

What We Do

The Office of Business Development is part of the Wisconsin Department of Administration. It was created in 2012 to give business a voice in government reforms.

We meet with business owners, trade associations, Chambers of Commerce and other stakeholder groups to ensure you know about the services available to help you do business.

As business ombudsmen, we take your feedback to the appropriate state agency, Small Business Regulatory Review Board or the Legislature to help make Wisconsin a better place to do business.



“We need to see that all of our business owners learn about this office. I wish I’d known about you when I was dealing with issues a few years ago.”

Eau Claire Business Owner

Office of Business Development

101 East Wilson Street, 10th Floor
P.O. Box 7864
Madison, WI 53707
Website: doa.wi.gov/obd

Directors Contact Information and Help Request Form, available on the website.



Contact us to schedule a presentation!

Invite us to your business or industry trade group, Chamber of Commerce or economic development association.

**Small Business Regulatory Review Board
Submit rule ideas online
smallbusiness.wi.gov**

Office of Business Development



**GIVING BUSINESS A VOICE IN STATE
GOVERNMENT REFORMS**

Reaching Resolutions

We assist business owners with a variety of issues including questions about tax audits, unemployment, inspection requirements and the permitting process. The Office of Business Development aims to assist business owners in resolving problems, advancing ideas and seeking solutions to sticky situations.

"To create more jobs, employers told us they also need help cutting through the red tape of government. The Small Business Regulatory Review Board has the authority to review every rule in all of our state agencies. They will work to remove antiquated and unnecessary regulations that pose a threat to creating new jobs."
Governor Scott Walker

Regulatory Reform: Input Needed

An effective administrative code and efficient and reliable state services depend on input from business to guide reform.

You are the expert on how the laws impact you, and we want to hear how process, procedures and the interpretation and implementation of existing rules impact your business every day.

We appreciate your common sense suggestions to reduce or remove unnecessary burdens that laws and rules place on businesses in Wisconsin.

Rule Making Process

Laws are passed in the Legislature – and the rules that interpret and apply state law are written by state agencies.

Often based on requests from industry, trade associations or advisory boards, laws can lead to licensing, continuing education, or environmental regulations or requirements.

Rules may be confusing or outdated because of new technology or advancements. Your input helps guide new rules to provide clarity and remove burdensome or unnecessary requirements.



Review Rules & Comment Online

A more centralized webpage was developed in 2016 to encourage public comment during the rule making process. Rules proposed by agencies are posted for review and citizens are encouraged to provide feedback, which helps prevent unintended consequences for stakeholders and citizens in new rules.

Go to legis.wi.gov to review rules and provide feedback.

A quick reference guide can be found at doa.wi.gov/obd.

Small Business Regulatory Review Board

The primary purpose of the Small Business Regulatory Review Board is to reduce the regulatory burden on small businesses by advocating for small business in the legislative and regulatory process.

Research shows that small businesses bear a disproportionate share of the regulatory burden. For small businesses, the cost to comply with rules and regulations is 45 percent more than their larger counterparts.



The Board encourages a partnership between small business and state agencies. State agencies work with the Board to consider rule revisions, and submit economic impact statements outlining the cost of complying with new rules before they are enacted.

Businesses may appear before the board to present a case for reform. The board makes recommendations to state agencies and the legislature to reduce unnecessary burdens on business.

Submit a rule change recommendation online at smallbusiness.wi.gov.