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Minority Business Funding Resource Checklist

Your Quick Guide to Funding, Certifying, and Growing Your Minority-Owned Business · Powered by Noble Trinity Media

This quick-reference guide helps minority entrepreneurs organize, certify, and apply for funding with confidence. Use it to stay funding-ready and never miss another grant or capital opportunity.

■ Business Setup & Readiness

- Registered business with a valid EIN
- Up-to-date licenses, permits, and insurance documents
- Separate business bank account and bookkeeping system (QuickBooks, Wave, etc.)
- Current business plan and executive summary
- Clean, professional website or landing page

■ *Well-organized minority-owned businesses attract more funding and partnership opportunities.*

■ Minority Business Certifications

- Apply for 8(a) Business Development Program (U.S. SBA)
- Secure your MBE (Minority Business Enterprise) certification through NMSDC or local agencies
- Explore state and local supplier diversity certification programs
- Keep digital copies of certification letters in one folder

■ *Certified businesses are more likely to secure corporate and government partnerships seeking diverse vendors.*

■ Funding Opportunities & Sources

- Federal and state minority small business grants (search MBDA.gov and Grants.gov)
- Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) for microloans
- Corporate grant programs: Comcast RISE, Hello Alice, and Visa She's Next
- Crowdfunding via IFundWomen, Kickstarter, or GoFundMe
- Local chambers of commerce and minority business programs

■ Funding Calendar & Application Prep

- Maintain a Funding Tracker with grant names, deadlines, and award amounts
- Prepare a reusable grant narrative telling your business story
- Save attachments (financials, certifications, resumes, product photos) in cloud storage
- Review applications before submission — accuracy builds trust

■ Networking & Growth Resources

- Join NMSDC, NAACP, WBENC, or your local Minority Business Council
- Attend virtual pitch competitions and procurement events
- Partner with peer entrepreneurs for cross-promotions or collaborations
- Seek mentoring through the SBA's SCORE or MBDA Business Centers

■ **Next Step:** Use this checklist every quarter to review progress and stay prepared. Visit you2funds.com for active minority business grants, certification tools, and step-by-step submission support.