

**Fenton Regional  
Chamber of Commerce  
Launching  
SCORE Branch Office**



**Fenton Regional  
Chamber of Commerce**

*Serving Genesee, Livingston, and Oakland Counties*

*Where Community and Commerce Connect*

## **What is Score?**

SCORE “Counselors to America’s Small Business” is a nonprofit association dedicated to educating entrepreneurs and the formation, growth and success of small business nationwide. SCORE is a resource partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

SCORE is headquartered in Herndon, VA and Washington, DC and has 389 chapters throughout the United States and its territories, with 10,500 volunteers nationwide. Both working and retired executives and business owners donate time and expertise as business counselors. SCORE was founded in 1964.

SCORE is America’s premier source of free and confidential small business advice for entrepreneurs.

### **SCORE Has Helped Nearly 8 Million Small Businesses**

Including: Vermont Teddy Bear, Vera Bradley Designs, and Jelly Belly Candy.

#### **How SCORE Can Help You**

- Mentoring advice 24/7
- In Person Mentoring – 389 offices
- Low-cost workshops nationwide
- “How to” articles and business templates
- Online workshops and learning

#### **SCORE Volunteers**

SCORE’s 10,500 volunteer counselors have more than 600 business skills. Volunteers are working or retired business owners, executives and corporate leaders who share their wisdom and lessons learned in business.

## How Score Works

SCORE offers **free and confidential advice** to small businesses: face-to-face counseling, online counseling, online workshops and more.

Get to know us better by checking out our **Top 5 FAQs**.

**1. Why is SCORE advice free and confidential?**

SCORE's goal is to help you **live your dream**. SCORE volunteers are successful entrepreneurs and executives who love business and want to share their knowledge with you, so you can succeed too.

**2. Who are SCORE volunteers?**

SCORE is a nonprofit group of 10, 500 volunteers across the country who have been in your shoes. Take advantage of their expertise through face-to-face and online counseling.

**3. How do I access SCORE's services?**

To get free, online counseling 24/7, [Ask SCORE](#). Input keywords to find a counselor who matches your business needs.

Meet in person. [Find SCORE](#) to contact your local SCORE office.

**4. Is there a limit to how many times I can Ask SCORE:**

Talk to SCORE again and again. There's no limit on mentoring. [Ask SCORE](#) or access other SCORE services. Long term mentoring is a great help. And, specialty experts can help as you request answers to specific questions.

**5. How does SCORE work with the SBA?**

The SBA is the government's source of information on small business. The SBA also provides guarantees to lenders for small business loans. SCORE, is a resource partner that provides mentoring and training for entrepreneurs.

## **Counselor Eligibility**

To be eligible for SCORE membership, an applicant must:

- Encourage, and have the time and ability to commit to 180 hours per year of service to SCORE. This can be a combination of face-to-face counseling, online counseling, telephone counseling, facilitating workshops, or administrative duties.
- Attend at least 2 chapter meetings a year.
- May set own hours.
- Have an individual email address.
- Sign and comply with the SCORE Code of Ethics and Conduct as a condition of membership.
- Possess reasonably in-depth general business knowledge and experience, including cash flow/training/marketing/general management/accounting, sufficient to patiently listen, gather facts, gain rapport, and analyze.
- Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

Candidates who meet these eligibility requirements are accepted as provisional members for a three-month period. During this time the provisional member must complete an Online Orientation Program, and participate in face-to-face counseling under the supervision of a mentor.

## **Volunteer Branch Manager**

You will need to identify a volunteer branch manager who will coordinate branch activities with the Chapter. This person will act as the principal contact point for the Chapter Chair and other officers to coordinate with the Branch, and will be responsible for the proper functioning of the Branch.

## **Meeting locations**

SCORE information is available at the Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce. Legacy Realty Professionals, Inc. located at 526 N. Leroy Street has offered to allow the Fenton Branch to set up an answering machine and small meeting area that can be used during business hours. The Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce Boardroom is also available as a meeting place, but you must call ahead to ensure availability.

**Contact Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Business: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- Yes, I am interested in attending a counselor meeting
- Yes, I am interested in the Branch Manager position
- No, I am not interested in participating, but I recommend that you contact the following person(s):

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to:**

**Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce**  
**114 N. Leroy St., Fenton, MI 48430**  
**[info@fentonchamber.com](mailto:info@fentonchamber.com)**  
**fax: 810.629.6608**