

WELCOME GUIDE

Welcome to BBB! This resource guide is for new Accredited Businesses like yours. Congratulations!

BBB_®

WELCOME GUIDE

This is an interactive PDF. The contents on this page are clickable, so you can quickly and easily locate the information you need at any time. Each page in this guide will have a logo you can click that will direct you right back here to this page.

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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR BBB PRESIDENT & CEO

Congratulations on becoming an Accredited Business (AB) with your Better Business Bureau (BBB)! **You are part of a select group of business leaders that have earned accreditation**. Share your achievement with your employees, customers, and vendors! There are digital materials in this guide that you can put on your social media and website. Promoting your accreditation tells your customers that you're committed to ethical business.

BBB is one of the most historic, widely recognized brands in America, and the BBB Seal is the ultimate symbol of trust. That's your sign to proudly display the BBB Seal on your website, social media, business cards, promo materials, and all of your marketing and advertising.

This is just the first of many advantages and resources you can now access as an AB. This digital resource kit will guide you on that, so take a look now and bookmark it for later. If you have any questions, please reach out to the representatives assigned to your business and introduced in this guide.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and our staff, I commend your commitment to a market built on trust. Congratulations, and welcome to the BBB family!

Jocile Ehrlich, President and CEO

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MEET YOUR AB SERVICES TEAM

These representatives will help you get the most value out of your accreditation. From utilizing your benefits to managing your profile, these BBB professionals are here to help your company!



Accreditation
Support Coordinator



PRISCILLA RUSSELL

Director, Strategic

& Digital Alliances



BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS (AB) CHECKLIST



Check out this digital Welcome Guide!

This document has lots of important info and instructions — keep it handy.



Log into your BBB Business Account. (Instructions on page 5). This is where you can add details to your Business Profile, download the BBB Seal for your website or print materials, and more.



Display the door decals and vehicle stickers provided in your Welcome Packet. BBB Seals are useful for customers to quickly identify that a business is BBB Accredited.



If your business has social media accounts, connect with @BBBCincinnati on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Youtube, and TikTok.



Share the exciting news of your accreditation! Announce your accreditation with our press release template (link on page 20). Make a copy, fill in your company's details, add the release to your website, and share it with any relevant trade associations. Post the news on your social media accounts!

Email <u>marketing@cincinnati.bbb.</u>org if you would like to change the main point of contact for receiving newsletters and updates.

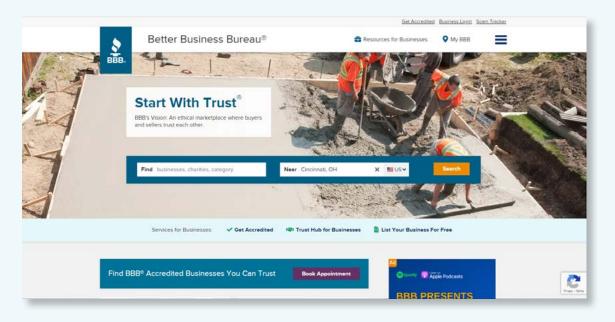
BBB BUSINESS PROFILE **VIDEO TUTORIALS**



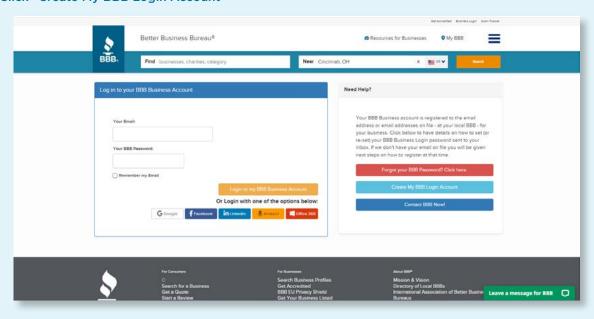
Click the links below to watch video tutorials on how to build out your BBB Business Profile

BBB BUSINESS PROFILE

1. Go to

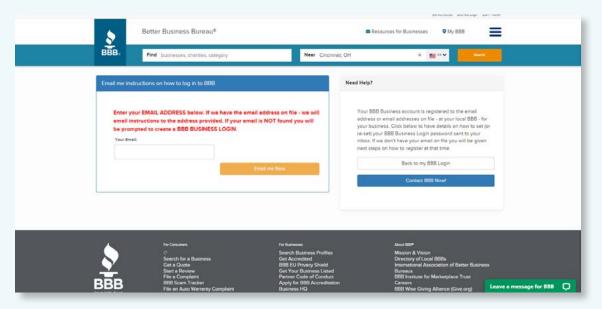


- 2. Click "Business Login" in top right corner
- 3. Click "Create My BBB Login Account"



BBB BUSINESS PROFILE

- 4. Enter the email address we have on file for your business (the email that received this digital toolkit)
- 5. Click "Email Me Now"



- 6. Go to your email and follow instructions to set up password
- 7. You have successfully accessed your Home Page





BBB Seal

- It's the ultimate historic emblem of good business.
 ABs have exclusive access to display the seal anywhere they do business. It's credibility at a glance, and the most effective and least expensive marketing tool around.
- Display your certificate in your business and put stickers on windows and vehicles. Put the seal on invoices, business cards, and ads. Display it at trade shows and online. It's worth a thousand words and can be used everywhere.
- The dynamic seal is an interactive button for your website. Users can click and go directly to your profile on BBB.org to see your accreditation status and rating.

Customer Reviews

 Researching online before you shop is the new norm, and customers prefer neutral third-party sources. In the public's eye, BBB is the authority. For businesses, BBB is a reliable vetter. We verify all reviews, notify you, and post your response.

Dispute Resolution

- ABs that have issues with customers can reach out to the BBB and receive free complaint counseling.
 We provide direction based on more than a century of experience in managing complaints.
- When conflict can't be resolved, ABs can use the informal process of BBB mediation. A trained mediator guides parties to a mutually agreeable resolution, saving court costs and time.

ABs can also use the more formal BBB arbitration.
 Parties state their cases before arbitrators, who are trained to make final, binding decisions in the pursuit of resolution.

Ad Review

- BBB was founded in 1912 to help regulate advertising within the marketplace. Today, the BBB Ad Review program continues to review local ads to keep the playing field even and the market transparent.
- Unsure about an upcoming advertisement or just want an objective eye? BBB offers prior-to-publication ad reviews! If there is something that may need further clarification we will work with you to come up with an effective solution. Through prior-to-publication ad reviews, we verify that all information is in compliance with the BBB's Code of Advertising. By doing so, we hope this will lead to less customer confusion and less complaints resulting in a confusing advertisement.
- If you would like to take advantage of prior-topublication ad review services or if you believe that you have encountered a potentially deceptive ad within the Greater Cincinnati, Ohio area, please follow the following instructions.
- Please forward a copy of the advertising in question to info@cincinnati.bbb.org or by mailing the information to the address below:

BBB Serving Southern Ohio, Northern Kentucky, Southeast Indiana

1 E. 4th Street • Suite 600 • Cincinnati, OH 45202 513-421-3015

ACCREDITATION **BENEFITS**



Financial Savings

- Ohio ABs can get significant savings off their Workers' Comp premiums through BBB's group rating program with Sheakley. Eligible employers could save up to 53% and quotes are always complimentary.
- The US government recognizes support of BBB as a reasonable and necessary business expense. Your accreditation fees may be tax deductible.

Workshops & Events

- BBB offers webinars, workshops, virtual training, and networking events throughout the year.
- ABs get free/discounted access to all our events, plus news about professional functions put on by BBB partners.

Business Profile

It's like a free website for your business! Your BBB Business Profile is the perfect overview of your company for prospective customers. It features your:

- Accreditation Seal
- BBB rating
- Business name & logo
- Description of services
- Type of business
- Business owners/leaders
- Years in business & date of accreditation
- Contact information
- Address & service area
- Website & social media
- Photos & videos!
- Hours of operation
- Get a Quote! A button on your profile allows users to request estimates for products and services. We do the work for you by notifying you of the request and sending potential client proposals your way.



IABBB Research, 2022 Survey of BBB Accredited Business

HOW BBB ACCREDITATION BENEFITS MY BUSINESS

- 1 Increases the **credibility** of my business
- 2 Demonstrates integrity in our business practices
- 3 Builds customer trust
- 4 Enhances my visibility as a reputable business
- 5 Shows we care about our customers

ACCREDITED BUSINESSES AGREE







WHAT THE BBB SEAL SYMBOLIZES



- 1 That we are a **reputable** business
- 2 That we are a **trustworthy** business
- 3 That we are an **honest** business

5 CHALLENGES FACING BUSINESS OWNERS



54%Managing costs



Hiring and keeping employees



Attracting new customers



32%Growing the business



Keeping up with customer demand

THINGS I LIKE ABOUT BBB







Use of Accredited Business Seal



BBB Customer Reviews



BBB **Dispute Resolution**



HOW BBB ADDS VALUE



LOCAL IMPACT AND VALUE IN 2023



6,369
Accredited Businesses

5,935
Get a Quote Requests

11,054 Closed complaints

2,396,318 Visits to BBB.org



Why BBB®? Trust matters.

In a market saturated with companies vying for customers, BBB Accreditation gives consumers confidence that they're dealing with an ethical and vetted business.

In a survey of 14,000 BBB Accredited Businesses, here's what businesses say about their BBB Accreditation:

69%

say BBB Accreditation increases the **credibility** of their business

66%

say BBB Accreditation demonstrates **integrity** in their business practices

65%

say BBB Accreditation builds consumer **trust**

63%

say BBB Accreditation increases their **visibility** as a reputable business

52%

say BBB Accreditation **differentiates** their business

VISIT BBB.ORG

BBB WELCOME GUIDE



Self-Regulation

We promote voluntary business self-regulation. It's one of BBB's foundational purposes. We believe it's more efficient and costs less for the marketplace to regulate itself than for the government to do the job. That's why the services we provide for both businesses and consumers are essential.

Standards for Trust

By promoting BBB's globally-renowned Standards for Trust, you show your customers that you subscribe to the highest standard of business ethics, and publicly commit to building trust, advertising honestly, being transparent, honoring promises, being responsible, safeguarding privacy, and embodying integrity.

Ethics-Based Recognition Programs

We run programs for business and nonprofits of all sizes and industries to distinguish those that operate with ethics. BBB Spark Awards are for startups, new businesses, and young entrepreneurs. BBB Torch Awards are for established businesses and nonprofits that meet high standards of character, culture, and community. The Students of Integrity Scholarship is for area high school seniors that respond to ethics-based essay prompts and receive scholarships for post-secondary education. Our programs advance individuals that study, work, and lead with integrity.

Community Services

The impact we have on our community is enormous. The resources we provide to consumers are free, and we target those resources to your community. The services we offer to individuals that work for you and buy from you are worth investing in, and they're possible because of the support of ethical businesses like yours. Accreditation is about more than the bottom line for your company; it's about the well-being of the entire community.

ADVERTISING AND SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES



PRISCILLA RUSSELL

Director, Strategic & Digital Alliances

Google Display Ads

Your BBB Accreditation gets you access to the Google Display Network! Through the BBB + Google partnership, you can invest in your business with affordable digital marketing that actively targets consumers in your area looking for your services.

Your custom ads will appear throughout the Google Display Network while consumers are checking email, watching YouTube, or looking at their favorite sites or apps. Each campaign targets consumers who have recently searched for the specific services your business provides.

With this program, you can capture prospective customers with the intent to buy, and spotlight your business at exactly the right time. This program is exclusively available to ABs for one flat rate and no contract, and your custom ad will be created and managed entirely by BBB ad experts.

YouTube Ads Program

YouTube is the second highest visited website on the internet with 14 billion visits monthly. And now, because you are a BBB Accredited Business, you can advertise your brand on this search engine with a video of your choice to display your BBB Seal of Accreditation.

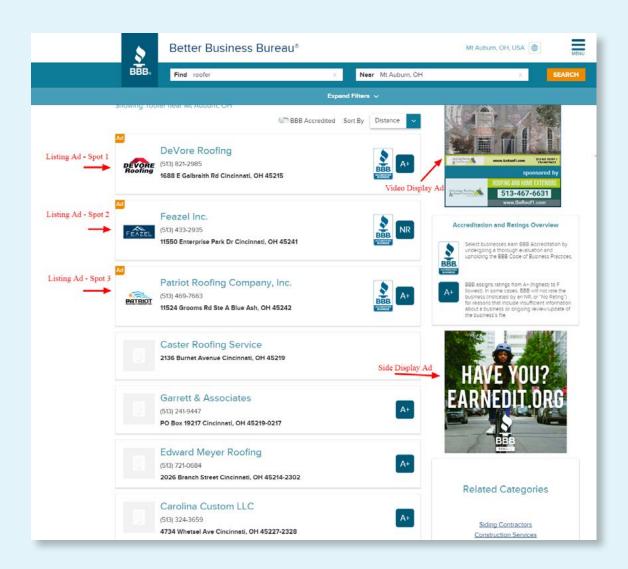
HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

- You can choose the counties or city radiuses to target and the specific audience to target.
- BBB ad experts design and coordinate digital marketing customized to your business.
- Traffic from listings goes straight to your website or BBB business profile.
- Ads are seen multiple times and retargeted to people whose total browsing history shows an interest in your industry and services.

Contact Priscilla Russell, Director, Strategic & Digital Alliances, to learn more about these and other opportunities to maximize your BBB Accreditation.



Millions of consumers go to <u>BBB.org</u> every year to look up businesses in their area. Enhanced Listings are prominently placed ads in BBB's search directory. These targeted banner ads give you a guaranteed position in our online directory on <u>BBB.org</u>.

























2023

BBB Patrons are a select

group of local leaders who see ethics as the key factor in creating a strong

business community.

They lead by example

in their commitment to an ethical market.

PATRONS































ABOUT YOUR BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

BBB is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit corporation serving 22 counties in Southern Ohio, Northern Kentucky, and Southeast Indiana.



BBB Vision

An ethical marketplace where buyers and sellers trust each other.

BBB Mission

Our mission is to be the leader in advancing marketplace trust. We do this by:

- Setting standards for marketplace trust
- Encouraging and supporting best practices by engaging with and educating consumers and businesses
- Celebrating marketplace role models
- Calling out and addressing substandard marketplace behavior
- Creating a community of trustworthy businesses and charities

BBB sees trust as a function of two primary factors: integrity and performance. Integrity comes from respect, ethics, positive intent, and working toward a diverse, inclusive and equitablemarketplace. Performance speaks to an organization's track record of delivering results in accordance with BBB standards and addressing customer concerns in a timely, satisfactory manner.

Learn more here:

Counties We Serve

Indiana - Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley, Switzerland, Union

Kentucky - Boone, Campbell, Kenton

Ohio - Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Gallia, Hamilton, Highland, Jackson, Pike, Lawrence, Scioto, and most of Warren.



















BBB STANDARDS

FOR TRUST

These eight principles cover business practices that build and maintain trust, credibility, and a good reputation. BBB's standards serve as the foundation for the BBB Code of Business Practices that Accredited Businesses must meet and maintain.

1 BUILD TRUST

Establish and maintain a positive track record in the marketplace.

2 ADVERTISE HONESTLY

Adhere to established standards of advertising and selling.

3 TELL THE TRUTH

Honestly represent products and services, clearly stating any conditions that would impact a consumer's decision to buy.

4 BE TRANSPARENT

Openly identify the nature, location, and ownership of the business. Clearly disclose all policies, guarantees, and procedures that may impact a customer's decision to buy.

5 HONOR PROMISES

Abide by all written agreements and verbal representations.

6 BE RESPONSIVE

Respond to customer complaints and reviews quickly and professionally.

7 SAFEGUARD PRIVACY

Protect data collected against mishandling and fraud; collect personal information only as needed; and respect the preferences of consumers regarding the use of their information.

8 EMBODY INTEGRITY

Approach all business dealings, marketplace transactions, and commitments with integrity.

USE THESE LINKS TO GET SOME FREE PROMO FOR YOUR BUSINESS!



DOWNLOAD THIS PRESS RELEASE AND SUBMIT IT TO YOUR TRADE PUBLICATION OR PUT IT ONLINE.

Use the social media shoutout request form to submit a request for your business to be featured on @bbbcincinnati's social media.

Don't forget to use the sticker/decal order form to order free vehicle stickers, door decals, and more to promote your BBB Accreditation.

Links

YOUR BBB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Your Board of Directors is dedicated to providing the leadership needed to get you the best return on your investment, and make sure your voice is heard. Together we can create and serve a community of trustworthy businesses advocating integrity.

Aaron Stapleton

Board Chair Trinity In Home Care

Richard Barbercheck

Vice Chair/Treasurer Queen City Homecare

Jocile Ehrlich

President & CEO BBB Cincinnati

DIRECTORS

Ron Auer

Auer Kitchens

Jim Collins

FocusCFO

John Fittro

Fifth Third Bank

Jim Hedrick

Oswald Companies

Gregory Hyland

Cooper Electric

David Keiser

CBTS

Lori Krafte

Wood Herron & Evans, LLP

Heather Langster

Epiphany HR Solutions

Summer Lattimore

Sum Smart Solutions

Greg Livingston

Curiosity Advertising

Angelita Moreno-Jones

Eastern Personnel Services

Jason Nintrup

Performance Automotive Network

Joey Peters

HealthWarehouse.com

Carlos Sanchez

Continental Roof Company

Jamie Smith

Cincinnati Business Courier

Sedra Taylor

Total Training Services, LLC

Randy Williams

A Debt Coach Credit Counseling Service

Tim Zeis

Game Changer Solutions, LLC