

Cooperative Feasibility Class

Interested in starting a cooperative business in the City of Minneapolis?

The City of Minneapolis is offering a class for groups interested in creating a cooperative business or converting an existing business to a cooperative model. The class will equip the participants with tools to evaluate their co-op idea and/or to refine their model for those that are already in the process of incorporation. This class is not designed for housing cooperatives.

Place:

Virtual Meeting - Link to be sent upon acceptance to class.

When:

- January, 2023 - Session dates TBD, 5:30 7:30 p.m.

Eligibility:

- Groups interested in starting a cooperative business in Minneapolis.
- Groups and business owners interested in converting an existing business to a cooperative.
- Groups with a minimum of 2 to 3 people (not for individuals).
- Commitment of one person from each group to attend all sessions.

Cost:

This program is sponsored by the City of Minneapolis at no cost

Registration:

[Registration](#) for the January, 2023 cohort is now open.

Questions:

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www.minneapolismn.gov/business/C-TAP

Class Sessions:

- **Session 1:** Introduction to the course and introduction of participants and presenters; description of cooperative structure, identify, principles, values, and local history.
- **Session 2:** Development pathways for co-op startups; presentation of the Cooperative Ownership Canvas.
- **Session 3:** Review of ownership discussion; presentation and discussion of the Business Model Canvas in a cooperative context.
- **Session 4:** Cooperative law and finance: Presentations and panel discussion on key aspects of cooperative law and finance.
- **Session 5:** Cohort presentations of their feasibility templates; final Q and A; discussion of available resources to advance their work.
- **Session 6 (Optional):** Content specifically related to the conversion of an existing business to cooperative ownership.
- **1-on-1 Support:** Each project group will be afforded 1-3 hours of consulting assistance to refine their project idea and to clarify what their development pathway will look like.