

## **Enterprise Development**

**Enterprise Development (ED) is a critical tool for an expansion program. ED has a very broad definition that ranges from micro-businesses that fill the needs of small neighborhoods, to early-stage companies with the ability to grow into significant generators of wealth and job creation through their role as a primary employer.**

**The Colorado Springs EDC believes that a strong entrepreneurial culture is critical to a successful and vibrant economy, and its role is to help facilitate Enterprise Development through the support of organizations directly responsible for assisting companies as small as a sole-proprietor, to early-stage companies with significant institutional investment.**

**Each community has different organizations and partners that work toward growing start-ups and supporting small businesses. Examples of local partners in the Pikes Peak region: The Colorado Springs Technology Incubator, Peak Venture Group, High Altitude Investors, Small Business Development Center (SBDC), SCORE, Chamber of Commerce, and the Colorado Homeland Defense Alliance, are focused directly on assisting the Colorado Springs entrepreneurial community. The EDC directly assists entrepreneurs through its Project Scout program and database, and through its support of the Segway Economic Gardening program.**

**The Pikes Peak region's unique attributes contribute to a strong entrepreneurial culture. There are over 15 institutions of higher learning with a vast array of offerings, including a Bachelor's Degree in Innovation at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.**

### **Resources to assist entrepreneurs:**

**Local Chambers of Commerce**

**Small Business Development Centers**

**Networking Groups**

**Incubators**

**University programs and resources**

**CO Office of Economic Development and International Trade – [www.advancecolorado.com](http://www.advancecolorado.com)**

**State Venture Capital Authority (VCA) - [www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/OEDIT/](http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/OEDIT/)**

### **For reference:**

**Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce – [www.coloradospringschamber.org](http://www.coloradospringschamber.org)**

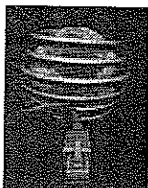
**Colorado Springs Technology Incubator -- [www.cstionline.org](http://www.cstionline.org)**

**Peak Venture Group - [www.peakventure.org](http://www.peakventure.org)**

**Small Business Development Center – [www.cssbdc.org](http://www.cssbdc.org)**

**Other resources – [www.springssmallbiz.com](http://www.springssmallbiz.com)**

## PEAK VENTURE GROUP PROGRAMS



The mission of the Peak Venture Group is to provide networking venues that bring together entrepreneurial and emerging companies, investors, and service providers, to catalyze the creative exchange of information and education.

Peak Venture Group programs are designed to provide entrepreneurs and emerging companies the network and resources to grow their business. Our popular Venture Breakfast program provides an opportunity for startups to introduce their offering to our community of service providers and investors. Our Venture Advisory program connects entrepreneurs seeking assistance and education with our panel of industry experts.

### PVG BREAKFASTS

[Our Next Event](#)  
[Presenting in the 5-Minute Forum](#)  
[Sponsoring a Breakfast](#)

### MIDDLE MARKET ENTREPRENEURS

[Our Next Event](#)

### INVESTOR READY SERIES

[The 2008/2009 Series](#)

## Tools

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## PLATINUM SPONSORS



## CORPORATE SPONSORS

## PEAK VENTURE GROUP BREAKFASTS OUR LONG-STANDING PROGRAM

Would your business benefit from increased exposure to key players in the venture community? One of the hottest networking centers in the Pikes Peak Region, our Venture Breakfast program brings together everyone you need to encourage the development and success of your high-growth company.

Scheduled on the second Friday of September, November, January, March and May, PVG Venture Breakfasts are highly anticipated business events that bring together more than 100 entrepreneurs, members of the investment community and experts in key industries, all dedicated to fostering the development of innovative start-ups.

### BREAKFAST AGENDA

The program includes a featured speaker, our Five Minute Forum, announcements of important developments and events in the venture community, plus the opportunity to network with key players. Take advantage of this tremendous networking opportunity and get connected, join us at the next [Venture Breakfast!](#)

### 5-MINUTE FORUM

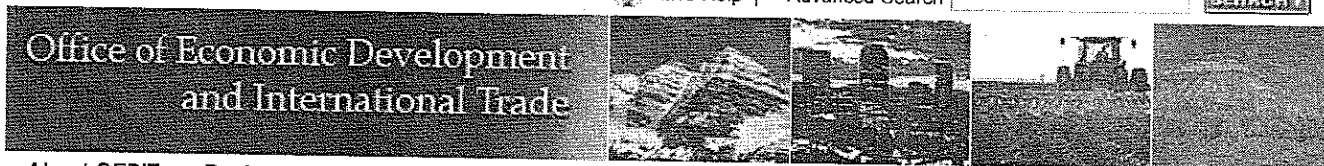


Up to three entrepreneurs selected by the PVG Jury introduce their start-up to our network of investors and service providers such as attorneys, accountants, consultants and other active members of the entrepreneurial community. The Five-Minute Forum gives your company five minutes to describe the company's products, business plan, markets and growth

opportunities.  
[Learn about presenting...](#)

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

From the garage of inspiration to halls of success, our accomplished keynote speakers share valuable insights from their personal journey.



## Venture Capital Authority (VCA)

### Business Finance

[Bioscience Discovery Evaluation Grant Program](#)

[Business Incentives](#)

[Business Loan Funds](#)

[Business Technical Assistance Organizations](#)

[Business Venture Funds](#)

[Certified Capital Companies \(CAPCO\) Program](#)

[Colorado Innovation Investment Tax Credit](#)

[CoverColorado](#)

[Economic Development Commission](#)

[Enterprise Zone \(EZ\)](#)

[Feasibility Studies](#)

[Infrastructure Assistance](#)

[Job Creation Performance Incentive Fund \(PIF\)](#)

[Job Growth Incentive Tax Credit](#)

[Manufacturing Revenue Bonds](#)

[State of Colorado Business Loan Funds](#)

[Strategic Fund](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Venture Capital Authority \(VCA\)](#)

[VCA Summary of Questions and Responses](#)

[Economic Development Commission](#)

[Colorado International Trade Office](#)

[Small Business Development Centers \(SBDCs\)](#)

The Colorado General Assembly in 2004 passed legislation that established a Colorado Venture Capital Authority (VCA). The VCA was allocated \$50 million in premium tax credits, which it subsequently sold to insurance companies. In 2005, the VCA selected a fund manager (High Country Venture, LLC) and established its first fund of approximately \$25 million (Colorado Fund 1). Colorado Fund 1 will make seed- and early-stage capital investments in businesses. The VCA anticipates the establishment of a second fund of approximately \$25 million in 2010.

High Country Venture is independently operated and generally makes funding decisions. State approval is limited to ensuring that businesses receiving funding meet minimum specified requirements. The minimum and maximum investment size may generally range from \$250,000 - \$3.375 million. To discuss a venture capital request, please contact High Country Venture. Contact information may be found by clicking on "Colorado Fund 1 - Fact Sheet" below.

For more information, see the following links (Adobe Acrobat files):

Information for businesses:

[VCA Fact Sheet](#)

[Colorado Fund 1 Fact Sheet](#)

[VCA FAQ](#)

Other Program Information:

[Request for Bids](#)

[Request for Proposal](#)

[Questions & Answers Regarding RFP for Fund Manager\(s\)](#)

[VCA Statute](#)

**For further information, please contact:**

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-or-

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Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade  
1625 Broadway, Suite 2700

Colorado Business Resource  
Guide

Denver, Colorado 80202  
(T) (303) 892-3840  
(F) (303) 892-3848  
1 (800) 659-2656 TDD

Occupational/Industry Licensing  
Database

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