

Disclaimers: This information was believed to be correct at the date of its publication. This information is for general information purposes only and should not be relied upon for legal advice.

This fact sheet provides an overview of support and advisory programs available to small business.

Economic Gardening Program

- The Economic Gardening Program is an initiative of the Wollongong, Shellharbour and Kiama Councils focused on growing Illawarra small to medium enterprises (SMEs) and encouraging them to seek exports. The program is aimed at Illawarra SMEs that have sound business models, are no longer start-ups and have yet to mature to the second stage of their development.
- The program includes a business boot camp and series of workshops. Participants also have networking and business to business opportunities and access to a range of practical resources. Select participants will also receive one-on-one business coaching. Local business experts facilitate the workshops and coaching.
- The program is offered twice a year, with intakes generally starting in March and September.
- More information: www.economicgardening.com.au

iAccelerate

- iAccelerate is a University of Wollongong (UOW) initiative built around entrepreneurship, innovation and the skills of UOW's pipeline of highly skilled graduates. iAccelerate is aimed at start-ups and businesses looking to grow their business to the next levels.
- iAccelerate is a set of tailored business acceleration programs that aim to rapidly develop and deliver technology focused business into the Illawarra economy. Participants will have access to a robust educational program, formalised business acceleration monitoring and one-to-one mentoring. Participants also have the opportunity to co-locate with like-minded entrepreneurs at the iAccelerate Hub (Innovation Campus) and partner with UOW.
- More information: www.iaccelerate.com.au

Illawarra Digital Enterprise Program

- The Illawarra Digital Enterprise Program assists businesses in creating, improving and maintaining a digital enterprise. The program is aimed at SMEs (up to 200 employees) and not for profit organisations within the Wollongong and Shellharbour local government areas.
- Participants will have access to digital training workshops and mentoring.
- The program is an Australian Government initiative delivered by RDA Illawarra. Training is provided by TAFE NSW Illawarra Institute and Access Community Group.
- More information: www.illawarradigital.com.au

Small Biz Connect

- Small Biz Connect is a NSW Government initiative providing quality, personalised and highly subsidised business advisory services to small businesses in NSW. The program is aimed at small businesses, business intenders and start-ups.
- Participants receive expert advice on managing their small business, access to face-to-face support and the opportunity to develop key business skills.
- Participants can receive up to three hours of business advice at no cost with further in depth advice at low cost. Small Biz Connect is locally delivered by Enterprise and Training Company Ltd.
- More information: www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au

Business Enterprise Centre

- Illawarra ITeC can assist businesses with meeting their training and employment needs by providing services in education, training and skills development.
- Micro businesses and SMEs can receive training and mentoring. Services include: business advice and planning, accredited and non-accredited training, workshops and seminars, networking events, facilities and training room hire.
- More information: www.illawarraitec.com.au

business.gov.au

- business.gov.au is an online government resource for the Australian business community. business.gov.au is a whole-of-government service providing essential information on planning, starting and growing as business.
- business.gov.au provides a wide range of free tools and resources that are useful to businesses, including direct links to Australian Government programmes and services.
- More information: business.gov.au

Disclaimer

- This is not a comprehensive list of all support offered to small business. As the programs are not all delivered by Wollongong City Council, if further information is required please visit the appropriate website.
- For general information on business support please contact Council's Economic Development Team on 02 4227 7111 or visit the Economic Development website at: www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/city/economicdevelopment.