



## Fannin County Small Business Resources

**Score:** Free mentoring that connect small business owners and entrepreneurs with volunteer expert business mentors.

***Jim McKnight***, Counselor  
Cell: 770-331-8870  
Email: [chipley@tds.net](mailto:chipley@tds.net)  
[Website: www.scoreatlanta.org](http://www.scoreatlanta.org)

**Example assistance:** business plan guidance, increasing profit, improving customer satisfaction, achieving work/life balance

### **Small Business Development Center:**

Advisors provide aspiring and current small business owners a variety of free business consulting and low-cost training services to assist with growth and success.

***Matt Pearce***, Business Consultant  
Office: 706-622-2006  
Email: [mpearce@georgiasbdc.org](mailto:mpearce@georgiasbdc.org)  
[www.romesbdc.org](http://www.romesbdc.org)

**Example assistance:** Marketing plan and target markets, sales and pricing strategies, financial packaging and lending assistance, market research

### **GA Department of Labor**

Office: 706-632-2033  
Website: <http://dol.georgia.gov/>

**Example assistance:** Labor market, recruiting new employees, tax credits and incentives

### **Access to Capital for Entrepreneurs**

**(ACE):** A non-profit organization that provides loans and business development resources to help its borrowers create and grow sustainable businesses which generate jobs.

***Courtney Lynn***, North Georgia Loan Officer  
Phone: 678-335-5600  
Fax: 877-287-6081  
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[Website: www.aceloans.org](http://www.aceloans.org)

**Georgia Cities Foundation:** The Foundation assists cities in their community development efforts to revitalize and enhance underserved downtown areas, by serving as a partner and facilitator in funding capital projects, and by providing training and technical assistance.

***Chris Higdon***, Manager  
Office: 678-651-1018  
<http://www.georgiacitiesfoundation.org/Home.aspx>

**Example assistance:** Loans are provided to downtown businesses for up to \$250,000. The interest rate is below market rate, and repayment period is normally 10 years, not to exceed 15 years.

Eligible Projects:

- Real estate acquisition
- Building rehabilitation
- New construction
- Green space and parks