BizGrow CENTRAL

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is BizGrow Central?

BizGrow Central is Boston's first free entrepreneurship hub that brings together legal services, business advising, mentorship, collaborative workspace, technology, training, and networking opportunities under one roof for entrepreneurs from underserved communities.

Why is Lawyers for Civil Rights creating an entrepreneurship hub?

Economic opportunity has always been a civil rights issue. For more than 25 years, Lawyers for Civil Rights has helped entrepreneurs overcome legal barriers to starting and growing businesses. BizGrow Central expands that work by creating a permanent home where entrepreneurs can access the tools, expertise, and community they need to succeed.

Why focus on entrepreneurship?

Owning a business is one of the most powerful pathways to economic mobility, job creation, and generational wealth. Yet many entrepreneurs lack access to affordable legal services, trusted advisors, professional workspace, and business networks.

Who can use BizGrow Central?

BizGrow Central is designed to serve entrepreneurs from underserved communities, including low-income entrepreneurs, immigrants, women entrepreneurs, and entrepreneurs of color. Businesses at every stage—from idea to expansion—are welcome to apply for access.

How can I apply?

The application will be available in anticipation of our annual BizGrow Conference and will be posted here by July 23: https://lawyersforcivilrights.org/bizgrow-central.

Is it really free?

Yes! Legal services, business advising, workshops, mentorship, networking, and use of the collaborative workspace are provided to qualifying entrepreneurs at no cost.

How is BizGrow Central different from an incubator or coworking space?

Traditional coworking spaces provide desks, and incubators often focus on venture-backed startups. BizGrow Central combines legal services, business expertise, mentorship, technology, professional workspace, and community—all under one roof and at no cost.

Why downtown Boston?

Downtown Boston remains the economic heart of the region. Locating BizGrow Central across from Boston Common makes it easily accessible by public transportation while also bringing entrepreneurs, clients, volunteers, and business leaders into the heart of the urban core.

How many entrepreneurs does BizGrow already serve?

BizGrow currently provides legal, business, and technical assistance to more than 2,000 entrepreneurs each year, building on more than 25 years of service. Small business owners interested in BizGrow services should contact bizgrow@lawyersforcivilrights.org

Who provides the services?

Services are delivered by Lawyers for Civil Rights staff together with a growing network of law firms, corporations, accountants, marketing professionals, business advisors, and community partners who volunteer their talent, time, and expertise. Potential collaborators should contact bizgrow@lawyersforcivilrights.org

How is BizGrow Central funded?

BizGrow Central is supported through philanthropy, foundations, corporate partnerships, law firms, and individual donors who believe that expanding economic opportunity strengthens our communities. Potential donors should contact justice@lawyersforcivilrights.org

Is this only about legal services?

No! Legal services are a major component, but BizGrow Central also provides business advising, mentorship, networking, technology, educational programming, collaborative workspace, and connections to Boston's broader entrepreneurial ecosystem.

What impact do you hope to achieve?

BizGrow Central will help entrepreneurs launch businesses, create jobs, build wealth, strengthen neighborhoods, and contribute to a more inclusive economy.

Why is this a civil rights initiative?

Economic opportunity has always been a civil rights issue. Lasting civil rights progress requires expanding opportunity, building institutions, and creating pathways to economic mobility. Entrepreneurship is one of the most powerful ways individuals and families can build wealth, create jobs, and strengthen their communities. BizGrow Central reflects Lawyers for Civil Rights' belief that equal opportunity means not only removing barriers, but also helping people build businesses, create generational wealth, and achieve lasting economic independence.