

Incentives and Financing

There are a variety of resources to help you with the financial aspects of starting up, growing or relocating your business. Please scroll through the list below and contact us with any questions:

SOREDI Business Development Loan Fund: Your business may qualify for a SOREDI loan if it will be creating jobs in Jackson or Josephine County and you need financing for;

- non-speculative land purchase
- new buildings
- machinery and equipment
- start-up and working capital

Loans from \$10,000 to \$250,000 are available through the SOREDI loan process and loans may be made up to \$950,000 with the addition of [Oregon Business Development Fund](#) (ODBF) funds. Terms range from 3 to 10 years and must be collateralized. SOREDI charges a competitive interest rate ranging from 2 percent under prime rate to 4 percent above prime with a minimum rate of 8% (currently in effect). Rates are fixed for the life of the loan with no pre-payment penalty. A loan fee of 1.5% is charged on each loan and the borrower is responsible for any out of pocket expenses incurred. A loan candidate must create at least one job for every \$15,000 to \$20,000 borrowed. The borrower must further have an equity position of at least 10 percent of the project amount and the loan cannot fund more than 75% of the project other conditions may apply and the business plan must show reasonable prospect of repayment. For more information please contact Alex Pawlowski, SOREDI Business Loan Manager at (541) 779-2608 or email alex@soredi.org.

Workforce Development Grants: If your business is adding jobs in the immediate future, you may qualify for;

- \$2000 per job created, through a Job Creation Grant offered by Jackson County
- \$2500 per job created, through a Job Creation Grant offered by The Job Council

Enterprise and E-Commerce Zone Tax Incentives in Southern Oregon:

Enterprise Zone incentives were established for Jackson and Josephine counties by the [Oregon Economic & Community Development Department](#) (OECD). Local jurisdictions sponsor the program and provide the respective property tax exemption benefit.

Qualifying businesses may be eligible for three years of property tax abatement for capital improvements and this can be increased to five years if the average compensation for new hires is at least 150% of the local average wage. For Jackson county, this incentive can be earned at \$49,301 average new hire compensation and for Josephine county \$44,718.

[Here is a detailed breakdown of average wage statistics for Southern Oregon.](#)

Grants Pass, the Illinois Valley, commercially and industrially zoned sites in Josephine County, Medford, White City, Butte Falls, Rogue River, and some rural portions of Jackson County have designated Enterprise Zones.

Maps of the Enterprise Zones can be downloaded by clicking the links below.

- [Jackson County Enterprise Zone](#)
- [Medford Urban Enterprise Zone](#)
- [Rogue Enterprise Zone](#)

The Rogue Valley and the City of Medford are also designated Electronic Commerce Zones. Companies that do 51 percent or more of their business via the internet may qualify for up to a 25 percent income tax credit. [Motorcycle USA](#) of Medford is one of the local companies which has taken advantage of the Electronic Commerce Zone benefit.

[Download a brief summary of Enterprise and E-commerce Zone incentives.](#)

[Download a pre-certification application for Enterprise Zone benefits.](#)

Direct inquiries to [Ron Fox](#), Executive Director of SOREDI and Enterprise Zone Manager. Ron may be reached by phone at (541) 494-1023.