In 2016, Indiana unveiled a bold plan. Looking ahead, we laid a vision for Indiana to make available $1 billion into Hoosier innovation and entrepreneurship over the next 10 years. Through Indiana’s $1 Billion Innovation and Entrepreneurship Initiative, the Office of Small Business and Entrepreneurship (OSBE) and its programs, including the Indiana Small Business Development Center (ISBDC) and Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), were integrated into the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC).

This transformative change has allowed Indiana to create a one-stop shop of resources, experience, and information for entrepreneurs and job creators of all types, at all stages of growth and development, and in all business sectors. It is because of this vision and dedication to small business and entrepreneurship that the Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council ranks Indiana seventh in its list of the most entrepreneur-friendly states, along with also ranking Indiana’s climate for entrepreneurship and small business growth seventh in the nation.

As we dedicate ourselves to the focus of supporting and propelling our state’s small businesses, we do so with the same sense of innovation, agility, and tenacity as do the many Hoosier small businesses throughout our state. Our approach is not the status quo. By challenging assumptions and deliberately viewing the world from the shoes of our Hoosier entrepreneurs and small business owners, we are building the best possible ecosystem in Indiana to support small business growth.

As we embark on the future, we look forward to increasing the successful outcomes and building on the accomplishments of 2016. We are forging new relationships and partnerships while preserving and cultivating those with our existing stakeholders. Under the leadership of Governor Eric J. Holcomb, our work and commitment will ensure that Indiana plays a leading role in solving 21st century challenges and continues to be a state that works.

We not only celebrate the accomplishments of our small business and entrepreneurs, but look forward to their continued growth and success as well as those they inspire in years to come!

Jim Schellinger  
Indiana Secretary of Commerce

Elaine Bedel  
President,  
Indiana Economic Development Corporation
Indiana offers the 7th best policy climate for entrepreneurship and small business growth among the 50 states.

Indiana ranks #7 on the SBE Council “Small Business Policy Index 2017.”

The most entrepreneur-friendly states under the “Small Business Policy Index 2017”
1. Nevada
2. Texas
3. South Dakota
4. Wyoming
5. Florida
6. Washington
7. INDIANA
8. Arizona
9. Alabama
10. Ohio

For every dollar spent on the ISBDC Network, $17.10 was earned/returned in various forms of capital infusion to small businesses.