

Belmont Bank & Trust

8250 West Belmont Avenue
Chicago, IL 60634

(773) 589-9500

Email Belmont Bank

About Us

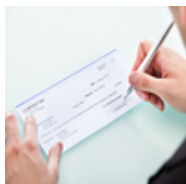
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Exploring Alternative Financing Options for Your Business

Access to capital is crucial for your company's growth and long-term financial stability. Before reaching out to potential lenders and investors, business owners should understand debt and equity financing alternatives that might be available. Here are three funding sources you might not have considered: angel investors, equity crowdfunding and peer-to-peer lending.

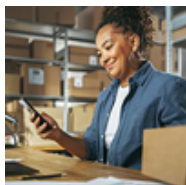
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Navigating the Risks of Check Fraud

Many businesses still issue and accept paper checks that are sent through the mail, despite the prevalence of electronic payment methods. While paper checks may be convenient and familiar for some people, they can be stolen or altered by criminals. Here are six proactive measures you and your business can take to fortify your defenses against this threat.

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QBI Deduction: Use It or (Possibly) Lose It


Certain "pass-through" businesses are eligible for a special deduction of up to 20% of qualified business income (QBI). This tax break is designed to help achieve parity between the reduced corporate federal income tax rate and the tax rates for business income that passes through to individual owners. But it scheduled to expire after 2025, unless Congress extends it.

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1038 W. Madison Street
Chicago, IL 60607



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Dos and Don'ts for Business Expense Deductions

Knowing which expenses you can deduct from your business income can be tricky. In uncertain economic times, it's increasingly important to secure every legitimate deduction by following the rules and knowing what is and isn't deductible. As a new year begins, it's a good time to review which expenses are generally deductible and which ones aren't. Plus, you'll get a closer look at categories of expenses, including travel, entertainment, meals, client gifts and vehicle expenses.

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Help Wanted: Hiring Your Kids to Work for Your Small Business

If you own a small business and have children in high school, technical school or college, you might want to ask them to work for you during their school breaks or over the summer. This could allow them to earn some extra spending money and learn about the family business. Plus, there may be tax advantages that could sweeten the deal. Here's what you should know.

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Social Security Tax Update: How High Can It Go?

Controversy surrounds the topic of Social Security, as the amount collected from higher income individuals continues to climb, and politicians continue to argue about solutions. Plus, there's no guarantee that taxpayers will collect what they've been promised. Here's how much individuals currently pay and how recent increases in benefits compare to the increase in tax collected.

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Naming a Product

What your business calls the items or services it sells has a major effect on whether they are going to attract customers. Coming up with effective names involves creating something memorable,

catchy, descriptive and familiar. Here are some considerations as you try to come up with brand names that knock your competitors out of the water.

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Deposit Insurance from the FDIC and NCUA

When the economy rocks and rolls, you may wonder if your money is safe in your bank or credit union. Deposits are still subject to federal insurance, as they have been since the Great Depression. Keep reading to learn details of what is covered and what the insurance limits are.

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