



PRESENTED BY



Lisa Shimkat

Associate Administrator of Field Operations and
Acting Associate Administrator of the Office of Manufacturing
and Trade (OMT)
U.S. Small Business Administration

Lisa Shimkat serves as the Associate Administrator of Field Operations for the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), where she oversees 68 District Offices and 10 Regional Offices across the country. In this role, she leads the SBA's nationwide field network, ensuring that small businesses have access to vital capital, contracting assistance, and business development programs. She works in collaboration with SBA resource partners, lenders, and local economic development organizations to expand entrepreneurial support and economic growth in communities across the United States.

In addition to her Associate Administrator role in the Office of Field Operations, Lisa serves as the Acting Associate Administrator of the Office of Manufacturing and Trade (OMT). In her OMT role, she leads a team of high-level finance specialists dedicated to supporting small manufacturers and exporters by facilitating access to capital through partnerships with financial institutions. Additionally, she oversees OMT's trade policy team, which advocates for small business interests in trade and international affairs.

Previously, Lisa was the State Director of America's Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Iowa, where she led a network of fifteen centers dedicated to providing business counseling and support to entrepreneurs across the state. Under her leadership, the Iowa SBDC played a pivotal role in fostering small business growth, disaster recovery efforts, and rural business development. She has extensive experience in economic development, having managed a multimillion-dollar revolving loan fund to assist rural entrepreneurs and manufacturers in expanding their businesses, as well as serving as a plant manager for an agricultural rebuilder.

Lisa earned her Associate of Arts degree from Iowa Central Community College, followed by a Bachelor's and Master of Business Administration from Iowa State University. She has a long-standing commitment to small business advocacy, previously serving on the Securities and Exchange Commission Advisory Committee on Small and Emerging Companies and held a seat on the Iowa Economic Development Authority Board from 2019 - 2024. Additionally, she served three terms on America's Small Business Development Center, National Association Board and chair. She was an elected member of the Fort Dodge Community School Board of Education for over ten years showing a commitment to community and service.

Her contributions to economic development and entrepreneurship have earned her numerous accolades, including being recognized as a Distinguished Iowa Central Alum and Hall of Fame Inductee in 2022. In 2023, she was honored as a Woman of Influence in Iowa by the Des Moines Business Record.

Lisa is passionate about fostering small business success, ensuring equitable access to SBA programs, and strengthening the national support system for entrepreneurs to thrive and grow.