**Regional Resources**

*Southern Tier Economic Growth (STEG):*

<http://www.steg.com/IncentivesPrograms/Local.aspx>

Steg is a not-for-profit organization that focuses on promoting business growth in Chemung County with economic development programs. The board is comprised of local business people, elected officials, and community leaders allowing the organization to make decision that most benefit the local interests and initiatives. They make available the guidelines and requirements for local assistance and direct people to many of the resources available in the region.

*Chemung County Industrial Development Agency (CCIDA):*

<http://chemungcountyida.com/>

CCIDA offer financial incentives for projects in the Chemung County area that have a positive impact on the community’s economy. Staff support for this organization is provided by Southern Tier Economic Growth. The organization can offer a variety of tax incentives, financing, and/ or other related benefits listed on their website for projects that impact the economy positively in Chemung County

*Elmira Downtown Development (EDD):*

<http://www.elmiradowntown.com/>

EDD manages the Downtown Business Improvement District, providing resources for marketing and beautification projects in the downtown Elmira area. They also act as a central communication point between Elmira businesses and city government officials. Their programs include a Façade Improvement Program, Signage Improvement Program, Environment Program, and the New York Main Street Program.

*Regional Economic Development & Energy Corporation (REDEC):*

<http://www.redec.us/>

REDEC provides financial and technical assistance to start-up companies and expanding companies in Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, and Tioga County and is the Southern Tier’s primary revolving loan fund.

*Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Councils (STREDC):*

<http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/content/southern-tier>

The STREDC was created as part of Governor Cuomo’s economic development plan and incorporates members of the community as its leadership and drivers of progress. The Southern Tier offers three programs geared toward local businesses: The Rural Initiative Program, Community Revitalization Program, and the Shovel Ready Program, which offer low interest loans and other assistance for the respective initiatives.

**State Resources**

*New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA):*

<https://apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/>

CFA was created to streamline and expedite the grant application process for companies in New York State looking for government assistance. This fund is meant to assist in community development, business/organizational assistance, and education/workforce development.

*Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC):*

<http://www.empire.state.ny.us/>

The ESDC offers several assistance programs in the forms of technical and financial support as well as small business resources and tax credit programs.

*Look Upstate NY:*

<http://www.lookupstateny.com/>

Look Upstate NY is an assistance and initiative program offered by New York Electric and Gas (NYSEG) offering competitive pricing and rate incentive programs. It also has committed part of its budget for non-rate incentive programs including energy efficiency assistance, capital investment incentives, and utility infrastructure incentive, to name a few.

**National Resources**

*Bank Alternatives:*

<http://www.businessnewsdaily.com/8448-best-business-loans.html>

This link provides a detailed list of bank alternatives that small businesses can reach out to too acquire loans. Some of the examples provided on the list are:

*Kabbage:* Kabbage is an online lender that provides lines of credits to small businesses all over the world. All of their transactions are handled online, and their loans (which are typically six months) range from $2000-$100000. However since the loans are such short term the interest rates can be quite high.

*Accion:* Accion is a non-profit bank alternative that usually helps finance startup businesses, but provides loans for small businesses as well. These loans range from $10000-$100000 and carry interest rates usually around 10% APR. The two biggest requirements for loans are a minimum credit score of 575 and proof of income.

*Biz2Credit:* This website serves as an online marketplace for small businesses looking to connect with lenders online. On the website small businesses can apply for a variety of different loans such as: SBA loans, equipment financing, and business acquisition loans.