



OVERVIEW

Small business is the lifeblood of our community and the driving force of jobs in South Carolina. As part of our core constituency, the South Carolina Chamber's grassroots efforts and overall success is directly tied to our ability to foster a climate that is favorable to small business.

For this reason, the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce has introduced the South Carolina Chamber Federation, a partnership with local chambers to ensure the voice of small business is heard with minimal investment and maximum impact.

Through the South Carolina Chamber Federation, any business with 10 or fewer full time employees who is a member of a participating local chamber will receive free membership into the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce.

Participation in the Federation gives local chambers a sales and retention tool, increased influence in the state legislature and access to timely information, resources and opportunities.

This partnership aims to empower small businesses and grow the voice of business at the local, state and federal levels.

BENEFITS

MEMBERS OF PARTICIPATING LOCAL CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE WITH 10 OR FEWER FULL TIME EMPLOYEES WILL RECEIVE:

- **Free membership to the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce**
- **Proactive government affairs representation throughout the year in the SC legislature**
- **The opportunity to participate in statewide initiatives and coalitions with direct impact on public policy development**
- **Up-to-date information on regional and statewide issues through updates and engagements during the legislative session**
- **Reduced member pricing for South Carolina Chamber of Commerce events**

UNPRECEDENTED ACCESS TO RELEVANT AND TIMELY RESOURCES, INFORMATION AND OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Access to local chamber staff information center containing key legislative updates and calls to action, sharable content related to South Carolina policy issues, and marketing tools and templates to promote Federation benefits to your members**
- **Access to executive offices and conference rooms at the South Carolina Chamber in the heart of the capitol, allowing chamber executives to host meetings with legislators and members**
- **Special event invitations, promotional opportunities and information on statewide policy and competitiveness issues and events**

INCREASED BRAND AWARENESS AMONG POTENTIAL MEMBERS STATEWIDE THROUGH PROMOTION OF YOUR CHAMBER IN SC CHAMBER OF INITIATIVES AND COMMUNICATIONS:

- **Eligible for rotating annual appointment on the South Carolina Chamber's Small Business Council**
- **First consideration when identifying locations and partners for SC Chamber Events**

AGREEMENT

The South Carolina Chamber Federation Agreement (hereinafter “Agreement”) is effective as of the ____ day of _____, 2015, between the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce (hereinafter “South Carolina Chamber”) and the _____ Chamber of Commerce (hereinafter “Local Chamber”). Due to the following common objectives, the South Carolina Chamber and the Local Chamber have entered into this agreement:

- 1. Strengthen the positive and beneficial relationship that exists between state and local chambers in South Carolina.**
- 2. Through cooperative efforts, increase the legislative and political involvement and effectiveness of the South Carolina small business community.**
- 3. Through cooperative efforts, increase the opportunity to provide beneficial programs and services to chamber members.**
- 4. Increase membership and loyalty for both the South Carolina Chamber and Local Chamber.**

I. SOUTH CAROLINA CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP

The Local Chamber shall be a member in good standing of the South Carolina Chamber. Upon the expiration of the membership of the Local Chamber in the South Carolina Chamber, termination of all agreements between the parties may occur. Appropriate notice will be given prior to any such removal.

II. FEDERATION MEMBERS

All active members of the Local Chamber who employ 10 or fewer full-time employees shall be South Carolina Chamber Federation members (hereinafter “Federation members”) upon execution of this agreement. Each will have the opportunity to opt-out should they choose not to participate in the Federation.

III. FEDERATION COMMUNICATIONS

The South Carolina Chamber shall ensure that Federation members receive all communications through either the “Direct to Member” option which permits the South Carolina Chamber to manage the communication process or the “Direct to Local Chamber” option which permits the Local Chamber to manage the communication process. A Local Chamber may change the communication option by providing written notice to the South Carolina Chamber; the South Carolina Chamber, however, may not alter the communication option with the Local Chamber or Federation members without written authorization.

By choosing one of the communication options, the Local Chamber agrees to provide the necessary contact information as referenced in the South Carolina Chamber Federation Partner Information Form (attached). While Federation members may voluntarily opt-in to communications from the South Carolina Chamber, Federation members may also opt-out of any and all contact lists at any time via communication links or by contacting the South Carolina Chamber directly.

IV. LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

As a proactive legislative advocacy organization, the South Carolina Chamber shall encourage Federation member involvement in communications with elected officials on legislative and regulatory matters before state and federal government. As a part of Federation involvement, the South Carolina Chamber shall inform the Local Chamber of all communication sent to Federation members and/or include the Local Chamber in the communication.

V. FEDERATION PROMOTION

Both the Local Chamber and South Carolina Chamber have the right to promote the benefits and structure of the Federation during the recruitment and retention of small business membership. By choosing to participate in the Federation, the Local Chamber agrees to incorporate the benefit of “a complimentary Federation membership in the South Carolina Chamber” into the sales process for potential and current members who have less than 10 employees. The South Carolina Chamber will develop and provide co-branded promotional material for use by the Local Chamber.

VI. TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

Either party is permitted to terminate this agreement with 30 days’ notice provided in writing. The South Carolina Chamber is permitted to continue communication and services in full to

the Federation member list last provided by the Local Chamber until the Local Chamber has expressly terminated the agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this agreement on _____, 2015, and upon signature below warrant they have authority to execute this agreement on behalf of their respective parties.

South Carolina Chamber of Commerce

Chamber of Commerce

Name: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

PARTNER INFORMATION FORM

Name of Organization: _____

Current Total Number of Chamber Members: _____

Current Total Number of Small Business Members (10 or fewer FTE): _____

CHAMBER PRESIDENT / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PRIMARY CONTACT

Executive Contact Name: _____

Executive Contact Title: _____

Work Number: _____ **Mobile:** _____

Fax: _____ **Email:** _____

CHECK HERE IF THE CONTACT LISTED ABOVE SHOULD BE LISTED FOR ALL FUNCTIONS BELOW.

POLICY AND ISSUE FOCUSED COMMUNICATION

Government Affairs Contact: _____

Title: _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____

COMMUNICATION OPTIONS:

Please select your communication preference:

Direct to Member (preferred):

- The South Carolina Chamber will be responsible for sending communications to Federation members. The Local Chamber will send quarterly lists of qualified Federation members (companies with 10 or fewer FTE) to the South Carolina Chamber for integration into the Federation database. The South Carolina Chamber will provide a template for submitting the lists.**

Direct to Local Chamber:

- The Local Chamber will be responsible for forwarding South Carolina Chamber Federation communications received from the South Carolina Chamber to Federation members. The Local Chamber agrees to provide the South Carolina Chamber with specified member information quarterly and agrees that time-sensitive information and materials will be passed along to participants in time for prescribed action to be taken.**

**PLEASE RETURN THIS AGREEMENT AND PARTNER INFORMATION FORM
WITH YOUR FORMATTED MEMBER LIST TO:**

**Molly McCarthy
Government Relations & Communications Administrator
P: 803.255.2620
F: 803.779.6043
molly.mccarthy@scchamber.net
South Carolina Chamber of Commerce
1301 Gervais Street, Suite 1100
Columbia, SC 29201**