-2/>

Choose New Jersey

Choose New Jersey provides customized Requests for Information, demographics, detailed market assessments and other business relocation and expansion services. Responses. It can assist in collaboration with regulatory and legal issues, workforce training and other services.

Phone: (609) 297-2200

Website: www.choosenj.com

NJDCA Small Cities Program

Funding is available for communities that do not receive a direct entitlement of Community Development Block Grant funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The funds can be used for economic development, community revitalization or to address local needs for which no other source of funding is available. Projects must benefit either low or moderate-income persons or eliminate slums and blight.

Phone: (609) 292-5855

Website: www.nj.gov/dca/dhcr/grants/index.shtml

NJDEP Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund

The N.J. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) provides grants for 100% of investigation and partial funding for the cleanup of contaminated sites in need of redevelopment. Properties located in Brownfield Development Areas can receive up to 75% of the cost for cleanup of contaminated sites. The need for cleanup needs to be documented either through a comprehensive plan or resolution.

Phone: (609) 292-1251

Website: <http://www.nj.gov/dep>

NJDEP Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program

There are also low-interest loans for the construction for wastewater treatment facilities and stormwater and nonpoint source management facilities. Loans are also available for open space land purchase and conservation and remediation of brownfields.

Phone: (609) 292-961

Website: <http://www.nj.gov/dep>

NJDEP Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program

Low-interest loans are available to finance infrastructure construction. Projects can include water treatment facilities, consolidation of water systems, rehabilitation of existing water treatment facilities, water mains, pump stations or water storage facilities. Some allowances for planning and design. All projects must meet the objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Phone: 609) 292-4739

Website: <http://www.nj.gov/dep>

NJAPA Chapter Community Planning Assistance Program

The New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA) has volunteer planning support available for municipalities and community-based organizations through the State professional planning association. The range of planning topics that can be accessed include site planning, vision plans, economic development initiatives, transportation plans, parking strategies, guidance on neighborhood-based plans and developing a planning process.

Phone: (973) 491-8912

Website: www.njplanning.org



COUNTY, REGIONAL AND OTHER CONTACTS

South Jersey Economic Development District
Economic Development Program and Contacts Guide

REGIONAL, COUNTY AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Cumberland Development Corporation

The CDC is an innovative, community development corporation that promotes economic and community development through private/public partnerships and inter-municipal cooperation among the rural townships and municipalities in Cumberland County, New Jersey.

Phone: (856) 451-4200

Website: <http://www.cumberlandgrows.com/cumberland-development-corporation/>

County Improvement Authority Programs/Bonding

Each of the improvement authorities has a variety of funding options for economic development projects. They have the ability to bond funds for larger projects in need of financing. They can be applicants for state and federal funding for smaller communities. The Improvement Authorities can also access other sources of funding for projects.

Atlantic County Improvement Authority

Phone: 609-343-2390

Website: www.atlanticcountyimprovementauthority.org

Cape May County

No Improvement Authority

Cumberland County Improvement Authority (The Authority)

Phone: (856) 825-3700

Website: www.ccia-net.com

Salem County Improvement Authority

Phone: (856) 935-7900

Website: www.scianj.com

The Greater Wildwood Tourism Improvement & Development Authority (GWTIDA)/New Jersey Sports & Exposition Authority (NJSEA)

Phone: 800-992-9732

Website: <https://wildwoodsnj.com/business-info/administration/njsea-gwtida/>

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Cumberland-Salem-Cape May Workforce Development Board

The Cumberland-Salem-Cape May Workforce Development Board oversees programs involving on-the-job training, tax credits for workforce training and other business, youth, and transportation services aimed at enhancing workforce training in the three-county region. The Workforce Development Board is administered through Cumberland County and has three One-Stop Career Centers in each of the three counties.

Cumberland County Department of Workforce Development

Phone: (856) 696-5660

Website: <https://cumberlandcountynj.gov/workforcedevelopment>

Cape May County One Stop Career Center

Phone: (609) 224-2020

Website: <https://capemaycountynj.gov/1138/One-Stop-Career-Center>

Cumberland County One-Stop Career Center

Phone: (856) 696-6600

Website: <https://nj.gov/labor/career-services/>

Salem County One Stop Career Center

Phone: (856) 935-7510

Website: www.salemcountynj.gov/employment-bid-opportunities/career-one-stop/

Atlantic County Workforce Development Board

The Atlantic County WDB provides services both virtually (online) and in person including assistance with literacy, preparation and testing for the high school diploma, training grants, on-the-job training, apprenticeships, job counseling and job matching and many more.

Phone: (609) 485-0153

Website: <https://www.atlanticcountywdb.com/>

OTHER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

SJEDD Revolving Loan Fund Programs

Small business loans are available through the South Jersey Economic Development District. The minimum loan amount is \$10,000 and the maximum request is \$100,000. Loans are intended to promote business expansion and retention. Projects financed through the RLF must create new jobs. Eligible communities include Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland and Salem counties.

South Jersey Economic Development

District Phone: (856) 838-3060

Email: info@sjedd.com

Tax Abatement Programs

Municipalities may grant a five-year tax exemption and/or abatement in areas in need of rehabilitation. These abatements are intended to promote the construction and rehabilitation of residential, commercial and industrial structures.

Areas in Need of Rehabilitation/Redevelopment Program

An area in need of rehabilitation is defined by a municipality through a resolution. Conditions such as a significant portion of structures are deteriorated or substandard, or there is vacancy, abandonment or underutilization of properties. Other factors to be considered include whether more than half of the housing stock is at least 50 years old or the water and sewer infrastructure is at least 50 years old and is in need of repair or substantial maintenance. The goal of the program is to prevent further deterioration and promote development in a community. These factors should be incorporated into an overall Redevelopment Strategy for the area.

An area in need of redevelopment is a designation available to address blight in a community. A municipality must pass a Redevelopment Plan that explains what they are planning to address under the designation. Eminent domain may or may not be used under this designation.

NJ DCA Local Planning Services

Phone: (609) 292-4317

Website: <http://www.nj.gov/dca>

Opportunity Zone Program

The Opportunity Zone program offers significant capital gains tax benefits for taxpayers who invest in projects and businesses in low-income areas, allowing investors to delay, reduce and potentially eliminate capital gains taxes on appreciated assets or businesses located in and on Qualified Opportunity Zone investments. Under the Opportunity Zone program, individuals and other entities can delay paying federal income tax on capital gains until as late as December 31, 2026- provided those gains are invested in Qualified Opportunity Funds investing 90 percent of their assets in businesses or tangible property located in a Qualified Opportunity Zone. In addition, the gains on investments in Qualified Opportunity Funds can be federal income tax-free if the investment is held for at least 10 years.

Website: <https://nj.gov/governor/njopportunityzones/>

OTHER CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND RELATED AGENCIES

Chamber of Commerce of Southern New Jersey

The CCSNJ advocates for economic prosperity by uniting business and community leaders in the seven counties of Southern New Jersey. With almost 150 years of experience, the chamber is headquartered in Voorhees, Atlantic County.

Phone: (856) 424-7776

Website: <https://www.chambersnj.com/about-ccsnj/>

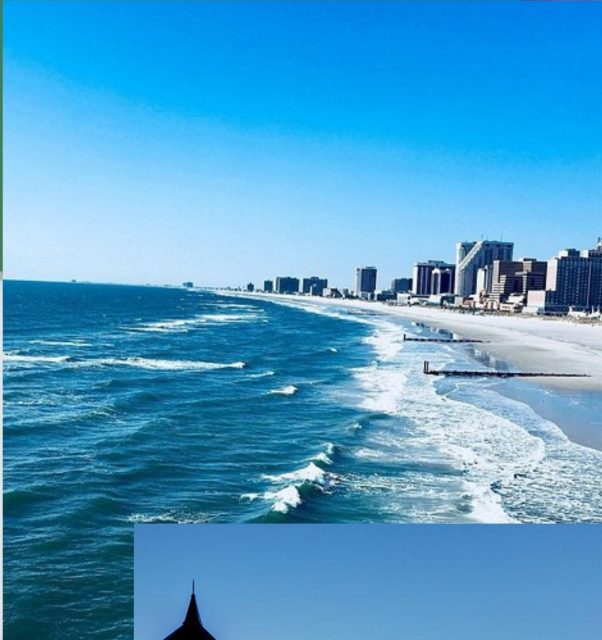
The Southern New Jersey Development Council

SNJDC represents organizations among 30 broad business types, including casino/gaming industry development, education, engineers, the health care industry, transportation, and tourism. SNJDC is proud to contribute to our region's growth by working cooperatively with the region's county economic development directors in serving as Southern New Jersey's "Unified Voice for Progress."

Phone: (856) 228-7500

Website: <https://snjdc.org/>

SOUTH JERSEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT



Guide to Economic Development Resources
2023