



Champaign County. Midwestern Roots. World-Class Expectations.

Who We Are

The Champaign County Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC) is a public-private partnership dedicated to fostering a cooperative, county-wide approach to economic development. We coordinate with a number of other key organizations in the area to promote an environment in which business thrives.



National Manufacturing Day

National Manufacturing Day is Friday, October 7th and we are busy making plans to celebrate our manufacturing industry in Champaign County!

MFG DAY addresses common misperceptions about manufacturing by giving manufacturers an opportunity to open their doors and show, in a coordinated effort, what manufacturing is - and what it isn't. By working together during and after MFG DAY, manufacturers will begin to address the skilled labor shortage they face, connect with future generations, take charge of the public image of manufacturing, and ensure the ongoing



Early College & Career Academy

The Early College and Career Academy (ECCA) is a program for high school juniors and seniors to earn credits that count toward a high school diploma and college, all while gaining skills in six different Parkland College degree programs:

- Automotive
- Computer Networking
- Criminal Justice
- Health Professions - Certified Nursing Assistant
- Health Professions - Emergency Medical Service

prosperity of the whole industry.

- Manufacturing

If your company is interested in participating, contact Carly McCrory at 217-359-6261 or carly@champaigncountyedc.org.

To learn more about National Manufacturing Day, visit their [website](#).

To learn more about products and innovation Made in Champaign County, visit our [website](#).

ECCA is a joint effort of [Education for Employment System #330](#) (a K-12 Career and Technical Education cooperative) and Parkland College. The academy operates out of EFE #330's office at Parkland.

To learn more about ECCA, visit their [website](#).

For companies interested in sponsoring students for the program, please contact Nick Elder, EFE Director, at 217-355-1382 or nelder@efe.k12.il.us. At this time, there are 3 companies in Champaign County who are participating by sponsoring a student.

Did You Know?

We're home to Blue Waters - one of the most powerful supercomputers in the world, and **the** fastest supercomputer on a university campus.

Scientists and engineers across the country use the computing and data power of Blue Waters to tackle a wide range of challenging problems, from predicting the behavior of complex biological systems to simulating the evolution of the cosmos.

To learn more about Blue Waters, visit their [website](#).

When tech influencer [Robert Scoble](#) (Scobleizer) [was in Champaign-Urbana](#) earlier this year, he visited NCSA. His live video tour can be viewed [here](#).

More interesting facts and detailed information about Champaign-Urbana's history of innovation can be found on the [You're Welcome website](#).



In The News

UIUC Named a "Top Midwest College of 2016" by Forbes

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has been [named a "Top Midwest College Of 2016" by Forbes](#).

Other recent community rankings:

- [Prairie Fruits Farm & Creamery's](#) Huckleberry Blue Cheese named one of "The 49 Best American Cheeses", July 2016 ([Men's Journal](#))

- [Sipyard](#) named on "This Summer's Best New Beer Gardens" list, July 2016 ([Food & Wine](#))

- UIUC's [Electrical and Computer Engineering Building](#) named R&D Magazine's Laboratory of the Year, July 2016 ([R&D Magazine](#))

For a full list of community rankings, visit the [You're Welcome website](#).

Local Companies in Press

Rithmio, Inc.

Congrats to Adam Tilton, CEO & Co-founder of Rithmio, for being named to the [Tech 50 2016 list by Crain's Business Chicago](#). Rithmio is a Champaign-Urbana startup with offices located in Champaign & Chicago.

Learn more about Rithmio on their [website](#).

Agribile

[The company](#) was recently [featured in Chicagolnno](#) for their newest tool, the Sustainable Sourcing Yield Program. The new tool will be an addition to the [Morning Farm Report](#), Agribile's flagship infrastructure that provides data insights to growers.

Read the full article [here](#).

Obiter Research

Located in Champaign, Obiter specializes in custom contract chemical research and manufacturing of difficult or complex

New Development at University of Illinois Research Park

A \$10.8 million new development has been proposed for the [University of Illinois Research Park](#) in Champaign. Plans for the mixed-use building include apartments, retail, restaurants, and more.

The building is a part of a larger plan for the plot of land between First and Fourth Streets and Hazelwood Drive and St. Mary's Road that includes five new office buildings, a detention basin that would serve as an outdoor amenity with two ponds, and a walking path.

Read more about development plans via [Chicagolnno: You May Soon Be Able to Rent an Apartment in the UI Research Park](#).

Read more via [The News-Gazette: \\$10.8 million 'town center' planned for UI Research Park](#).

chemical compounds.

Learn more from CEO Bill Boulanger in the latest [Wired In](#) or visit their [website](#).

Upcoming Events



SBDC Info Session: City of Champaign's Small Business Incentive Program

Friday, July 29, 2016
8:30 - 9:30 am

Session Description:

The [City of Champaign](#) offers financial support to small businesses for legal, financial, marketing, and educational services through its Small Business Incentive Program. Businesses located in the City of Champaign access this program through the Illinois Small Business Development Center at Champaign County EDC (SBDC). Eligible participants can receive up to \$7,500 in matching funds for professional services and up to \$1,000 as an education credit.

The City of Champaign's Planning and Development staff and Don Elmore, the SBDC Director, will describe this program and answer questions.

Location:

Illinois Small Business Development Center at
Champaign County EDC - CUSBDC
1817 S. Neil Street, Suite 100
Champaign, IL 61820

Registration:

Free to attend, registration required to secure a spot - limited space available. Coffee and pastries will be provided. RSVP to carly@champaigncountyedc.org or 217-359-6261.

Sponsored By:

Illinois Small Business Development Center at
Champaign County EDC

More information about the Info Session can be found on the [CUSBDC website](#).

>> Facebook event:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/175817352823610/>

EDC Blood Drive

Wednesday, August 10, 2016
1:30 - 3:30 pm

We're excited to partner with [Community Blood Services of Illinois](#) to host a Blood Drive on Wednesday, August 10th from 1:30 to 3:30 pm on the Blood Donor Bus in our parking lot.

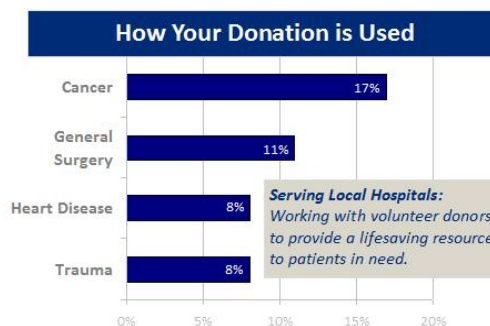
Location:

Champaign County EDC (Illini Plaza Parking Lot)
1817 S. Neil Street
Champaign, IL 61820

Make an online appointment [here](#). Donors with an appointment will have priority.

You must be 17 years old to donate or 16 years old with a parental consent form ([download here](#)). An identification card or Donor ID is required to donate.

Please eat before donating and drink extra water.



The Blood Drive is open to the public.

Questions? Contact Carly McCrory at 217-359-6261 or carly@champaigncountyedc.org.

>> Facebook event:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1762230633995389/>



SBDC Workshop: Starting Your Business in Illinois

**Tuesday, August 16, 2016
9 - 11 am**

Session Description:

This informative 2-hour workshop helps entrepreneurs understand many of the steps and requirements of starting a small business in Illinois. You'll be taken step-by-step through a variety of topics and have the opportunity to ask questions.

In this seminar, you'll learn:

- * Introduction to the Illinois Small Business Development Center at Champaign County EDC
- * Feasibility
- * How to create or improve your business plan - an important part of starting a small business
- * Startup costs, ongoing expenses, and forecasting
- * Business structure
- * Financing and grant options

Location:

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Registration:

Free to attend, registration required to secure a spot - limited space available. Materials will be provided. RSVP to carly@champaigncountyedc.org or 217-359-6261.

Sponsored By:

Illinois Small Business Development Center at
Champaign County EDC

More information about the workshop can be found on the [CUSBDC website](#).

>> Facebook event:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/130349470706765/>



TechMix! at Caterpillar Data Innovation Lab & Grainger, Inc.

**Thursday, September 1, 2016
5 - 7 pm**

At this TechMix! event, you'll have the opportunity to tour the spaces of both the Caterpillar Data Innovation Lab & Grainger, Inc. - located in the Atkins Building at University of Illinois Research Park.

Location:

Atkins Building - Atrium
(at University of Illinois Research Park)
1800 S. Oak Street
Champaign, IL 61820

About the Event:

TechMix! events are organized by the Champaign County Economic Development Corporation as a networking opportunity for local technology professionals and companies to meet each other. These events are targeted for engineers, scientists, and entrepreneurs working in the tech sector to learn more about other companies in the industry locally.

Free to attend. Appetizers and drinks will be served.

Sponsored by: Caterpillar Data Innovation Lab & Grainger, Inc.

View photos from our last TechMix! at Capital One Illinois Digital Campus Lab [here](#).

>> Facebook event:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1754223828128895/>

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

