

Get Ready to Seek Funding

Six steps to prepare before you apply for business funding.

1 Define your funding need.

Identify what the money would pay for, approximately how much you need, and when you need it.

2 Review your business finances.

Understand your revenue, expenses, existing debt, and ability to repay borrowed money.

3 Gather relevant records.

Depending on the provider, these may include financial statements, tax returns, bank statements, business information, and a business plan. Requirements vary.

4 Compare suitable options.

Check the provider's eligibility requirements, permitted uses, total borrowing costs, repayment schedule, fees, and any collateral or personal-guarantee requirements.

5 Get help preparing.

Find a business adviser or appropriate local contact who can help you understand requirements and prepare questions.

6 Apply through the official provider.

Confirm the application requirements, submit through the provider's official channel, and keep copies.

Official resources

SBA — Funding programs: loans

sba.gov/funding-programs/loans

SBA — Funding programs: grants

sba.gov/funding-programs/grants

Village of Menomonee Falls — Prospective Businesses (local)

menomoneefalls.gov/987/Prospective-Businesses

Village of Menomonee Falls — Development Programs (local)

menomoneefalls.gov/985/Development-Programs

WEDC — Start In Wisconsin directory (statewide)

wedc.org/innovate-in-wisconsin/start-in-wisconsin/