



Notice of Funding Opportunity

Women's Funding WBC Cohort [Enroll Here](#)

Posting Date: March 5, 2025

Opportunity Overview

The Association of Women's Business Centers (AWBC) invites Women's Business Centers (WBCs) to participate in a Women's Funding Cohort dedicated to expanding access to capital for women-owned businesses. This program provides a collaborative learning environment where WBCs will gain specialized training in loan readiness, commercial loans, alternative financing options, and capital strategies while directly supporting access to funding for WBC clients. The cohort is designed to leverage and enhance capital access programs that WBCs already provide, and all levels of knowledge regarding capital access are welcome.

This program is unique in that there is no funding limit and no cap on the number of participating WBCs. Awards to WBCs will be based on participation in the monthly cohort and lending referrals, receiving 1% of any funding closed through eligible sources available on AWBC's [HOPE2Women Funding Center](#)

Program Details

This initiative is not a replacement for existing WBC capital access programs, but rather an opportunity to expand and strengthen impact and efficacy by collaborating throughout the WBC network. Participating WBCs will join a monthly cohort meeting and engage in activities that ensure women entrepreneurs are prepared to secure capital. The monthly education will cover a variety of topics, including:

- Understanding Loan Readiness Requirements
- Personal Financial Statements
- Business Credit
- Business Plans and Financial Projections
- Credit Repair & Credit Worthiness
- Navigating Funding Sources

Participating WBCs will have the option of referring potential borrowers to the HOPE2Women funding center, and will receive a grant of 1% of the total volume of eligible closed loans referred.



Grant Details:

- Award Maximum:** 1% of eligible closed loans
- Performance period:** Ongoing
- Eligible Entities:** AWBC members (WBCs) in good standing

Performance Metrics

- Attend and actively participate in monthly cohort meetings
- Provide loan readiness coaching and business technical assistance to women entrepreneurs
- Collaborate by sharing templates, forms, presentations and other materials that may be useful to other WBCs
- Referrals of prepared borrowers to HOPE2Women.org/funding-center

Reporting and Payment Schedule

AWBC will issue a quarterly report regarding the status of any referred loans and issue payment within 30 days of each quarter end (March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31). WBCs are eligible for a grant amount of 1% of closed loan volume through eligible products.

Enrollment:

This program offers rolling enrollments for new WBCs to join the cohort, but will have a "Round 1" phase for an initial cohort.

Enrollment Application Link:
<https://awbc.org/funding-center-cohort/>

Round 1 Application Deadline: March 19, 2025