



Delaware State University University Center for Economic Development and Trade

University Center for Economic Development and Trade

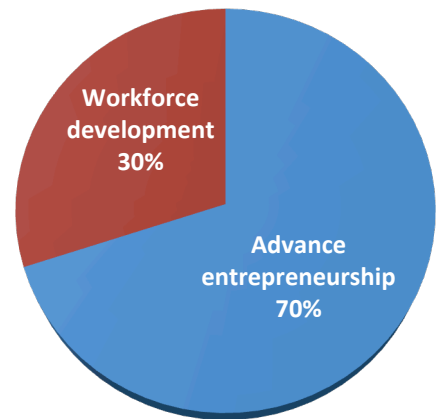
The University Center for Economic Development and Trade (UCEDT) was created with the goal of promoting and supporting entrepreneurship and workforce development. Founded in 2011, UCEDT is working to build the relationships that will help it to serve businesses, governments, and economic development agencies in the State of Delaware. The Center is located in Delaware State University's College of Business, from which it receives matching support for the EDA Center grant. The Center also is supported by program fees.

Activities

As a new University Center, building relationships and connections to help Delaware State University and UCEDT become stakeholders and resources for economic development and planning in the state is an important Center priority. This work will serve as a foundation for future collaborations and technical assistance projects.

The Center provides technical assistance to local governments, such as the feasibility and impact study in-

progress for the City of Dover, as well as strategic support and guidance on international trade initiatives for companies such as First State Manufacturing, Sanmak Solar Systems, and Mold Masters. The Center has also been working to establish First State Moves the Nation, a jobs and business accelerator, in collaboration with First Aid Manufacturing and the City of Milford.



Leveraging

In addition to receiving salary match and workspace from the College of Business, UCEDT has been utilizing students to assist with data collection for the Center. Also, while located in

University

Delaware State University

Center Director

Michael Casson

Center Location

College of Business

Center since 2011

Center Activities

- Technical assistance
- Building networks and partnerships

Clients

- Businesses
- Government
- Economic development organizations

Assessment Techniques

- Tracking economic impact and other indicators
- Case studies
- Client interviews
- Client satisfaction surveys

Contact Information

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the College of Business, the Center has broad buy-in from across the University. The Center leverages relationships with the Small Business Administration, Delaware Center for Enterprise Development, Delaware Department of Labor, Delaware Economic Development Organization, and county economic development agencies. In addition, the Center works collaboratively with the University's Adult and Continuing Education Division, Center for IT Services, and Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources Program. The Center also leverages university data sources, faculty expertise, and student labor.

Success

First State Moves the Nation

The University Center for Economic Development and Trade has formed a relationship with First Aid Manufacturing and the City of Milford toward the development of a jobs and business accelerator, First State Moves the Nation. The Center has been involved in the planning process and will provide technical assistance in the form of legal services and/or the creation of a virtual accelerator to enhance the project

An accelerator in the City of Milford makes use of a repurposed building in a distressed area.