



WASHINGTON DC: THE CAPITAL OF GLOBAL INFLUENCE

August 2025





WASHINGTON DC
ECONOMIC
PARTNERSHIP

DMPED
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR
PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: CAPITAL OF GLOBAL INFLUENCE



- The District of Columbia, also known as “Washington, D.C.” is the capital of the United States, home to the federal government, and spans 109 square kilometers (68 square miles).
- We share borders with Virginia and Maryland and are in the heart of the Mid-Atlantic on the East Coast.
- Since the passage of the DC Home Rule Act on December 24, 1973, **the District has been governed much like any state in the US but** is not considered a U.S. state.
- The DC metro area (MSA) population is **6.37 million people**. The metro area has **grown by 15% since 2010**, compared to a national growth rate of 9% over the same period. District of Columbia population is 706,000.
- We are a very young city with 28% of our population aged 20-34, compared to just 20% nationally.
- Government Structure includes a Mayor (Executive Branch) Muriel Bowser and 13-person Council of the District of Columbia (Legislative Body), 1 non-voting delegate to the US House of Representatives and 2 shadow Senators.

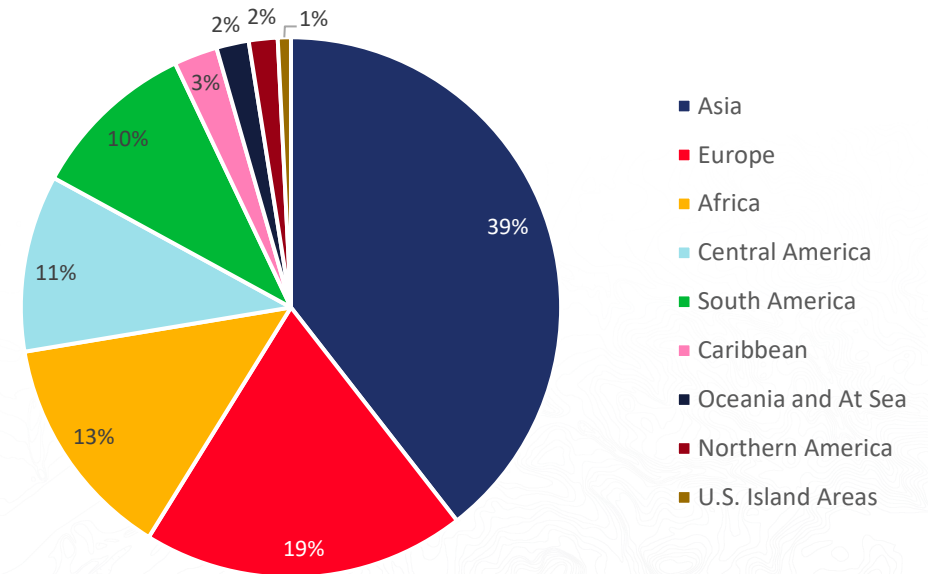
INTERNATIONAL INFLUENCE

Home to International Leaders

- **One in five people in the DC metro area (22.8%) are foreign-born**, contributing to the region's ethnic, linguistic, and cultural diversity
- An estimated **101,000 immigrant entrepreneurs reside in the metro area** (New American Economy, 2019)
- Home to more than **177 embassies, The World Bank, and International Monetary Fund**
- Three airports serve the Washington, D.C. metro: Baltimore/Washington International, Reagan National, and Dulles International, which is the **fastest growing international airport in the U.S.** (MWAA, 2024)
- More than **168 languages** are spoken in the metro area, with 26% of the population (aged 5+) speaking a language other than English at home (Census, 2020)

International Migration to DC Metro

- An estimated 75,000 movers from abroad over one year

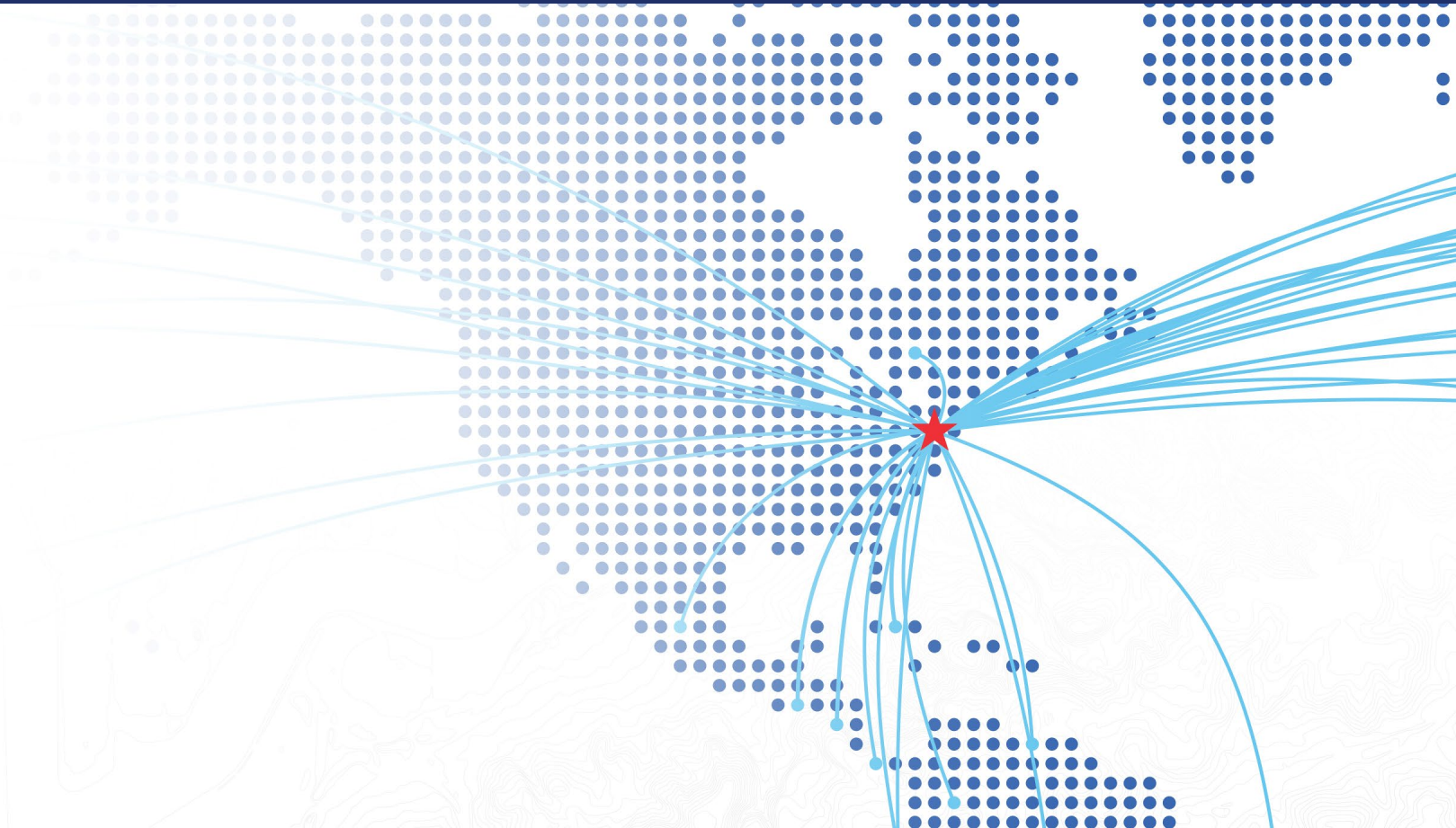


OVER 350 + DIRECT FLIGHTS DAILY

The DC metro area provides easy access to major domestic and international destinations via three airports: Reagan National (DCA), Dulles International (IAD), and Baltimore/Washington International (BWI).

Flight Times from DC Area Airports:

• NYC	1 hour
• Boston	1 hour
• Toronto	1.5 hour
• Atlanta	1.5 hour
• Chicago	2 hours
• Houston	3 hours
• Mexico City	5 hours
• Los Angeles	5.5 hours
• San Francisco	6 hours
• London	7.5 hours
• Amsterdam	8 hours
• Dubai	13 hours
• New Delhi	14.5 hours



25 FORTUNE 500 COMPANIES LOCATED IN THE REGION

Fortune 500 Presence in the DC Metro Area



Booz | Allen | Hamilton



CARLYLE



GENERAL DYNAMICS



SAIC



REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC



THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY



1867

HOWARD
UNIVERSITY



JOHNS HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF THE
DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA
1851



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND



UNIVERSITY
of VIRGINIA



VIRGINIA
TECH

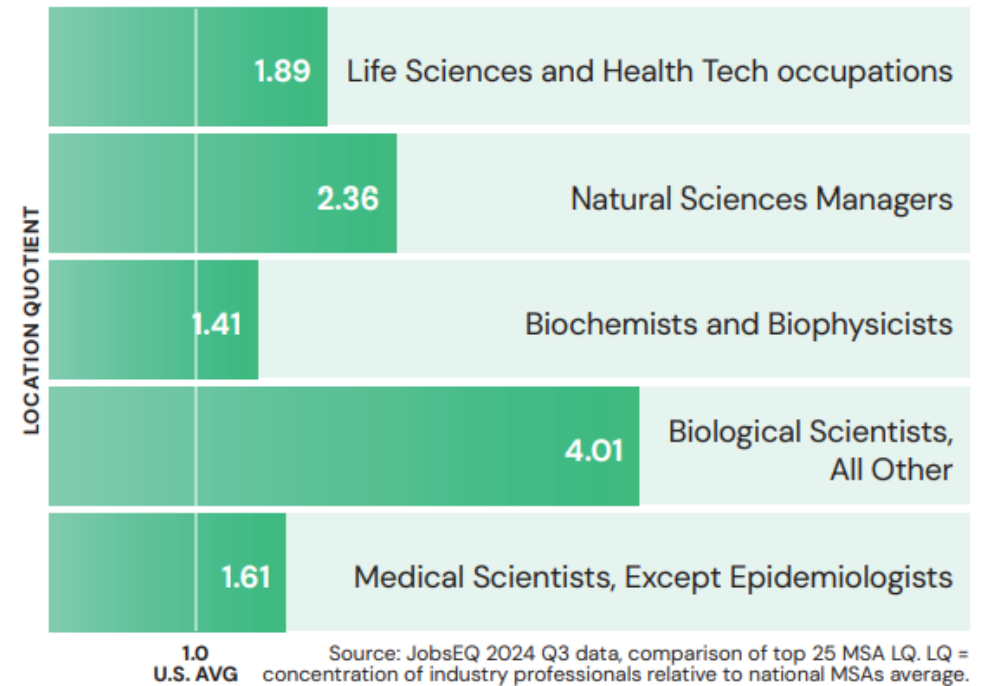


PROXIMITY TO SPECIALIZED TALENT

Programs and Occupations	Award Level	Awards
Combined Life Sciences	Associate's	95
Combined Life Sciences	Bachelor's	2,624
Combined Life Sciences	Master's	1,172
Combined Life Sciences	Doctorate	215

PROXIMITY TO SPECIALIZED TALENT

- Over 12,000 people employed in the life science sector in the DC Metro Area¹
- Washington, DC-Baltimore Region ranked #3 in the country for life science talent by CBRE
- Home to Concentration of 4x Biological scientists than the U.S. average



CONNECTIONS TO KEY FEDERAL & PRIVATE STAKEHOLDERS

- Region is home to NIH, HHS, CMS, CDC and FDA providing companies with key opportunities to meet with regulators
- In 2023 the NIH granted 43.6 billion dollars to companies the DC-Baltimore Region¹
- Home to Children's Hospital National Research & Innovation Campus
- Howard University will build a National Research Center for Health Disparities that will provide a home to pharmaceutical companies and biomedical research organization specializing in chronic illnesses with an emphasis on solutions for communities of color



1.. "USAspending.gov." Usaspending.gov, 2024, www.usaspending.gov/search/?hash=17ac2c39ae69dce7f8d2e9cef065c2f8

THE DISTRICT'S AWARD-WINNING TALENT & ECONOMY



Top 10 Strongest Economy in the US
Wallet Hub, 2023



#1 in Human Capital
Wallet Hub, 2023



27.2 M Total Visitors
Destination DC, 2025



#3 Most Educated City in the US
Wallet Hub, 2023



#4 Top Tech Talent Market U.S. & Canada
CBRE, 2023



#4 Best US City for Young Professionals
Niche, 2023



#2 for AI Job Growth
WBJ, 2024



#1 Most Innovative State
Wallet Hub, 2024



#1 State for Brain Gain
Department of Data, The Washington Post, 2023



#1 Best City for Tech Careers
Forbes 2024



#1 Best Public Transportation System for Large Metros
Hire a Helper, 2023



Sports Capital
Home to Professional Soccer, Basketball, Football, Ice Hockey, & Baseball Teams



Access to 20+ Colleges & Universities

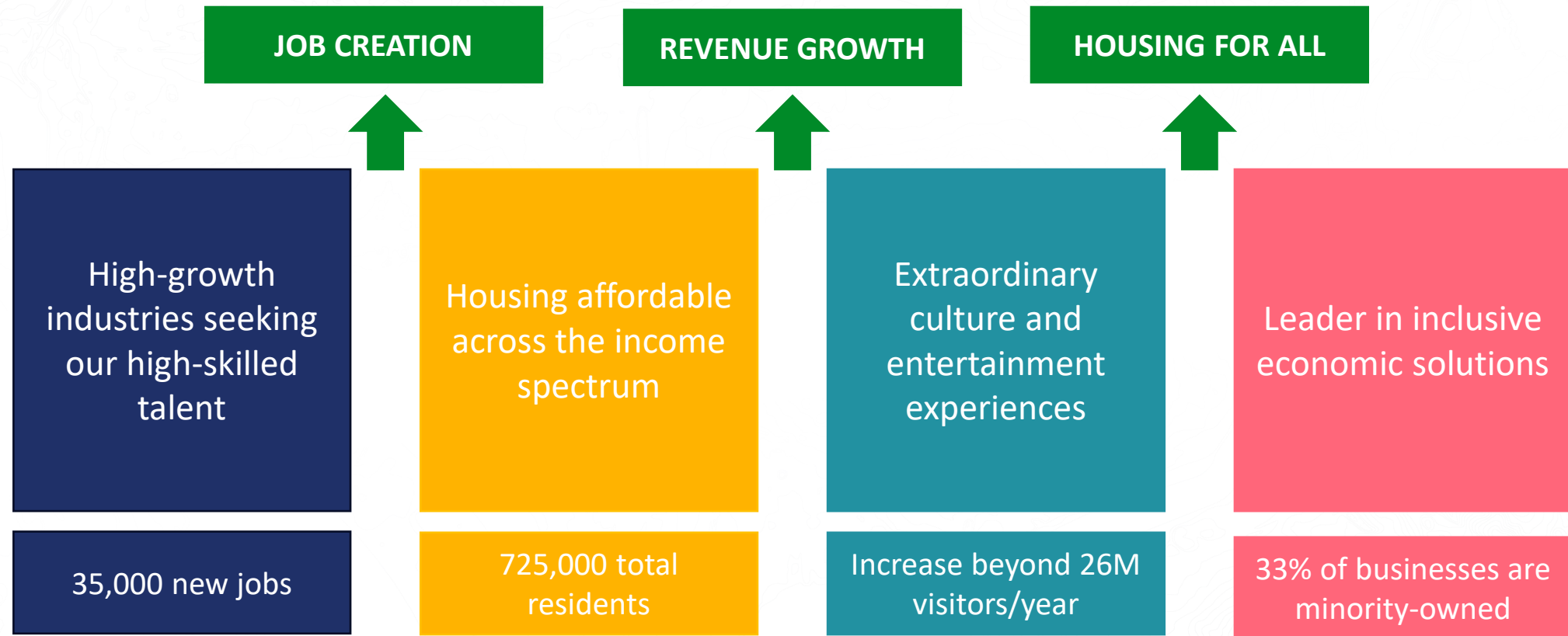


150+ Museums, Art Galleries, & Performance Venues



16 Medical Centers & Hospitals

SETTING AN AGENDA FOR DC'S GROWTH



TARGET INDUSTRY SECTORS

Technology

Cybersecurity/Defense

AI

FinTech

Consulting & Business Services

Consulting

HQs & Engineering

Communications & Design

Marketing

Electronic Media

Education & Research

Colleges & Universities

Research Organizations

Life Sciences

HealthTech

WASHINGTON, DC GLOBAL SOFT LANDING

The Washington, DC Global Soft Landing initiative is a comprehensive effort to attract and support international companies and entrepreneurs establishing operations in the nation's capital. The initiative leverages the region's unparalleled resources, global influence, and collaborative ecosystem of partners to provide seamless entry into the United States.



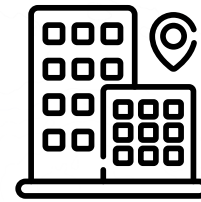
BENEFITS OF SOFT LANDING



**Discounted Real Estate in
Prime Location**



**Tailored Immigration
Solutions**



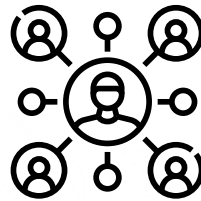
**Site Selection
Assistance**



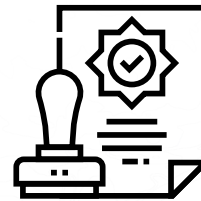
**Custom Research &
Market Intelligence**



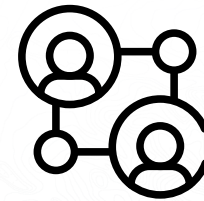
**Customized Community
Tours**



**Access to Networking
Opportunities**



**Assistance Navigating
Regulations**



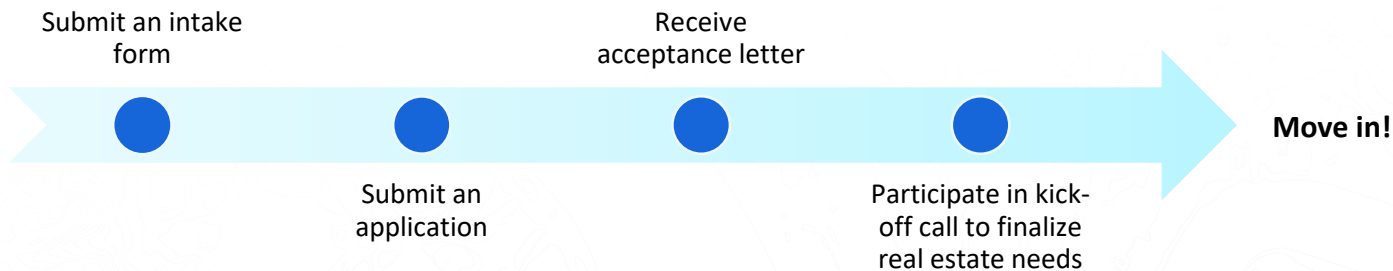
**Connections to Local
Service Providers**

WASHINGTON, DC GLOBAL SOFT LANDING

ELIGIBILITY

- Strong, verified interest in establishing a presence in Washington, DC within the next 12 months.
- Company will have at least one full-time employee physically staffed at the soft landing space for the duration of program participation.
- Must commit to a minimum of 3 months in the soft landing space.
- Proven ability to pay rent.

PROCESS



HOW TO APPLY?

- Connect with our team! Visit wdcep.com/dc-global-soft-landing to learn more about the program.



Studio by Tishman Speyer serves as the headquarters of the Washington, DC Global Soft Landing

WASHINGTON, DC INCENTIVES

- DC Venture Fund
 - Mayor Bowser has launched the DC Venture Capital Program, a new \$26 million fund designed to make equity investments in pre-seed, seed, and early-stage tech companies based in Washington, DC.
 - The DC Venture Capital Fund represents a transformative commitment to DC-based businesses by leveraging public dollars to attract private investment. For every dollar the District invests, private investors are required to contribute at least an equal amount, effectively doubling the total funding available to DC startups to a minimum of \$52 million.
 - K Street Capital will oversee the deployment of SSBCI dollars to by contracting with local and regional venture capital firms. These firms will work directly with DC-based startups to establish funding deals, ranging from \$250,000 to \$5,00,000

WASHINGTON, DC INCENTIVES

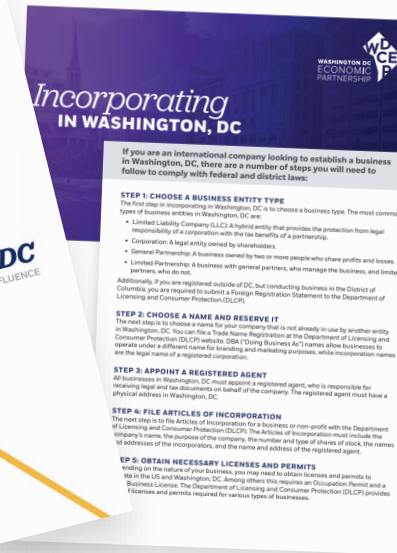
- Growth Fund
 - Have at least 5 employees who are currently assigned to or will work at the Eligible Program Location
 - Create at least 5 new jobs over a two-year period at the Eligible Program Location
 - Relocate to, or expand in commercial office space, including coworking space, in Washington, DC. Anticipate that potential target applicants will lease or own less than 15,000 square feet. Preference will be given to applicants that commit to the space for at least two (2) years.
 - Preference will be given to applicants relocating or expanding in the central business district (the “Vitality Fund Target Area”).
 - Preference will be given to applicants in the following high-growth industry sectors, specifically the industry subsectors, though companies otherwise meeting the eligibility criteria for the Vitality Fund may be eligible. Applicants may be for-profit or non-profit entities

WASHINGTON, DC INCENTIVES

- Vitality Fund
 - Relocate to, or expand in commercial office space, in Washington, DC.
 - Create new jobs and/or make significant capital improvements at the Washington, DC location
 - Demonstrate that the expansion or relocation will have significant positive economic impact on the District.
 - Require employees, in the aggregate, to be on-site at the Washington, DC location for at least 50% of their work hours.
 - Participate in a workforce development program for DC residents OR spend at least 5% of annual contracting with local businesses (aka Community Benefits).
 - Be a for-profit business or non-profit entity.

LIBRARY OF RESOURCES

- Washington, DC Economic Overview & Washington, DC International Business Overviews
- Guide to Incorporation in Washington, DC at the federal and local levels
- Industry sector one pagers for target sectors
- Washington, DC Global Soft Landing program and GW x Penn West Global Build Fellowship
- International Assistance Program
 - Direct introduction to vetted, DC-based private service providers to support your soft landing into a new market. Examples include:
 - Immigration and/or Tax Attorneys
 - Commercial and/or Residential Real Estate Brokers
 - Finance, Banking, Title, and Accounting Providers
 - Workforce Recruiters, and many more!



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THANK YOU!



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Attraction

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