



Professional Services Innovation Resources in DC

The professional services industry- including consulting and research, legal services, accounting, architecture, design and administrative services- is the largest employer in DC after the federal government and supports more than 125,000 jobs. It is also driving innovation in DC. Companies are applying new technologies and approaches to increase productivity and improve client services and offerings.

The Business Development Unit at the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) helps businesses navigate resources to help them grow and thrive in DC. We consistently hear from our stakeholders a need for a central location to view resources available to support businesses and individuals interested in different industry areas. This document strives to list the key organizations and resources in DC’s professional services ecosystem. We included all organizations and resources we are aware of. Inclusion in this document does not convey endorsement. This document will be updated periodically. The date on the bottom of this page denotes the date of the last update. Please email katie.baskett@dc.gov with any organizations or resources we may have missed.

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Legal: Assets & Resources

- DC has the highest concentration of legal expertise in the US and is the [#1 city for young attorneys](#).
- DC has [38 different](#) legal professional membership organizations, making it extremely easy for lawyers to find an affinity group in DC.



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- DC is home to 6 law schools that in total graduate over 2,000 lawyers each year: [Georgetown University](#), [George Washington University](#), [American University](#), [Catholic University](#), [Howard University](#), and [University of the District of Columbia](#).
- DC is also home to the [largest law library in the world](#), containing a collection of approximately 5 million items and spanning nearly all areas of law.

Top 10 Largest Law Firms in DC (ranked by Metro-area lawyers)

Law Firm	Metro-Area Lawyers
1. Covington & Burling LLP	624
2. Hogan Lovells LLP	583
3. Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP	426
4. Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale & Dorr LLP	345
5. Morgan, Lewis & Bockius	330
6. Latham & Watkins LLP	320
7. Williams & Connolly LLP	300
8. Steptoe & Johnson LLP	297
9. Venable LLP	293
10. Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP	286

Source: [Washington Business Journal](#)

Accounting/Finance: Assets & Resources

- All of the Big 4 Accounting Firms ([KPMG](#), [Deloitte](#), [PWC](#), and [Ernst & Young](#)) have offices in DC.
- DC is home to many federal government agencies (i.e. [IRS](#), [US Securities & Exchange Commission](#), and the [Department of Treasury](#)) with a plethora of highly trained accountants and finance professionals.
- DC has a variety of accounting/finance community groups such as: [The Greater Washington Society of CPAs](#), [National Association of Black Accountants- Metro DC Chapter](#), and the [DC Metro Chapter of Financial Executives](#).
- The following DC universities offer accounting programs/degrees: [Georgetown University](#), [George Washington University](#), [American University](#), [Howard University](#), [Trinity University](#), [University of the District of Columbia](#), and [Catholic University](#).

Business/Executives: Assets & Resources

- DC has eight different programs that offer MBA programs: [Georgetown University](#), [George Washington University](#), [American University](#), [Howard University](#), [University of the District of Columbia](#), [Trinity University](#), and [BAU University](#).
- The DC Metro also has a variety of different executive education programs. Here are a few examples:



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- [Women's Executive Leadership Program](#) accelerates leadership growth for women executives
- [Brookings Executive Education](#), a partnership of the Brookings Institution and Washington University in St. Louis Olin School of Business, offers executive education training in DC.
- [The Center for Strategic & International Studies](#) offers a wide-range of customized executive education programs and comprehensive leadership programs.
- [NYU Stern Executive MBA program in DC](#)
- [UVA Darden Executive MBA program in Arlington](#)
- The Washington Network Group is a membership organization of business, finance, technology and government affairs professionals. They offer a variety of networking and professional development events. [Click here](#) for a list of other professional networking organizations in DC.

Architecture: Assets & Resources

Education Programs:

The George Washington University offers a [Master of Fine Art in Interior Architecture](#) and is the only program in DC accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation. They also offer a [BFA in Interior Architecture](#) that teaches students how to design three-dimensional space through the use of dynamic concepts, cutting edge materials, and innovative methods and techniques.

The [School of Architecture and Planning](#) at Catholic University offers five undergraduate programs and two minors in Architectural studies. The school also offers [six graduate program](#) options and seven Joint Degree programs.

[Howard University](#) offers fully accredited Bachelor of Architecture and Master of Architecture programs.

[The University of the District of Columbia](#) offers a Bachelor of Science in Architecture and a Master of Science in Architecture.

Largest Architecture Firms in DC by metro-area billings

Firm Name	Metro-area billings	Metro-area employees
Gensler	\$94.4 million	6,093
HOK Group Inc.	\$49.1 million	120
CallisonRTKL	\$45.57 million	120
Shalom Baranes Associates	\$44.61 million	173
SmithGroup	\$42.02 million	192
Perkins Eastman	\$34.88 million	120
Stantec Architecture	\$28.10 million	81
Hickok Cole	\$27.2 million	100
Quinn Evans Architects	\$23.8 million	49



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Page Southerland Page Inc.	\$23.5 million	62
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Source: [Washington Business Journal](#)

Professional Services Innovation Hubs in DC

[Booz Allen Innovation Center](#) brings groups of entrepreneurs, startups, incubators, investors, and other leading-edge firms.

[Deloitte Greenhouse Corporate Innovation Lab](#) provides immersive experiences designed to break down barriers and accelerate meaningful results through one-to-two day interactive sessions tailored to address specific business challenges.

[Fed Tech](#) pairs entrepreneurs with inventions from over 17 federal labs to commercialize federally funded research and development projects. The Fed Tech program helps teams validate demands for the technology and build a basic business model within two months.

[DCode42](#) is an accelerator program for technology programs looking to enter the federal government market. DCode42 works with companies in a variety of industries such as big data, cyber security, and health IT that have the power to change the way the government runs.

[General Electric Aviation Accelerator](#) is a collaboration space to help federal civilian and defense customers transform operations with digital products and services. The Accelerator is for data scientists, software developers, and domain experts to work with government clients to condense multiple data points generated by the defense sector each year into data-collating technologies.

[Open Gov Hub](#) is a co-working community and a network of organizations promoting transparency, accountability, and civic engagement around the world.

[1776](#) is a hub for startups tackling challenges in education, energy, health care, government, and other critical industries. 1776 startups gain access to a global network of connections with established institutions and corporations, influencers, expert mentors, and investors. 1776 also has a seed fund where they make seed-stage investments in startups that combine a massive opportunity for financial success and the potential to transform the industry's most important to lives as citizens.

Relevant DC Government Resources

[DC Procurement Technical Assistance Center](#) offers personalized business counseling and competitive insights for navigating the government process successfully.

[DC Launch Pad](#) is a shark-tank style pitch competition that awards small contract awards (up to \$100k) to DC CBEs on the spot.

The Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce offers [B2B connections](#) and capacity building programs to help businesses accelerate growth through face-to-face connections.

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Examples of DC Professional Services Innovation Companies

[Axiom](#) is the global leading alternative legal services provider that offers talent and technology to help legal departments adapt to a demanding new era. They offer services such as data and technology driven contract review and regulatory services.

[Contactually](#) is a client relationship management software system that allows users to simplify and automate personal communications with their entire network.

[ClearWater Legal](#) is a nation-wide provider of document review services, integrated e-discovery and specialized legal staffing solutions. They also offer clients their proprietary software, Law Staff Portal, which integrates and streamlines multiple elements of project staffing and management.

[Fiscal Note](#) helps organizations manage the state, federal, and international issues that affect them most through automatically aggregating and standardizing legislative data.

[MPOWER Financing](#) provides loans to top international students through using a forward-looking model centered on students' potential rather than the traditional backward-looking model.

[Pie Insurance](#) provides workers compensation insurance directly to small businesses through their easy-to-use online platform.

[Remodelmate](#) provides an online platform designed to connect homeowners and renovation contractors. The platform provides transparent, unbiased pricing from local contractors, milestone payments, and connects contractors with converted leads without having to do any paperwork.

[Industry Dive](#) is a digital media company that publishes business news and original analysis for 3 million executives in 16 industries.