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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Goldsboro Ranked Among Best Cities to Start a Small Business**

**GOLDSBORO, N.C.** – The City of Goldsboro has been ranked #210 in the nation for the Best Cities to Start a Small Business according to a survey developed by Lend EDU (<https://lendedu.com/blog/best-cities-small-business/>)

Among 250 cities listed, Goldsboro offers some of the best resources, as well as economic comfort, in the country. Lend EDU reviewed thousands of cities across the United States and built a unique ranking equation using the data from transportation cost, utilities cost, average household expenditure, average household income, projected population growth in the next five years and percentage of the population in labor force. Of the 250 cities listed in the ranking, nine were from the state of North Carolina. The other cities listed were as follows:

- 45 – Carrboro, NC
- 96 – Asheville, NC
- 105 – Greensboro, NC
- 109 – Kernersville, NC
- 140 – Hickory, NC
- 155 – Southern Pines, NC
- 210 – Goldsboro, NC
- 211 – Wilmington, NC
- 219 – Hendersonville, NC

According to the Small Business Administration, small businesses are defined as businesses with fewer than 500 employees and account for 99.7% of all business in the nation.

Since the announcement of the TIGER V grant in September 2013, growth of small businesses and investments in Downtown Goldsboro have increased exponentially with the addition of 43 new businesses, 205 new jobs and an overall private investment of \$7.82M between 2013 and 2016 in the 22-block downtown district. Julie Metz, Goldsboro's Downtown Development Director says, "Between

the City of Goldsboro and downtown business owners, there is an unrivaled commitment to the development of downtown. The Streetscape project and recent improvements to downtown have set the stage for downtown, but our local businesses have done a fantastic job of making it unique, diverse and appealing; they are responsible for so much of the traffic and making people want to consistently return to shop, play and even live here.”

The announcement recognizing the City of Goldsboro comes at an ideal time with Small Business Week approaching next week, April 30 – May 6. Since 1963, the President of the United States has issued a proclamation announcing National Small Business Week, recognizing the critical contributions of America’s entrepreneurs and small business owners. More than half of Americans either own or work for a small business, and they create an estimated two out of every three new jobs each year. In order to support small businesses next week, the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce, Wayne County Small Business Center and Downtown Goldsboro Development Corporation will be hosting free seminars and continuing education to current and future business owners. For more information on the seminars, contact the Chamber of Commerce at 919-734-2241.

For more information about Downtown Goldsboro and small businesses please visit [www.downtowngoldsboro.org](http://www.downtowngoldsboro.org) or call 919.735.4959.

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