



This month's **Small Business Spotlight Series** features **Solar Bill Review**.

The Solar Bill Review team helps you switch to solar power. They provide installation services as well as after-installation services, including making sure your solar panels are performing correctly, you know how to read your bill, and you are on the best rate plan.

For more information or if you are interested in participating in the Small Business Spotlight Series, please visit [dublin.ca.gov/spotlight](https://dublin.ca.gov/spotlight) or send us an [email](#). There is no cost to participate.



## Welcome New Dublin Businesses

Welcome to these new Dublin Businesses! Dublin welcomes and appreciates the establishment of new businesses in Dublin; they enrich our cityscape and bring new opportunities to residents. Here are new businesses that now call Dublin home:



**Axellent LLC** at 6711 Sierra Ct., Ste A  
Educational learning center that develops programs utilizing modern technologies to empower students to excel.



**Cuppa Yo** at Tivoli Plaza (3970 Summit Rd.)  
Self-serve frozen yogurt shop also serving, sorbet, gelato, Dole Whip, and more!



**Falafel Town** at 7410 Amador Valley Blvd., Ste B  
Restaurant serving Mediterranean cuisine such as veggie gyros, falafel, shawarma, hummus, and more.



**Parsons Xtreme Golf (PXG)** at Shops at Waterford (4460-A Tassajara Rd.)  
Golf store providing sales and services related to golf club fittings, apparel, accessories, bags, and hats.



**YGF Malatang Hotpot** at Ulferts Center (4288 Dublin Blvd., Ste 110)  
Restaurant specializing in the Chinese cuisine of Malatang Hotpot.

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## Daybreak Labs is Accepting Applications from Climate Tech and Life Sciences Startups



Daybreak Labs offers founder-centered programming, shared lab space and equipment for biotech, hard tech, and deep tech companies. They also have a network of advisors and service providers to assist founders as they build their company. Daybreak Labs is actively seeking early-stage climate tech and life sciences companies who need lab space to succeed.

For more information and to apply, visit [Daybreak Labs](#).

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## Occupational Safety Law Effective July 1, 2024 (Senate Bill No. 553)

Beginning July 1, 2024, California Law (SB 553) will require employers with 10 or more employees to adopt a comprehensive **Workplace Violence Prevention Plan**, either as part of their Injury & Illness Prevention Program or as a separate document. This new law imposes specific requirements on employers, including:

- recording incidents or threats in a violent incident log
- providing training to all employees
- maintaining records related to the Workplace Violence Prevention Plan.



For more information visit [Senate Bill No. 553](#).

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## \$25,000 Grant Funds Available for Qualified Hiring Employers and Upcoming Job Fairs

Tri-Valley Career Center (TVCC) has access to **\$25,000 On-the-Job Training funds** for qualifying employers intended as wage reimbursement while training new hires.

TVCC supports Tri-Valley employers and job seekers with workforce services such as job fairs, job training, and a job board. **Job fairs**, held in-person, at the TVCC Pleasanton office (5860 Owens Dr., 3rd Floor) are a great way to meet candidates. The Fall 2023 TVCC Job Fair had almost 60 employers and over 450 job seekers. TVCC is holding two upcoming Job Fairs:

- **Spring Job Fair, Thursday, May 2, 2024, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. - Registration Now Open**
- Fall Job Fair, Thursday, October 3, 2024

For more information on the grant funds and job fairs, email [Roseann Renzullo, Employer Liaison](#).

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## Small Business Tax Credits That May Apply to Your Business

### TAX TIME



Curious about available tax credits that could be applicable for your small business? Here are a few tax credits to be aware of. Please do your research and/or confer with your tax professional to find out if one or more applies to your business.

#### **Employee Retention Credit (ERC)**

Employee Retention Credit can provide up to \$26,000 per full-time employee. The first deadline for small businesses to apply for the potentially lucrative credit is April 15. That filing deadline is for the second, third and fourth quarters of 2020, while businesses can apply for the ERC for 2021 quarters by April 15 of 2025.

#### **Small Business Retirement Plan Startup**

Business owners with 100 or fewer employees could get a Retirement Plans Startup Costs Tax Credit worth 50% off the startup costs of setting up a qualified retirement plan such as a Simple IRA or 401(k), up to \$5,000. For businesses with fewer than 50 employees, there is a startup credit of 100% of administrative costs up to \$5,000.

#### **Electric Vehicle Tax Credits**

According to the Inflation Reduction Act, a tax credit for qualifying electric vehicles of up to \$7,500 for vehicles weighing less than 14,000 pounds, and up to \$40,000 for vehicles that weigh more than that, is available to business owners, subject to certain limitations.

#### **Work Opportunity Tax Credit**

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit is a Federal tax credit available to employers for hiring and employing individuals from certain targeted groups who have faced significant barriers to employment. The credit is equal to 40% of up to \$6,000 in wages paid to a person in one of the qualifying groups in their first year of employment who works at least 400 hours for the business.

#### **Tipped Wages Tax Credit**

The FICA Tip Credit allows an eligible business to claim a credit against its income taxes for FICA taxes paid on tipped wages exceeding the minimum wage. Certain food and beverage establishments use this form to claim a credit for social security and Medicare taxes paid or incurred by the employer on certain employees' tips.

#### **Supercharged Research and Development Tax Credit**

The Inflation Reduction Act doubled the research and development tax credit to \$500,000 from \$250,000. The credit is refundable and applied against payroll taxes and includes expenditures for a wide variety of expenses, including the improvement or development of products, processes, techniques, and software.

### **Employee Medical Leave Tax Credit**

An [Employee Medical Leave Tax Credit](#) is available for paying employees during family and medical leave time. If an employer pays 100% of the worker's wages, they get 25% of the wages paid as a tax credit. If it's 50%, they get 12.5% of those wages in the form of a tax break.

### **Small Business Tax Credits for "Empowerment Zones"**

Businesses located in qualified areas are eligible for a [wage credit](#) of up to \$3,000 per eligible employee per year. The credit is 20% of the qualifying wages up to a maximum of \$15,000 in qualifying wages per employee. Both full-time and part-time employees may qualify, as long as they work at least 90 days during the year in which the credit is claimed. The credit can be claimed every year, and there is no limit to the number of employees a business can claim as long as they qualify.

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## **2024 Grants Available for Small Businesses**



### **Backing Small Businesses - Main Street America**

American Express, created the [Backing Small Businesses grant program](#) to support under-resourced small businesses with community reach. This year, eligible small business owners can apply for \$10,000 grants for projects that grow or improve their businesses by building community, supporting their economic viability, or bolstering meaningful change. The application deadline is April 7, 2024.

### **Fast Break for Small Business**

[Fast Break for Small Business](#), is a new grant program empowering entrepreneurs to elevate their business with support. This opportunity is designed to support both established and budding business ventures with up to \$10,000 in grants and access up to \$500 worth of LegalZoom's services. The application deadline is September 13, 2024.

### **California Paid Family Leave Grant**

[California's Paid Family Leave program](#) is part of the California State Disability Insurance program providing benefits to eligible California workers who need time off work to care for a seriously ill or injured family member, to bond with a new child, or to participate in a qualifying military event. Small businesses in California with 1-100 employees with at least one (1) employee utilizing California's Paid Family Leave program (on or after June 1, 2024) are eligible to apply for grants up to \$2,000 per employee on PFL to offset the increased costs associated with the employee out on leave.

### **Verizon Small Business**

Business owners that sign up for the free [Verizon Small Business Digital Ready](#) online community will be eligible to apply for a \$10,000 grant. Grant applications are accepted throughout the year.

### **The National Science Foundation's America's Seed Fund**

This [fund](#) provides millions in grant funding to small businesses and startups with big ideas. Applicants submit project pitches any time during the year, and if invited to submit a proposal, could be funded. The grant program provides roughly \$200 million per year to eligible businesses.

### **National Association for the Self-Employed (NASE)**

The [NASE Growth Grants program](#) provides up to \$4,000 grants on a rolling basis throughout the year. Applicants must be members of NASE. Grants can be used for marketing, advertising, hiring employees, expanding facilities, and other specific business needs.

### **Halstead Grant**

The [Halstead Grant](#) is an annual award for emerging silver jewelry artists. Applicants submit answers to 15 business questions in addition to their design portfolios. The grand prize is a \$7,500 cash grant plus other benefits. The application deadline is Wednesday, May 1, 2024.

### **Ava Community Energy Grant Programs**

#### *evFleet Consulting Program*

Business owners with a commercial fleet can get free expert help creating an electric vehicle plan. The [evFleet Consulting Program](#) helps business owners understand electric truck specs, charging solutions, and incentives to keep costs low and optimization high. Services are available through June 2024.



## Commercial Induction Rebate

Ava Community Energy will provide up to \$17,500 in rebates to restaurants and businesses for the purchase and installation of induction cooktops, ranges, woks, portable cooktops, and other required electrical upgrades. Funding is available for retrofit and new construction projects. Rebates are available on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are expended.

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## City of Dublin Business Calendar



The City's website includes additional upcoming business events and classes, including webinars and workshops on topics from starting a business to selling a business and everything in between!

To view upcoming classes, please visit the City's online [Business Calendar](#).

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## We Are Here for You

The City of Dublin values our business community and remains committed to being your source for reliable and accessible information and resources.

For information and resources for the business community, visit our [Business Resources webpage](#).

The Office of Economic Development is also available via [text messaging](#) at 925-496-8256, [email](#) or by calling 925-833-6650. Language assistance is available over the phone by request.

**The Dublin Business Brief is a bi-monthly publication highlighting the latest news and events affecting the business community. For more information or assistance, please contact the Office of Economic Development via [email](#) or by phone at (925) 833-6650.**

**General Information**  
(925) 833-6650

**City Manager**  
(925) 833-6650

**Community Development**  
(925) 833-6620

**Economic Development**  
(925) 833-6650

**Environmental Services**  
(925) 833-6630

**Administrative Services**  
(925) 833-6640

**Fire Prevention**  
(925) 833-6606

**Human Resources**  
(925) 833-6605

**Parks and Community Services**  
(925) 556-4500

**Police (non-emergency)**  
(925) 833-6670

**Public Works**  
(925) 833-6630



**City of Dublin Office of Economic Development | 925-833-6650 |**  
[www.dublin.ca.gov](http://www.dublin.ca.gov)



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