



Pure Michigan Business Connect – Legal Services Program

PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

The Pure Michigan Business Connect program, in part, assists Michigan's small business economic growth by offering free-of-charge legal services to entrepreneurs in start-up or early growth stages, as well as targeted assistance to specified Second Stage growth companies. The legal services are provided by Michigan law firms that offer to volunteer their professional services for the program.

WHO WILL QUALIFY

Entrepreneurs and businesses are recommended to the participating law firms by MEDC and MEDC's statewide economic development partner, the Small Business Development and Technology Center (SBTDC) network. Business clients recommended for this program will qualify based on MEDC's selection criteria and screened by the SBTDC staff for referral. The screening criteria include the following:

- Businesses must present a detailed business plan, demonstrate a legitimate need for legal services and support, and must have no attorney of record.
- Businesses must be focused on job creation and growth.
- Businesses must be committed to growing in the Michigan economy.

COMMITMENT FROM PARTICIPATING LAW FIRMS

The MEDC welcomes the participation of law firms interested in helping Michigan's small business community with free-of-charge legal services. To effectively channel the appropriate number and types of business clients to participating law firms, the MEDC asks law firms to describe in writing their level of commitment to the program, including the following:

- Number of Business Clients that Can Be Assisted During One Calendar Year
- Annual Value of Cost Associated with Providing Legal and Advisory Services
- Minimum Dollar Value of Services Provided to Each Client
- Maximum Dollar Value of Services Provided to Each Client
- Description of Fee Structure After Client Surpasses Maximum Assistance Value
- Law Firm Contact Person Name, Phone, and Email Address (For MEDC Use)
- Authorization to Publicize Firm's Participation on MEDC website, press releases, and other public relations materials.
- State Your Credentials to Practice Law in Michigan and Your Standing with the MI Bar Association



■ **Indicate the scope and type of legal services offered (indicate all that may apply):**

- Corporate Services
- eBusiness Services
- State and Federal Tax Issues
- Commercial Contracts
- Financial Services
- Labor and Employment Relations
- Intellectual Property
- Immigration
- Contracts & Leases
- Real Estate

Interested law firms should send a letter requesting participation to the following:

Michael A. Finney
President and CEO
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913.

If you have questions, please contact MEDC's Customer Assistance staff at 517.373.9808 or by email at BusinessConnect@medc.org.