*WV BusinessLink Press Release Template - available for use after September 13, 2021*

**(PARTNER NAME) joins West Virginia BusinessLink as official Resource Partner**

CITY W.Va. – (PARTNER NAME) announces it has joined [West Virginia BusinessLink](https://wvbusinesslink.com/) as a Resource Partner available to the state’s small businesses. West Virginia BusinessLink assembles an array of resources in one online destination.

“We welcome all Resource Partners to West Virginia BusinessLink,” said Secretary Mitch Carmichael, West Virginia Department of Economic Development. “Our goal is for West Virginia to be competitive as a great place for businesses to locate, start and grow successful. Providing support through resources such as West Virginia BusinessLink and every great Resource Partner helps make that possible.”

(PARTNER NAME provides SERVICE/PRODUCT. One or two sentences that highlight the company.)

To utilize BusinessLink, West Virginia’s business owners and entrepreneurs can visit[wvbusinesslink.com](https://wvbusinesslink.com/), use the “Connect to Resources” box to find resources in a specific area, explore upcoming training and networking events in the calendar, and find supportive information in the “STARTUP, “GROWTH” and “FUNDING” tabs.

In the “Connect to Resources” box, website visitors can answer questions about their company and what they need. BusinessLink analyzes the replies, scours the database of Resource Partners, calculates the best matches and responds to the business owner with referrals. The process of searching for resources and providers becomes faster and more effective.

BusinessLink is free to use and available 24/7. One-on-one appointments to discuss business needs can also be requested by calling 888-982-7232.

Services available from BusinessLink Resource Partners include the following:

* Business planning
* Loans & financing
* Co-working/co-making
* Accelerators and Incubators
* Marketing & sales
* Human Resources
* Mentoring
* Licenses & permits
* Startup assistance
* Product development
* Technical Assistance
* Training classes
* Government contract assistance
* Operations assistance

“West Virginia businesses, whether they are large or small, startups or established, contribute to our communities and improve the business climate,” said Executive Director Mike Graney, WV Department of Economic Development. “BusinessLink and its collective Resource Partners put a wealth of expertise and know-how into the hands of West Virginia business owners and entrepreneurs.”

Agencies, organizations and companies with services of interest to West Virginia entrepreneurs, can join the network of official Resource Partners within BusinessLink. The first step is to complete the online entry form at [wvbusinesslink.com](https://wvbusinesslink.com/) and describe your services, types of industries you serve and specialties. It is free to join and has potential to connect you with more entrepreneurs and small business owners than ever before.

“West Virginia BusinessLink makes it easy to find all the resources a small business owner needs. It connects them with the right resources at the right time,” said Director Debra Martin, WV Small Business Development Center. “Until now, it was difficult and time consuming to determine what agencies and organizations are available to help small business owners and entrepreneurs. We hope BusinessLink resolves this issue and helps position these individuals and their businesses for long term success.”

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