01 / THE PREPARATION COLLECTION

# Business financing preparation.

Organize the objective. Understand the operating picture. Ask better questions.

## 01 Define the business purpose.

Describe the expense or investment and the business reason behind it. Identify what the need addresses and which ongoing costs will remain afterward.

## 02 Organize the operating picture.

Keep financial records consistent and current. Understand receipts, recurring expenses, seasonal patterns, taxes, and other commitments. Retain supporting records for a later appropriate review.

## 03 Inventory existing obligations.

List current financing, payment commitments, guarantees, security interests, and any contractual restrictions. A new arrangement needs to be considered alongside what the business already owes.

## 04 Understand the structure.

A merchant cash advance is generally a purchase of future receivables. A term loan is borrowing under an agreement. A line of credit has facility and draw conditions. Read the actual documents.

## 05 Prepare questions about the full agreement.

Ask about all charges, deductions, payment or collection mechanics, guarantees, security, prepayment or reconciliation provisions, and events that may change availability or trigger default.

**KEEP THE INQUIRY SIMPLE**

The website form starts a conversation. Do not submit bank statements, account numbers, identity documents, or confidential financial records through it.

# Your financing discussion notes.

Use these prompts to prepare privately. This worksheet is not a credit application.

## 01 Purpose and operating context

Business need and intended use:

Relevant operating or seasonal context:

## 02 Current commitments

Existing obligations to discuss:

Questions about guarantees, security, or restrictions:

## 03 Questions for the conversation

What do I need explained in writing?

**ORIGINAL SOURCES / OPEN THE OFFICIAL GUIDANCE**

FTC: Small-business financing overview >

SBA: Managing a business >

Alpha: Business financing explanations >

General education only. No credit, legal, or financing result is promised. Source links reviewed September 8, 2026. Keep completed worksheets private.