

Colorado SBDC link:

<https://www.coloradosbdc.org/resources/Certified%20Small%20Business%20Community/certified-small-business-community-program>



CERTIFIED SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Entrepreneurs can be the driving force in a local economy, especially ones that have been hit by large company closures and relocations. Entrepreneurs can create jobs, invest in the community, improve the quality of life, and assist communities with competing in a regional, national and global economy. The Certified Small Business Community Program is a Colorado SBDC Network and Blueprint 2.0 offering that assists rural communities in taking their entrepreneurship promotion and retention to the next level and be a standard bearer for the State of Colorado. Selected communities receive a designation of a "Certified Small Business Community" to promote a great place to "Work, Live and Play" on Colorado.

Selected rural communities need to have a defined sense of place or niche that sets them apart and have a concentration of entrepreneurship. They need to be actively engaged in the promotion and retention of small businesses. The communities need to have an action plan based on their vision for success. Through this program the community will have developed a clear strategic growth plan to diversify its local/regional economy through the promotion of entrepreneurship.

The Certified Small Business Community Program is another tool to help rural Colorado communities compete on a larger stage and still preserve their small-town appeal. Winners are selected through a competitive application process. The program is part of a cooperative initiative between the Colorado Small Business Development Center Network and the Colorado Economic Development Commission.

For more information on the Certified Small Business Community Program [click here](#).

2017 Certified Small Business Communities:

[City of Fruita](#)

[Lincoln County](#)

[Prowers County](#)

[Rio Blanco County](#)