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## Professional Associations (2010)

### **American Management Association (AMA)**

A world leader in professional development, advancing the skills of individuals to drive business success. AMA supports the goals of individuals and organizations through a complete range of products and services, including seminars, webcasts and podcasts, conferences, corporate and government solutions, business books and research.

<http://www.american-management-association.org>

### **American Society of Association Executives (ASAE)**

The best resource to locate a trade organization in your industry.

[www.asaenet.org](http://www.asaenet.org)

### **Angel Forum, LLC**

Private equity group which provides technology and non technology pre-screened companies seeking equity financing of \$100,000 to \$1 million, deliver "live" presentations to pre-screened private & corporate investors.

[www.angelsforum.com](http://www.angelsforum.com)

### **Association of Women's Business Centers**

Women Business Development Centers WBDC provide direct educational services to women business owners. Many centers also certify women business enterprises (WBEs).

[www.awbc.biz](http://www.awbc.biz)

### **Better Business Bureau (BBB)**

Check out a business; find a local Better Business Bureau, and more.

[www.us.bbb.org](http://www.us.bbb.org)

### **International Franchise Association (IFA)**

The International Franchise Association, founded in 1960, is a membership organization of franchisors, franchisees, and suppliers.

[www.franchise.org](http://www.franchise.org)

### **Insurance Information Institute (III)**

The insurance information institute [www.iii.org](http://www.iii.org) has great resources for small business owners. They have a small business owner's guide to insurance section that is worth looking at log on at

[http://www.iii.org/individuals/business/small\\_business.html](http://www.iii.org/individuals/business/small_business.html)

### **Marathon Club**

The Marathon Club is focused on increasing the availability and investment of private equity capital into enterprises that have significant minority ownership and management participation.

[www.marathonclub.org](http://www.marathonclub.org)

### **National Association of the Self Employed (NASE)**

NASE was founded in 1981 and represents hundreds of thousands of entrepreneurs and micro-businesses, and is the largest nonprofit, nonpartisan association.

[www.nase.org](http://www.nase.org)

### **National Association of Small Business Investment Companies**

Small business investment companies (SBIC) and Specialized Small Business Investment Companies (SSBIC) invest in small businesses. These are private venture capital firms licensed by the SBA.

[www.nasbic.org](http://www.nasbic.org)

### **National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO)**

The largest women's business organization in the US, with 80 chapters across the country.

[www.nawbo.org](http://www.nawbo.org)

### **National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)**

The NAM's mission is to advocate on behalf of its members to enhance the competitiveness of manufacturers. NAM is a primary source for information on manufacturers' contributions to innovation and productivity.

[www.nam.org](http://www.nam.org)

### **National Business Incubation Association (NBIA)**

NBIA is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) membership organization considered the world's leading organization advancing business incubation and entrepreneurship. Its mission is to provide training and a clearinghouse for information on incubator management and development issues and on tools for assisting start-up and fledgling firms.

[www.nbia.org](http://www.nbia.org)

### **National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)**

A national small business association in Washington, D.C., and all 50 state capitals. NFIB gives small and independent business owners a voice in shaping the public policy issues that affect their business.

[www.nfib.com](http://www.nfib.com)

**National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC)**

National Minority Supplier Development Council provides a direct link between corporate America and minority-owned businesses. NMSDC is a purchasing council for nationally certified minority business enterprises or (MBEs).

[www.nmsdc.org](http://www.nmsdc.org)

**National Restaurant Association**

The National Restaurant Association is the leading business association for the restaurant industry.

[www.restaurant.org](http://www.restaurant.org)

**National Urban League (NUL)**

The nation's oldest and largest community-based movement devoted to empowering African Americans to enter the economic mainstream. Many of NUL's 100 affiliates operate Economic Empowerment Centers. EEC Centers bring together top private, public and nonprofit organizations to improve minority entrepreneurship in economically underserved urban areas nationwide.

[www.nul.org](http://www.nul.org)

**National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE)**

The National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship helps young people from low-income communities build skills and unlock their entrepreneurial creativity.

[www.nfte.com](http://www.nfte.com)

**Private Equity**

Active Capital (originally known as ACE-Net) provides information to angel investors on small, dynamic, growing businesses seeking private equity financing.

[www.activecapital.org](http://www.activecapital.org)

**Risk Management Association**

This association produces the most reliable-on study of financial performance and ratios of over 600 industries. They sell their annual studies online for a nominal fee.

[www.rmahq.org/online\\_prods/onlineprods.html](http://www.rmahq.org/online_prods/onlineprods.html)

**Small Business Legislative Council (SBLC)**

The Small Business Legislative Council (SBLC) is an independent, permanent coalition of trade and professional associations who share a common concern for the future of small business.

<http://www.sblc.org>

**Social Venture Network (SVN)**

A nonprofit network who's mission is to inspire a community of business leaders to build socially and environmentally sustainable business in the 21st century. SVN champions this effort through initiatives, information services and twice annual conferences.

[www.svn.org](http://www.svn.org)

**Society for Human Resource Management**

Leading organization of HR directors and staff. This site is packed with insightful articles on numerous human resource topics.

[www.shrm.com](http://www.shrm.com)

**U.S. Chamber of Commerce**

The world's largest business federation. The Chamber's core purpose is to fight for free enterprise before Congress, regulatory agencies, the courts, the media, and governments around the world.

[www.uschamber.com](http://www.uschamber.com)

**U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**

In 1979, the Hispanic business community in the United States and envisioned the need for a national organization to represent its interests before the public and private sectors. They are the umbrella organization for Hispanic chambers across the country.

[www.usbcc.org](http://www.usbcc.org)

**Venture Capital Institute**

The organization conducts seminars for professional venture capitalists and entrepreneurs.

[www.vcinstitute.org](http://www.vcinstitute.org)

**Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC)**

WBENC is a purchasing council for nationally certified women's business enterprises known as WBEs.

[www.wbenc.org](http://www.wbenc.org)