



# Business Lending Guide



**Whatever your needs and goals are as a business owner—to expand your business, invest in new or upgraded equipment, help with cash flow, increase inventory, or improve marketing—you may need a business loan or line of credit.**

Understanding how business loans work can help you feel prepared when you apply for your loan.

In this guide, we'll cover everything you need to find the right lending solution to fund your business's growth, including:



**Reviewing the different types business loans** to become more familiar with the loan products available to business owners.



**Meeting with a lender** to determine the right fit and review the criteria for securing a loan.



**Starting your Business Loan Application** to obtain the right loan for your business.

## Let's get started!

**When it comes to commercial and business loans, which one makes the most sense for your immediate or long-term business needs?**

**First, let's look at the types of available business loans:**

## **Business Line of Credit**

A business line of credit is a loan that works more like a credit card but often with better terms. It gives you access to borrow up to a certain amount at any time, and then pay back what you borrow over time.

The benefit is that you only owe interest on what you borrow, but you have access to the remainder of your line of credit if necessary. Keep in mind that some restrictions may apply based on the structure of your account.

## **Owner-Occupied Real Estate Loans**

Is your business outgrowing its current space? Owner-occupied real estate loans might be the solution for you. These loans are ideal for business owners wanting to finance an office, warehouse, or commercial spaces they'll operate out of. Let's say you're a manufacturer and are looking to expand operations in to a larger space to move your operations and warehousing under one roof. This type of loan could help you secure that perfect spot in town.





**When you meet with your banking team, you'll be able to discuss your reasons for needing a business loan and the different types of business loans that may be a good fit. They'll also review the criteria for securing a loan and work closely with you throughout the lending process.**

For these reasons, you should choose a bank with an experienced team that understands your business needs.

Once you schedule a time to meet with a lender, they will ask you to come prepared with the following documentation. Keep in mind that other information may be needed throughout the process, but these documents will help get the process started on determining the best financing option for your business:

- Three years of business tax returns for your company.
- Year-to-date internal financials with previous year comparables.
- Current debt schedule (monthly payments and terms).
- Current accounts payable and accounts receivable reports.
- Signed and dated personal financial statements for all guarantors.
- Three years of personal tax returns and K-1s for all guarantors.

- A K-1 is an official federal tax form used to report earnings and losses when there is an investment in a partnership.

The right business loan or line of credit may be just what your business needs to grow and thrive, but you don't have to figure it out on your own. Having that conversation with a business lender will help you evaluate your options and find the solution that works for you.



**At First Mutual Bank, we're committed to supporting our local business community. We believe in nurturing growth where it matters most — in our neighborhoods.**

Although we were formed in 2018 when Belpre Savings Bank and Doolin Security Savings Bank joined forces, our heritage and commitment to the communities we serve date back to the 1800s. Doolin Security Savings Bank traces its roots to 1896 when a group of local citizens established Doolin Building and Loan Association in New Martinsville, West Virginia to serve as a depository for savings that could be made available for home loans. Belpre Savings Bank has proudly served as the trusted hometown bank for the residents and businesses of Belpre, Ohio, and its surrounding areas since 1902.



## Visit Us Today

**Our business banking team can guide your business through the process of choosing a business loan – and help the application process go smoothly.**

Meet with a banker at a branch near you.

[Find a Location](#)







As a depositor-owned bank, First Mutual Bank is focused on helping you, our customers, and creating vibrant communities in the Mid-Ohio Valley Region. Being depositor-owned also means we are accountable to our customers, not shareholders. Deposit dollars are reinvested in our communities, and collectively we strengthen and help the local economy thrive. That's what sets First Mutual Bank apart from the other banks.

Because we are stronger together, you can count on First Mutual Bank being here for you and the community for years to come. Our vision for today and the future is to grow, maintain stability, and continue to put our customers and our communities first—in every decision we make.

**firstmutual.bank**  

 EQUAL HOUSING LENDER • MEMBER FDIC