



## Disaster Field Operations Center East

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### Don't Let the Next Disaster Take You by Storm

*Florida SBDCs training courses help businesses before, during and after disasters strike*

**ATLANTA** – Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) are permanent fixtures in Florida and are the state’s principal provider of business assistance. They partner with institutions of higher education and economic development organizations to provide new and existing small to medium sized business owners the tools and counseling to manage resources that enable growth, profitability, and economic prosperity.

Florida SBDCs offer training courses to ensure business owners have necessary tools to continue their operations before, during and after disasters strike.

“As hurricane season begins, all small businesses should take time now to develop a preparedness plan,” said Greg Britton, state director of the Florida SBDC Network. “No storm should be taken lightly, and all small businesses owners should prepare each year no matter the forecast.”

Experts from the [U.S. Small Business Administration \(SBA\)](#) Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilience (ODR&R) and Florida SBDCs join forces at upcoming training events to discuss business continuity, disaster preparation and many more topics to help Florida business owners continue to grow.

#### Upcoming SBDC training events:

Date	Location	Training Title	Register here
Tuesday Aug. 8, 2023 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Lee County Economic Development Office, 2201 Second St., CONF Room Green (Admin East), Fort Myers, FL 33901	“How to Create a Business Continuity Plan”	<a href="#">Register Now</a>
Wednesday Aug. 9, 2023 1 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	FSBDC at UCF, 3201 E Colonial Dr, Venture Training Room Orlando, FL 32803	“Small Business Programs”	<a href="#">Register Now</a>
Tuesday Aug. 29, 2023 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	FSBDC at UCF, 3201 E Colonial Dr, Venture Training Room Orlando, FL 32803	“Access to Capital”	<a href="#">Register Now</a>

For SBDC training schedule visit: [Live Training Calendar – Florida SBDC](#)

The SBDCs and the ODR&R have a significant partnership with the shared goal of helping businesses minimize the risk of disaster, and acquiring resources to repair, rebuild and recover when disasters strike. Classes are free but are capacity limited. Please register in advance by using the hyperlink next to the meeting you're interested in attending.

Don't delay; sign up today.

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#### **About the U.S. Small Business Administration**

*The U.S. Small Business Administration helps power the American dream of business ownership. As the only go-to resource and voice for small businesses backed by the strength of the federal government, the SBA empowers entrepreneurs and small business owners with the resources and support they need to start, grow or expand their businesses, or recover from a declared disaster. It delivers services through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. To learn more, visit [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov).*

#### **About the Florida SBDC Network**

*For more than 45 years, the Florida SBDC Network, the state's principal provider of business assistance [Fl. Stat. [288.001](#)], has nourished a statewide partnership between higher education and economic development to provide existing and emerging small and medium-sized business owners with management and knowledge resources that enable overall growth, increased profitability, and economic prosperity for Florida's economy. In 2021, the Florida SBDC Network delivered more than 157,000 hours of consulting to more than 18,000 small business clients – resulting in business owners securing over half a billion in capital, securing more than \$380 million in government contracts, impacting 28,930 jobs, increasing sales by over \$4 billion, and creating 778 new businesses.*

*With over 40 offices statewide, the Florida SBDC is funded in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration, Department of Defense, State of Florida and other private and public partners. The Florida SBDC Network, headquartered at the University of West Florida, is nationally accredited by the Association of SBDCs and is a recipient of the President's E Award for Export Service. Florida SBDC services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Language assistance services are available for individuals with limited English proficiency. For more information, please visit [www.FloridaSBDC.org](http://www.FloridaSBDC.org).*