Getting Down to Business

New entrepreneurs often fail because they can’t afford the high-quality legal services they need to navigate complex regulatory requirements and protect their assets.

Now, with a $500,000 grant from the US Department of Commerce, the School of Law is launching a Community Business Clinic to provide free legal services to the region’s low-income and other underserved entrepreneurs, including clean and green technologies, science and health innovations, and small and ethnically diverse businesses.

Legal assistance, provided by law students under close faculty supervision, will include:

- Negotiating with state and local government agencies and drafting contracts and other start-up documents.
- Drafting, reviewing and negotiating documents relating to licenses, permits, zoning, leases, loans and intellectual property rights, as well as service agreements and contracts for accounting, insurance and legal services, major products and leases.

Related research will be used to develop a national model for clinical legal assistance to support sustainable business creation and technology transfer among underserved entrepreneurs.

This US Department of Commerce grant is part of a competitive, national program designed to enhance regional economic development tools that will expand opportunity and create jobs in underserved communities.

Check your mail for our upcoming postcard on the new Family Law Clinic.
Growing & Expanding:
Northeastern University School of Law Clinical Program

Community Business Clinic
Family Law Clinic