HANDOUT 4 | GO FURTHER

Free Financial Resources Sheet

These are the outside tools and advisors we found for you.

- SBA startup cost and finance guidance
- IRS recordkeeping guidance
- SCORE templates and statement explainers
- SCORE mentoring and SBDC advising
- Census Business Builder for market demand
- Wave Accounting and starter tracking tools

SESSION 03 | HANDOUT 4
Free Financial Resources Sheet
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VEC Session 3. Free Financial Resources

Trusted links for financial statements, startup costs, cash flow, AI, recordkeeping, and mentoring.

BLUF: You do not have to figure out business finances alone. Use the right free resource for the question in front of you.

START HERE. 6 CORE RESOURCES

Question	Start Here
What will it cost to start?	SBA Startup Cost Guide
How do I manage business finances?	SBA Manage Your Finances
What financial projections do I need?	SCORE Financial Projections Template
What are the main financial statements?	SCORE Financial Statements Explainer
What records should I keep?	IRS Recordkeeping Guide
Who can help me think this through?	SCORE Mentoring

FROM LAST YEAR'S RESOURCE PAGE

The VEC Online Resources page is the deeper library. This Session 3 packet is the action plan for this week.

Open the VEC Online Resources page: Victory Business Fellowship Online Resources

Recommended video: William Ackman: Everything You Need to Know About Finance and Investing in Under an Hour. Use it for a simple walk-through of how money moves through a business. Do not worry about the investing language.

Open the video: Big Think financial basics video

SBA STARTUP COST GUIDE

Use this when: you need to estimate startup costs, monthly costs, and break-even needs.

Link: SBA startup cost guide

- Startup cost planning
- One-time vs. monthly expense thinking
- Break-even awareness
- Loan or investor preparation

SBA MANAGE YOUR FINANCES

Use this when: you need plain-English guidance on accounting methods, cash flow, accounts receivable, accounts payable, payroll, and when to get help.

Link: SBA manage your finances

- Cash vs. accrual accounting
- Financial management basics
- Finding bookkeeping or accounting help

SBA AI FOR SMALL BUSINESS

Use this when: you want to understand how AI can help with analysis while still protecting data and making owner-reviewed decisions.

Link: SBA AI for small business

- Using AI to analyze business data
- Identifying hidden costs and risks
- Thinking through secure AI use

IRS RECORDKEEPING GUIDE

Use this when: you need to know what business records to keep and why they matter.

Link: IRS recordkeeping guide

- Tracking income
- Tracking deductible expenses
- Supporting tax returns
- Monitoring business progress

SCORE FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS TEMPLATE

Use this when: you want an all-in-one spreadsheet template for startup expenses, sales forecast, cash flow, income statement, balance sheet, break-even, ratios, and cost of goods sold.

Link: SCORE financial projections template

- Startup expenses
- Sales forecast
- Cash flow statements
- Break-even analysis

SCORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS EXPLAINER

Use this when: you need a simple explanation of the income statement, balance sheet, and cash flow statement.

Link: SCORE financial statements explainer

- Understanding the Big 3 financial statements
- Seeing why cash flow matters
- Connecting statements to business decisions

SCORE MENTORING

Use this when: you want a free mentor to help think through business questions.

Link: SCORE mentoring

- Business planning
- Financial questions
- Startup decisions
- Experience-based advice

VIRGINIA SBDC

Use this when: you are in Virginia and want no-cost business advising or training.

Link: Virginia SBDC

- Starting a business
- Growing a business
- Financial management training

MARYLAND SBDC

Use this when: you are in Maryland and want no-cost business advising or training.

Link: Maryland SBDC

- Startup support
- Business growth
- Financial planning

CENSUS BUSINESS BUILDER

Use this when: you want market research before guessing demand.

Link: Census Business Builder

- Local market data
- Customer and demographic insight
- Location research

WAVE ACCOUNTING

Use this when: you are ready to move beyond a spreadsheet and start tracking income and expenses in an accounting tool.

Link: Wave Accounting

- Income and expense tracking
- Basic reports
- Cash visibility
- Starter accounting structure

HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT RESOURCE

If you need...	Use this first
Startup cost clarity	SBA Startup Cost Guide
Basic finance guidance	SBA Manage Your Finances
AI use guidance	SBA AI for Small Business
Recordkeeping rules	IRS Recordkeeping Guide
Full projections	SCORE Financial Projections Template
Statement explanations	SCORE Financial Statements Explainer
Business mentor	SCORE
Local advising	Virginia SBDC or Maryland SBDC
Market data	Census Business Builder
Accounting system	Spreadsheet first, then Wave or another accounting tool

Final reminder: Free help exists. Do not wait until the numbers become a crisis. Ask for help early.

YOUR RESOURCE ACTION PLAN

This Week	Resource	Next Step
Estimate startup costs	SBA Startup Cost Guide	List one-time and monthly costs
Build projections	SCORE Financial Projections Template	Start with startup costs and cash flow
Understand statements	SCORE Financial Statements Explainer or Bill Ackman video	Write down 3 terms to review
Ask for help	SCORE, SBDC, or a trusted advisor	Schedule one conversation or send one question

Class reminder: Bring one question from this guide to the group so we can learn together.