



## Small Business Support and Relief Programs for Pontiac Business Owners and Residents Updated: January 12, 2021

Hello Pontiac Business Owners and Residents,

As the Covid-19 pandemic continues, resources for businesses and individuals are necessary. While some programs have closed, new ones will be opening up. The following are current resources that may be of interest to business owners and individuals.

The following are resources, grants and programs that may be of interest to you:

- A. Small Business Administration:** [Small Business Administration \(sba.gov\)](#)
  - 1. [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): Small Business Guidance & Loan Resources \(sba.gov\)](#)
  - 2. [SBA Debt Relief](#)
  - 3. [Coronavirus Relief Options \(sba.gov\)](#)
  - 4. Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.sba.gov/document/support-faq-covid-19-economic-injury-disaster-loan-eidl>
  - 5. [Express Bridge Loan Pilot Program Guide March 25, 2020 \(sba.gov\)](#)
  - 6. SBA Micro Loans: <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/sba-debt-relief#section-header-0>
  - 7. Disaster Home and Business Loans: <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/sba-debt-relief#section-header-2>
  
- B. Oakland County:** [Oakland County, Michigan | Oakland County, Michigan \(oakgov.com\)](#)
  - 1. Restaurants, Bars and Café Relief, Phase Two: [The City, Village and Township \(CVT\) Grant Program | Grants \(oakgov.com\)](#) *Cities, Villages and Townships will be notified when the application for products and funding is available. Phase One is closed, you DO NOT need to apply for Phase One to be eligible for Phase Two.*
  - 2. Grants and Loans: [Grants and Loans | Business Relief \(oakgov.com\)](#)
  - 3. List of Oakland County Grants Open and Closed Matrix: [Grants | Grants \(oakgov.com\)](#)
  
- C. MEDC:** [Home | Michigan Business](#)
  - 1. [COVID-19 Michigan Business Resources](#)
  - 2. Grow Your Small Business w/MEDC Resources: [Small Business | MiPlace](#)
  
- D. Main Street:** [www.mainstreetpontiac.org](http://www.mainstreetpontiac.org)
  - 1. [Small Business Relief Grant – Downtown Pontiac \(mainstreetpontiac.org\)](#)
  - 2. [Flagstar Bank’s “Pontiac’s Big Idea” Grant Program – Downtown Pontiac \(mainstreetpontiac.org\)](#)
  - 3. [Spirit of Main Street Micro Grant – Downtown Pontiac \(mainstreetpontiac.org\)](#)
  
- E. Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan**
  - 1. Grants for Non-Profits: [For Nonprofits during COVID-19 • CFSEM : CFSEM](#)
  - 2. Special Grant Opportunities: [Special Opportunities • CFSEM : CFSEM](#)

## F. Other Sources of Information

1. [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): Small Business Guidance & Loan Resources \(sba.gov\)](#)
2. Business Guide: [www.sba.gov/business-guide](http://www.sba.gov/business-guide)
3. Funding Programs: [www.sba.gov/funding-programs](http://www.sba.gov/funding-programs)
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [Workplaces and Businesses | COVID-19 | CDC](#)
5. [New PPP guidance issued by SBA, Treasury - Journal of Accountancy](#)
6. [\\$200M fund to include focus on minority-owned businesses First Independence Bank.pdf](#)
7. How to Fund Your Woman Owned Start Up: [How to Fund Your Woman Owned Startup | MEDC - YouTube](#)
8. Michigan Eviction Diversion Program including FAQ: [MSHDA - Eviction Diversion Program \(EDP\) \(michigan.gov\)](#)

## G. Webinars and Partner Programs

### **NEW SERVICE: Design for Manufacturability Assessment**

Centrepolis Accelerator at Lawrence Technological University, in partnership with Munro & Associates, offers Design for Manufacturability (DFM) assessments that seek to reduce the complexity and cost of products. [https://www.centrepolisaccelerator.com/user\\_area/content\\_media/raw/DesignforManufacturabilityAssessment.pdf](https://www.centrepolisaccelerator.com/user_area/content_media/raw/DesignforManufacturabilityAssessment.pdf)

### **NextCycle Michigan**

NextCycle Michigan is a State of Michigan initiative with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), managed and facilitated by Resource Recycling Systems (RRS), in collaboration with the Centrepolis Accelerator at Lawrence Technological University, and the Michigan Recycling Coalition. NextCycle Michigan provides an opportunity for businesses, investors, NGOs, trade organizations, and others to contribute significantly to the growth of recycling and the circular economy in Michigan. Entities can contribute to the program design, team recruitment and review, and investment award pool. The program utilizes Innovation Challenges to globally crowd source the best technologies and ideas to improve the repurposing of waste streams that are difficult to recycle or reuse. We are looking for industry partners who have a problematic waste stream that are not easily recycled as well as innovators that have technology solutions to solve these challenges. If interested please contact Dan Radomski [dradomski@ltu.edu](mailto:dradomski@ltu.edu) <https://www.nextcyclemichigan.com/>

### **Need help with Product Design or Prototyping?**

Centrepolis Accelerator has many experts that can support product design (CAD), engineering (CAE) and prototyping. If you need help in this area, please reach out to Dan Radomski at [dradomski@ltu.edu](mailto:dradomski@ltu.edu)

### **Industry 4.0 Accelerator program**

Centrepolis, in partnership with Automation Alley and Lean Rocket Labs, has recently launched the Nation's First Industry 4.0 Accelerator that globally crowdsources the best in class Industry 4.0 manufacturing and energy related efficiency technologies to participate and partner with Michigan based manufacturing and energy firms. See website for more info <https://www.i40accelerator.com/>. We have support from a number of industry partners, investors, foundations. The program will utilize a \$1.3 million fund provided by Automation Alley to support client funding and industry demo or product development partnership projects. Our current List of I4.0 Accelerator Corporate Partners include Magna, Faurecia, Denso, Bosch Rexroth, Lear, Siemens, Comau, Electro-Matic, Design Systems, ITR Solutions, Mirari, Ambe Engineering, Maintenance Technologies Consulting, Orbitform, TAC, Nippon Piston Ring, Melling. Applications are open now on a rolling basis. To apply for I4.0 Accelerator Program on F6S: <https://www.f6s.com/automationalleyindustry4.0accelerator/apply>

### **Michigan Cleantech Hardware Accelerator program**

The Michigan Cleantech Hardware Accelerator program supports Michigan-based entrepreneurs and small businesses who are developing Cleantech hardware products or processes that provide an energy efficiency or energy waste reduction benefit. Funding support can be applied for to support product development and demonstration activities.

<https://www.centrepolisaccelerator.com/Programs/CleanTech>

### **Recorded Centrepolis Webinar | Cleantech Funding Opportunity**

Presented by: Robert Jackson, *EGL*; Conner Prochaska; *U.S. DOE*; and Dan Radomski, *Centrepolis Accelerator*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BQF5MggQB74&t=34s>

### **NEW SERVICE: Supply Chain Support Program**

Supply chain operations are critical to the ongoing success of your business. But managing it yourself can be expensive, time consuming, and downright stressful. Doing it right requires deep insight and skilled talent, which is why Centrepolis Accelerator, in partnership with IndustryStar, offers a Supply Chain Partner Program to help reduce the time and effort of supply chain development and management.

[https://www.centrepolisaccelerator.com/user\\_area/content\\_media/raw/SupplyChainSupportProgramOverview08-07-20R5.pdf](https://www.centrepolisaccelerator.com/user_area/content_media/raw/SupplyChainSupportProgramOverview08-07-20R5.pdf)

### **Pure Michigan Business Connect Access and Certification Grant**

Pure Michigan Business Connect (PMBC) is excited to announce a new Access and Certification Grant program designed to break down barriers preventing Michigan businesses from winning purchase orders. The program has three objectives:

- Increase supplier access to local and global procurement opportunities
- Improve competitiveness in advanced manufacturing for Michigan small businesses
- Enhance supplier capabilities and open doors to new industry verticals

Eligible companies may qualify for up to \$15,000 in assistance to offset 50 percent of pre-approved expenses per fiscal year.

[https://pmbc.connect.space/pmbc-grant-](https://pmbc.connect.space/pmbc-grant-2020/details?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiWkRJMUM5HUmtZVEppTWpVeilsInQiOiJHNHhwME4wMDBpRWJFSIB4N2INbVlXeGw0cTdSdlIOaVVDaE1wUudncHVfdEVidWpRb090SzA3THRIU3dlbWdRbzFXTkcrSkZEcXVTaG5EM1hoM0J5UG9BX)

[2020/details?mkt\\_tok=eyJpIjoiWkRJMUM5HUmtZVEppTWpVeilsInQiOiJHNHhwME4wMDBpRWJFSIB4N2INbVlXeGw0cTdSdlIOaVVDaE1wUudncHVfdEVidWpRb090SzA3THRIU3dlbWdRbzFXTkcrSkZEcXVTaG5EM1hoM0J5UG9BX](https://pmbc.connect.space/pmbc-grant-2020/details?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiWkRJMUM5HUmtZVEppTWpVeilsInQiOiJHNHhwME4wMDBpRWJFSIB4N2INbVlXeGw0cTdSdlIOaVVDaE1wUudncHVfdEVidWpRb090SzA3THRIU3dlbWdRbzFXTkcrSkZEcXVTaG5EM1hoM0J5UG9BX)  
[C9UWU9tUXAyeFcyK0VvcisraVFMd1BuY0ZrWVB4ZGZINEFhVFo5emoifQ%3D%3D](https://pmbc.connect.space/pmbc-grant-2020/details?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiWkRJMUM5HUmtZVEppTWpVeilsInQiOiJHNHhwME4wMDBpRWJFSIB4N2INbVlXeGw0cTdSdlIOaVVDaE1wUudncHVfdEVidWpRb090SzA3THRIU3dlbWdRbzFXTkcrSkZEcXVTaG5EM1hoM0J5UG9BX)

### **A Place for Detroit's Small Manufacturers to Call Home**

Are you an entrepreneur with a need for manufacturing space but can't afford to buy or lease an entire building? Detroiters First is a new social enterprise working to develop affordable, secure and practical workspaces and secure parking for small non-food manufacturers and contractors owned by Detroiters — residents of Detroit, Highland Park and Hamtramck. Detroiters First is currently looking at a building on Greenfield, north of I-96, to renovate in order to provide an accessible working space for small manufacturers, and wants to better understand the workspace market and the needs of manufacturers and contractors. The building will be a flexible manufacturing space where your company can lease only the floor space that you need, furnish your space with necessary equipment, and take advantage of low overhead operating cost to begin to scale your business. If you are interested in learning more about the space, Detroiters First asks that you complete the survey form at the link below.

<https://pmbc.connect.space/detroiters-first/details>

The space is open to small, non-food manufacturing businesses located in Southeast Michigan. Detroiters First will follow up with all survey respondents by mid-December to let them know what has been learned from the survey and where the project stands. All manufacturers that are interested in moving into the space once it is opened are encouraged to fill out the form so that Detroiters First can provide further information on the process of securing space. Please contact [pmbc@michigan.org](mailto:pmbc@michigan.org) with any questions.

### **PPE Resilience Grant Funding for Oakland and Macomb County Manufacturers:**

There is grant money available until the end of 2020 to help your manufacturing company become more agile and part of the Industry 4.0 age. It's a unique program available to the first 300 qualified manufacturers. There are also opportunities for manufacturing adjacent companies (e.g., distributors, installers, service and support, and light fabricators) in a related program.

Working with Automation Alley, Oakland and Macomb Counties is funding consultations, training and equipment that can help your company change and adapt during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. Manufacturers accepted into the program will receive:

- **Strategic Guidance** on how to transform from legacy operations to digital manufacturing
- **An Industry 4.0 Assessment** outlining where your business stands today and what digital opportunities best fit your needs
- **Connections and Introductions** to state-of-the art vendors and applied research that can help you along your path to Industry 4.0
- **A Financial Investment**, including grant money to purchase Industry 4.0 and state-of-the art digital technologies like a production part capable 3D printer—valued at more than \$20,000, at no cost to you—or an Augmented Reality (AR) manufacturing system
- **Essential Business Designation** for those manufacturers continuing to produce PPE

To qualify, companies must be a small or medium sized manufacturer residing in Oakland or Macomb County. To apply, visit: <https://automationalley.com/PPEgrant> If you have questions on this program, please contact Automation Alley (Troy): [info@automationalley.com](mailto:info@automationalley.com) | (800) 427-5100

### **Huntington Lift Local Business - Super small loans to give start-up businesses a lift**

A new program called Huntington Lift Local Business will target entrepreneurs who have been hard hit by the pandemic by offering loans to small businesses owned by minorities, women and veterans.

What's different about this program is that the loans may be very small, possibly \$1,000 or \$5,000 — the kind of loans that a big bank like Huntington would never have found economically feasible to make in the past. The \$25 million program will provide Small Business Administration guaranteed loans for as little as \$1,000 and up to \$150,000. The SBA fees would be paid by Huntington.

The program also will have no origination fees and offer flexible, longer-term repayment options.

<https://www.huntington.com/SmallBusiness/loans/lift-local>

### **mHub Accelerated Incubation for physical product startups**

HUB's new hand-on [accelerator](#) for early stage hardtech startups, is a six-month long program focused on the rapid prototyping, product development and commercialization of high-potential physical product startups. The first cohort of the program will focus on Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) technologies and is supported by industry partners including Avnet and Panduit. We have begun accepting applications from startups teams who are interested in applying for the first cohort, which will begin in late Q1/early Q2 2021.

<https://mhubaccelerator.com/>

### **Wells Fargo IN2 Program for Cleantech and AgTech**

The Wells Fargo Innovation Incubator (IN<sup>2</sup>) is the proven model for assisting clean technology and agriculture companies to accelerate their paths to market. These start-up companies create products with tremendous potential to positively impact energy use and the environment, but need technology validation to attract the investment community. Enter IN<sup>2</sup>. Funded by the Wells Fargo Foundation, IN<sup>2</sup> harnesses the world-class expertise and facilities of the U.S. Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center (Danforth Center). IN<sup>2</sup>-selected companies receive \$250,000 non-dilutive grants to validate their technologies at NREL or the Danforth Center and secure the priceless benefit of business connections across the entire IN<sup>2</sup> network. To apply you must be recommended by an approved IN2 Channel Partner, Centropolis Accelerator, is one, you can contact Dan Radomski at [dradomski@ltu.edu](mailto:dradomski@ltu.edu).

## AMERICAN MADE PRIZE COMPETITION

The American-Made Challenges incentivize the nation's entrepreneurs to strengthen American leadership in energy innovation and domestic manufacturing. These new challenges seek to lower the barriers U.S.-based innovators face in reaching manufacturing scale by accelerating the cycles of learning from years to weeks, while helping to create partnerships that connect entrepreneurs to the private sector and the network of DOE's National Laboratories across the nation.

- Waves to Water Prize: \$3.3 million in prizes - concepts before November 30, 2020
- **Powering the Blue Economy™: Ocean Observing Prize - concepts before January 31, 2021**
- **Groundbreaking Hydro Prize - concepts before January 31, 2021**

<https://americanmadechallenges.org/>

## NASA Needs Your Ideas for Energy Storage on the Moon

This time, NASA is asking for help through a crowdsourcing partnership with HeroX, offering up a kitty of \$5 million dollars to be divided among teams who can develop viable solutions related to energy distribution, management, or storage. Winners of the aptly titled “Watts on the Moon Challenge” could also receive an opportunity to actually fly their solution to the moon.

Christian Cotichini, CEO of HeroX, says that the campaign won't just help with space exploration needs; it may also generate some innovative ideas that could be used on earth as well “as it pertains to energy use and storage.” To participate, you must be 18 years or older, a U.S. resident or citizen, and submit your concept design by the **Phase 1 deadline of March 25th, 2021**.

[https://www.herox.com/WattsOnTheMoon?utm\\_source=prnewswire&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_campaign=WattsOnTheMoon](https://www.herox.com/WattsOnTheMoon?utm_source=prnewswire&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=WattsOnTheMoon)

## National Lab Partnering Program

Access to Experts, Innovations and Labs

The LPS enables rapid discovery of expertise and serves as a conduit between the investor and the innovator by providing multi-faceted search capability across numerous technology areas and across the national laboratories.

<http://labpartnering.org/>

## Technology Commercialization Fund

The TCF is a nearly \$30 million funding opportunity that leverages the R&D funding in the applied energy programs to mature promising energy technologies with the potential for high impact. It uses 0.9 percent of the funding for the Department's applied energy research, development, demonstration, and commercial application budget for each fiscal year from the Office of Electricity, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Office of Fossil Energy, and Office of Nuclear Energy. These funds are matched with funds from private partners to promote promising energy technologies for commercial purposes.

<https://www.energy.gov/technologytransitions/services/technology-commercialization-fund>

## Webinar Series: Funding and Partnering Opportunities with the DOE

Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Technology Transitions (OTT) is excited to launch a stimulating summer webinar series, Funding and Partnering Opportunities with the U.S. Department of Energy. All programs are recorded for view at any time.

<https://www.energy.gov/technologytransitions/articles/ott-summer-2020-webinar-series-funding-and-partnering-opportunities>

## Free Business Webinars

SCORE has been hosting free, LIVE webinars every week on small business tips and strategies. [See their upcoming offerings on their website.](#)

The Michigan SBDC has been hosting informational webinars. [Watch past recordings](#) and [register for upcoming small business support webinars](#)

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

### City of Pontiac Contacts:

- Linnette Phillips, Director of Economic and Community Development, [lphillips@pontiac.mi.us](mailto:lphillips@pontiac.mi.us)
- Matthew Gibb, Special Legal Counsel for Economic Development, [mgibb@pontiac.mi.us](mailto:mgibb@pontiac.mi.us)
- Miriam Cox, Economic and Community Development Customer Service Representative, [mcox@pontiac.mi.us](mailto:mcox@pontiac.mi.us)
- You may also send questions to: [economicdevelopment@pontiac.mi.us](mailto:economicdevelopment@pontiac.mi.us)
- **HOT LINE: (248) 788.3300**
- **City of Pontiac Website** – Home Page Upcoming Events: [www.pontiac.mi.us](http://www.pontiac.mi.us)
- Download the **PontiaConnect** app to your iPhone or Android