

About the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce

Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce has represented the Grand Strand's business community for more than 70 years. The chamber serves Myrtle Beach, North Myrtle Beach, Surfside Beach, Little River, Atlantic Beach, Garden City Beach, Loris, Conway, Aynor, Murrells Inlet, Litchfield Beach and Pawleys Island.

Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce is a membership organization supported by more than 2,400 businesses and nonprofit organizations. The organization, and the individuals representing them, join together for the purpose of promoting the civic and economic progress of our community.





In 2009, Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce was awarded a five-star accreditation, the highest achievement for chambers, by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Accreditation by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce defines excellence in chamber planning and performance and shows chambers how to reach and maintain these standards. It helps measure achievement and recognize members and staff who contribute to the good of their communities.

Of 6,936 chambers of commerce in the United States, only 69 have the distinction of the five-star accreditation.



Marketing Strategies

Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce offers members a variety of opportunities to market their business.

Online Marketing Opportunities at VisitMyrtleBeach.com and MyrtleBeachAreaChamber.com

- Additional Categorical Links
- Enhanced Business Directory Links
- Coupons

Electronic Advertising Opportunities

- ePostcards
- Segmented Accommodations Email Blasts
- Member-to-Member Email Blasts

Advertising Cooperative Opportunities

Visitor Centers

- Brochure & Business Card Racks
- Chamber TV
- Monthly Calendar of Events (noncommercial)
- Monthly Theater Schedule (noncommercial)



Promote your dining establishment for free on GrandStrandRestaurants.com

- Restaurant of the Month
- Recipe of the Month
- Restaurant News
- Free Radio Interviews on Easy 105.9 and Easy 100.7

Promote your events to locals and visitors for free at GrandStrandEvents.com



Marketing Strategies

Discover more marketing opportunities at MyrtleBeachAreaChamber.com under Marketing Strategies.

Publications

Think Myrtle Beach – Real Estate, Investment and Relocation Guide

Grand Strander – Monthly Membership Newsletter

Grand Strander Express – Weekly Membership E-Newsletter

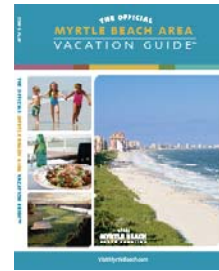
Group & Meeting Planning Guide

Member-to-Member Discounts

Official Myrtle Beach Area Visitors Guide

Coupon Book

Area Map



Sponsorships

Chamber Events

Festivals

Special Events



Inquiries

Convention Leads

Motorcoach Leads

Visitor Inquiries

Relocation Inquiries

Membership List

Member Benefits

Get additional “bang for your buck” with our huge selection of business programs.

Accommodations Alert

Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce routinely receives last minute calls asking about lodging. Members are encouraged to keep the chamber’s Call Center updated on vacancies so we may better assist our visitors and provide referrals for your business.

Ambassador Program

Ambassadors promote awareness about chamber benefits while encouraging members to become more involved in the organization.

BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina

If you have between two and 99 employees, look no further than Business True BlueSM. Also available, Personal True Blue for those members who do not qualify for a group health plan, such as sole proprietors, students, part-timers and dependents. BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina is a proud partner with MBACC offering plans designed for businesses just like yours.



Business Directory Listing

MyrtleBeachAreaChamber.com provides our members with exposure from all over the world. Members receive five free listings in the chamber’s online business directory with a link to their company’s website and email address.

Fisher Recycling - Grand Strand

Fisher Recycling - Grand Strand offers MBACC and MBAHA/Hospitality Partnership members the opportunity to “Go Green - Grand Strand” by taking advantage of complimentary on-site waste audit and a customized recycling program for your business, as well as personalized training and education for your staff.



Member Business Referrals

Business referrals are one of the most valuable benefits of chamber membership. The chamber receives thousands of requests each month for referrals for specific products and services. We refer chamber members to visitors, newcomers, businesses and area residents.

Online Chamber Plaque

Want to build credibility online? Put the chamber member plaque on your website. It has come to signify corporate citizenship and excellence. Visit the Members Only section to download a plaque.



Member Benefits

Member-to-Member Discounts

Designed to enhance your membership value, this program encourages members to buy from other members to save money, increase visibility and promote new business for their companies.

Nonprofit Resource Center

Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce member businesses are reaching out to nonprofits through donations, blood drives, mentoring and more. Learn all about nonprofit chamber members at the Nonprofit Resource Center at MyrtleBeachAreaChamber.com.

Office Depot

When you enroll in the MBACC program with Office Depot, you will receive unbeatable discounts on your office supplies. This program is another example of how we're always looking for ways to save you money and make it easier for you to do business.

Office DEPOT

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremonies

A grand opening, an expansion, an anniversary or a move to a new facility is made more special with a ribbon-cutting. If you're a home-based business, give us a call and we'll hold a special ceremony here at the chamber just for you!



Media Center

Learn how you can use the media to help your business at MBACC's Media Center. Find a media contact list, public relations info, press kits, and Myrtle Beach area image and video galleries. Visit the online Media Center to submit your contact info and to download Travel Media Tips so if a travel writer is visiting your business, you will be on top of your game!

Statistical Information

What percentage of the Grand Strand's visitors are under the age of 65? How does the cost of living in Myrtle Beach compare with the rest of the nation? Discover the answers to these questions and more in the annual Myrtle Beach Area Statistical Abstract. You can view the guide at MyrtleBeachAreaChamber.com under Research & Statistics.

Government Relations

Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce represents more than 2,400 members and serves as a liaison between our members and elected officials to ensure that the voice of business is presented to all levels of government. We are committed to helping influence legislation and public policy in a way that benefits our community and your business.

Legislative Policy Council

The chamber's Legislative Policy Council serves as a liaison between chamber members and elected officials to ensure that the voice of business is represented at local, state and federal levels.

Legislative Priorities

The yearly legislative priorities lay a foundation to have our members' issues and concerns addressed through the various local, state and federal legislative bodies.

Government Resource Center

The Government Resource Center is the place to find a list of local, state and federal officials, discover details on sales tax or development fees, or learn more about the Interstate 73/74/75 project. Look for this information and more at MyrtleBeachAreaChamber.com, click on Government Relations.



Chamber Partnerships

Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce is part of several partnerships that provide our members with valuable new programs and services.

Hospitality Partnership

Myrtle Beach Area Hospitality Partnership is a partnership among Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, Myrtle Beach Area Hospitality Association and Hospitality Association of South Carolina. Certain hospitality-oriented categories in MBACC are automatically members in the MBAHA and HASC. And, if you're a restaurant, nightclub or hotel, you gain membership into either the National Restaurant Association or American Hotel & Lodging Association.



S.C. Chamber of Commerce Membership

As a member of Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce you can enjoy free electronic access to the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce statewide grassroots lobbying and information networks. The program, called eVoice, extends electronic access to all chamber businesses. That access



SOUTH CAROLINA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

includes receipt of email alerts and calls to action regarding vital small business legislation, electronic polls on small business issues, as well as email subscriptions to ChamberBiz, a weekly news and events update.

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Membership

Small business members of Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce enjoy complimentary membership in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce – it's a value-added benefit of MBACC membership. Your U.S. Chamber benefits include:

- **Small Business Nation** – Legislative email updates.
- **Free Enterprise Weekly** – Get the latest small business news delivered to your inbox.
- **Small Business Toolkits** – Explore the toolkits ranging from competitive benefits and coaching employees to purchasing and inventory management decisions.
- **Small Business Community Section**



Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corp.

Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce members are now being offered a special membership offer to get involved with the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corp. MBREDC works solely on job creation and economic diversification. They are currently looking to expand their member base and get more area businesses involved with their organization.

Myrtle Beach Regional EDC has partnered with the chamber to offer you a special membership: \$150 Annual Individual Business Member Gold Level (Valued at \$300).



Chamber Special Events

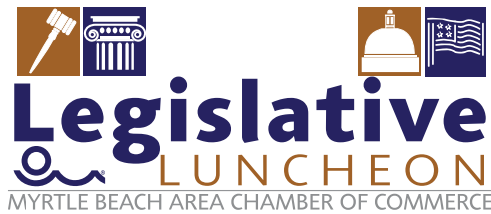
Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce hosts several membership events each year.

Annual MEETING

MYRTLE BEACH AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



The Annual Meeting recognizes the chamber's accomplishments over the last year as well as announcing the winners of the MBACC business awards. These awards celebrate the Grand Strand's most successful businesses and individuals.



The Legislative Luncheon is a great opportunity for members to meet their local and state representatives and learn about the chamber's legislative agenda. Members of the Horry-Georgetown Legislative Delegation participate in Q&A.



Every year, chamber staff and members travel to Columbia to meet with members of the S.C. General Assembly. Here's your chance to talk about issues important to our area and help educate the legislators about the significant impact the Grand Strand has on the state's economy.



Chamber Festivals

The Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce hosts several annual festivals that are enjoyed by residents and tourists alike.



During the annual Beach, Boogie & BBQ Festival, South Carolina's Official Barbeque Championship takes place. Attendees can enjoy free concerts, kids games and car shows.



FLAVOR, which stands for Fresh, Local, Appetizing, Valuable, Original Restaurants, features more than 30 restaurants sharing their most appetizing cuisines for the public to taste.



Each year, the Myrtle Beach area rolls out the red carpet for Canadian and American visitors during Canadian-American Days. The event includes a line up of fun activities, giveaways, discounts and concerts taking place throughout the Grand Strand.



The Grand Strand Fishing Rodeo was created to highlight saltwater fishing opportunities in the Myrtle Beach area and provide another dimension for vacation and recreational planning.



Beach Blast takes place in May and features Christian music sure to impress and inspire.

Small Business Resources

Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce has more than 2,400 members, 80 percent of which have 50 or fewer employees. Our goal is to promote the interests of these small businesses by providing programs and services that encourage professional development and to help small businesses thrive.

Guide to Going Into Business

This online guide helps entrepreneurs find out all the pertinent information needed when starting up a business. The Myrtle Beach area has no single business license that will ensure compliance with the numerous state licenses, permits, and regulatory requirements. By using this resource, you can find all the information needed to start up a business.

Small Business Resource Center

This Web-based resource center is your one stop to resources that you can use as a small business chamber member.

Education Opportunities

As a small business, MBACC realizes the difficulty in getting your staff trained and educated with all the latest tools to help your business grow. Whether it's a new law going into effect or learning computer skills, the chamber offers low or no cost education opportunities to give small businesses the training they need.

Small Business Buzz

Every other week, the Grand Strander Express highlights the Small Business Buzz. The Buzz gives tips and tools to help your small business succeed.



Young Professionals Organization

Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce offers a young professionals program, gsSCENE, that works to provide constructive social networking, professional development, and community engagement to young professionals in and around the Grand Strand.



- Service Oriented
- Community Minded
- Educating
- Networking
- Embracing Young Professionals

gsSCENE

Networking – gsSCENE holds exclusive peer-to-peer networking events showcasing the Grand Strand's culture and attractions.

Educating – gsSCENE offers continuing educational seminars to its members in the areas of leadership, business etiquette and political issues.

Service Oriented/Community Minded – gsSCENE provides information to its members on service opportunities and projects in the Grand Strand to foster community volunteering.

Member Benefits

- Monthly Socials & Networking Opportunities
- Exclusive Educational Sessions
 - Community Involvement
- Exclusive Discounts With the gsSCENE Membership Card
- Access to Members Only Section on gsSCENE.com:
 - Job Postings
 - Bulletin Postings
 - Access to Membership Directory
 - Social Networking



gsSCENE.com

Networking Opportunities

If you're looking for a casual social or a fast-moving gathering to build your business contacts, MBACC offers some of the finest networking events in the area.

Business Before, During and After Hours

These monthly networking events provide the opportunity for members to make valuable new business contacts in a relaxed, social setting. Sponsored by different chamber members, these gatherings allow members to exchange business cards and ideas as they meet new business associates and strengthen established ones. Free event!

B-to-B Connects

B-to-B Connects is designed for those whose business success depends on word-of-mouth referrals and marketing. Participants will be given 2 to 3 minutes to present their business in front of MBACC members. This networking event is limited to a small number of attendees for a more intimate networking experience. Free event!

Chamber Access

This monthly event is Your All Access Pass to the Chamber. It's an orientation for new members, new employees at existing chamber members and even longtime members. It is an invaluable opportunity to find out how to get the best return on your chamber dues investment. Free event!

Behind the Scenes

This social event combines making contacts while learning about unique businesses along the Grand Strand. Hosted by different MBACC member businesses at their location, members get a Behind the Scenes look at fellow member businesses while enjoying small group networking. Free event!



Communication

Our goal is to keep you connected to your chamber benefits ... check out our e-newsletters and mobile app.

E-News

These electronic information tools will allow you to stay informed of events and benefits, educational classes, advertising opportunities, and our legislative agenda. Sign up for e-news at MyrtleBeachAreaChamber.com.



Member Updates – Surveys, benefits, advertising opportunities, networking events, etc.

Grand Strander Express – Time-sensitive chamber news

Education Updates – Workforce development classes/seminars

News Releases – Chamber media releases

Advertising Cooperatives – Canadian, Meetings and Conventions, Group, Newspapers, Magazines, TV, etc.

National I-73/74/75 Corridor Association – Updates on Interstates 73/74/75

Stay Connected to MBACC – Mobile App

You can download our mobile app by visiting <http://web.myrtlebeachareachamber.com/mobile> on your smartphone or mobile device.

Direct Call – Users can take advantage of one touch dialing to call each business member.

Business Directory - Users can search by category, type of business or business name.

Deals – Users can find out about chamber businesses that offer coupons to the public and exclusive discounts to chamber members.

Events – Learn where and when your nearest chamber event is happening right from your phone! You can also instantly register for events.

News – Stay up-to-date with the latest chamber news! The app also features a link to our



Receive updates on MBACC straight to your mobile phone!





Myrtle Beach Area
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MyrtleBeachAreaChamber.com