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CALIFORNIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

International Affairs and Trade

August 2026

Special Announcements

GO-Biz STEP Export Voucher Program

GO-Biz is now accepting applications for the STEP Export Voucher Program. Eligible California small businesses can apply for reimbursement of up to 75% of pre-approved, eligible export promotion expenses. The current application window is open for export promotion activities taking place **July 20, 2026, through September 30, 2026**.

To learn more about eligibility requirements and apply, visit the GO-Biz STEP website or contact STEP@gobiz.ca.gov.

SEMICON Japan Trade Mission RFP

GO-Biz is seeking proposals to support the development and implementation of the 2027 California SEMICON Japan Trade Mission. The mission is designed to advance both California's export promotion and foreign direct investment.

The selected contractor will assist GO-Biz in delivering a comprehensive trade mission program. Qualified organizations should apply here. For questions, contact Henan.Li@gobiz.ca.gov.

Join California's Delegation at SEMICON West

GO-Biz is recruiting for its delegation to SEMICON West, the world's leading semiconductor trade show. There are two opportunities that organizations can apply for:

1. Businesses, economic developers, and educational partners can apply to join GO-Biz's centrally located California pavilion here.
2. International companies interested in expanding into California can apply here for a curated tour of the semiconductor ecosystem in the Bay-Capital corridor.

For questions, please contact David.Pasquini@gobiz.ca.gov.

Export Training for California Business-Serving Organizations (Low Availability)

GO-Biz is accepting applications for Export Assistance Training for California Business-Serving Organizations. This initiative is designed to strengthen the capacity of technical assistance providers supporting California's small business community through nationally recognized Certified Global Business Professional (CGBP) training.

Eligible Business-Serving Organizations are encouraged to apply here. For questions, contact Jonathan.Gasca@gobiz.ca.gov.

Apply to Join Us at the Following Events



Canada Safety & Security Trade Mission

October 18-23, 2026
Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary, Canada

Event Contact:
Diana.Dominguez@gobiz.ca.gov

GO-Biz invites California small businesses in the safety and security industry to participate in a high-impact trade mission to Canada, one of California's most

important economic partners. Apply now!

This targeted, multi-city mission is designed to connect California companies with key Canadian decision-makers across government, defense, energy, and commercial sectors. Through curated meetings, site visits, and strategic briefings, participants will gain direct access to buyers, partners, and procurement officials actively seeking innovative technologies and solutions. Please see the event flyer for more information.



Poland and Ukraine Trade Mission

November 12-18, 2026
Warsaw, Krakow, and Rzeszow, Poland

Event Contact:
Tricia.Utterback@gobiz.ca.gov

GO-Biz invites California businesses in the energy, construction, aerospace, and defense industries to join the 2026 Poland and Ukraine Trade Mission.
Submit an application today.

One of the fastest growing economies in the European Union, Poland is a strategic gateway for California companies seeking growth in Central and Eastern Europe. Due to increased NATO spending and regional security priorities, there is massive demand for aerospace and defense technology in Poland. At the same time, Ukraine's ongoing reconstruction, driven by war-related destruction, has created a need for infrastructure and energy solutions. California firms have the chance to contribute expertise and solutions while forging long-term commercial relationships in a region undergoing historic transformation. To learn more, see the energy and construction flyer here and the aerospace and defense flyer here.



Expo Manufactura

February 23-25, 2027
Monterrey, Mexico

Event Contact:
Diana.Dominguez@gobiz.ca.gov

GO-Biz invites California businesses with smart and sustainable manufacturing solutions interested in the Mexican market to join our pavilion to showcase their innovative tech. Apply today!

Mexico is a dynamic market for exporters, fueled by nearshoring trends and growing demand in advanced manufacturing, energy, infrastructure, and digital technologies.



Avalon Airshow

February 23-28, 2027
Geelong, Australia

Event Contact:
Diana.Dominguez@gobiz.ca.gov

GO-Biz invites California small businesses interested in the Australian aerospace, aviation, maritime, defense, and security market segments to exhibit at our state pavillion. Apply here.

The AVALON 2027 Australian International Airshow and Aerospace & Defense Exposition is a global business, defense, and public event, attracting senior civil aviation, aerospace, and defense industry, military, and government decision-makers from around the world.

DSEI Germany



March 9-12, 2027
Hannover, Germany

Event Contact:
Tricia.Utterback@gobiz.ca.gov

GO-Biz invites California small businesses in the defense and security industry to exhibit within the state pavilion. Submit an application today. Apply here.

DSEI Germany is the inaugural German edition of the world's leading defense and security exhibition series. The event connects European governments, military leadership, and industry across Air & Space, Land, Naval, and Cyber & Information sectors, offering direct access to key decision-makers including the German Ministry of Defense and Bundeswehr. See the event flyer for more information.



South Korea Healthcare Trade Mission

March 15-19, 2027
Seoul, South Korea

Event Contact:
henan.li@gobiz.ca.gov

GO-Biz invites California-based healthcare, biotech, and life science companies interested in the South Korea market to join our upcoming trade mission. Apply here.

The South Korea Healthcare Trade Mission is anchored around the Korea International Medical & Hospital Equipment Show (KIMES), Asia's largest medical show. This mission offers California exporters an unprecedented opportunity to enter a fast-growing Korean biotech sector, which is expected to nearly double in size by 2029. See the event flyer for more information.



NAMPO Trade Show

May 12-15, 2027
Bothaville, South Africa

Event Contact:
Tricia.Utterback@gobiz.ca.gov

GO-Biz invites six California small businesses in the agricultural industry to join the NAMPO Trade Show, the largest agricultural exhibition in the Southern Hemisphere. Apply today!

With more than 850 exhibitors and over 86,000 visitors in 2024, NAMPO serves as a premier global platform connecting producers, agribusinesses, and the full agricultural value chain. The show offers unparalleled exposure to cutting-edge farming technologies, equipment, and services across a wide spectrum of the agriculture industry. See the event flyer for more information.



Sial Food Show Trade Mission

May 17-21, 2027
Shanghai, China

Event Contact: Henan.Li@gobiz.ca.gov

GO-Biz invites up to 8 California food and beverage companies to join the 2027 California Sial Shanghai Trade Mission, anchored by the Sial Food Show, Asia's premium food and beverage trade fair. Apply today!

The trade mission will include in-country briefing, targeted B2B meetings, exhibiton under California pavilion at Sial Shanghai, and a networking event where participating companies can pitch their products to potential buyers, customers, and distribution partners. See the event flyer for more information.



Paris Air Show

June 14-19, 2027
Paris, France

Event Contact:
Tricia.Utterback@gobiz.ca.gov

GO-Biz invites up to 20 California small businesses in the aerospace and defense industry to exhibit within the state pavilion. Apply today!

Join the California delegation at the Paris Air Show 2027—the world's premier aviation and defense event, where global buyers, primes, and government decision-makers converge. The Paris Air Show is the world's largest and most influential aerospace and defense event. It offers unmatched opportunities to showcase technology, forge partnerships, and gain visibility in a highly competitive global market. See the event flyer for more information.

Register Now: STEP Export Training Program

GO-Biz is offering expert-led export trainings to help California small businesses enter high-potential global markets. Consider applying for the upcoming training:



South Korea Healthcare Export Training

GO-Biz is active in a wide range of events! Visit our **events page** to see where you can find us next and follow our **LinkedIn page** for highlights.

Upcoming Events From Our Partners

2026 Hong Kong Food Expo Pro

August 13-15, 2026

Hong Kong, China

Future of AI Computing Workshop

September 9, 2026

San Jose, CA

2026 OCIE SBDC Trade Mission to Mexico City

November 2-8, 2026

Mexico City, Mexico

CalAgX+ Advanced Export Accelerator Training Program

September 9 - December 11, 2026

Hybrid

Yuba City, Modesto, Fresno, Bakersfield, CA

Apply Now for WUSATA FundMatch

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis

Get Your Certificate of Origin Online

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis

Are you hosting an event you would like us to feature?
Reach out using the below event form!

Event Form

California Success Story



GO-Biz Delegation Represents California at the Farnborough International Airshow

Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis and GO-Biz brought a delegation of 14 California small businesses and three regional economic development organizations to the Farnborough International Airshow, one of the world's leading aerospace trade events. The delegation's goals were to strengthen California's leadership in aerospace, promote California exports to the UK, and attract foreign investment.

GO-Biz hosted a California pavilion at the show, providing a platform to connect California companies with major aerospace primes, international partners, investors, and government counterparts. GO-Biz will continue to build on the relationships formed at Farnborough and follow up with delegates on the opportunities identified during the trip.

*Visit the **International Businesses in California page** to learn more about the success stories of foreign businesses that have expanded to California. If you have a success story you'd like to submit for consideration, please share it using the form below.*

Submit Story

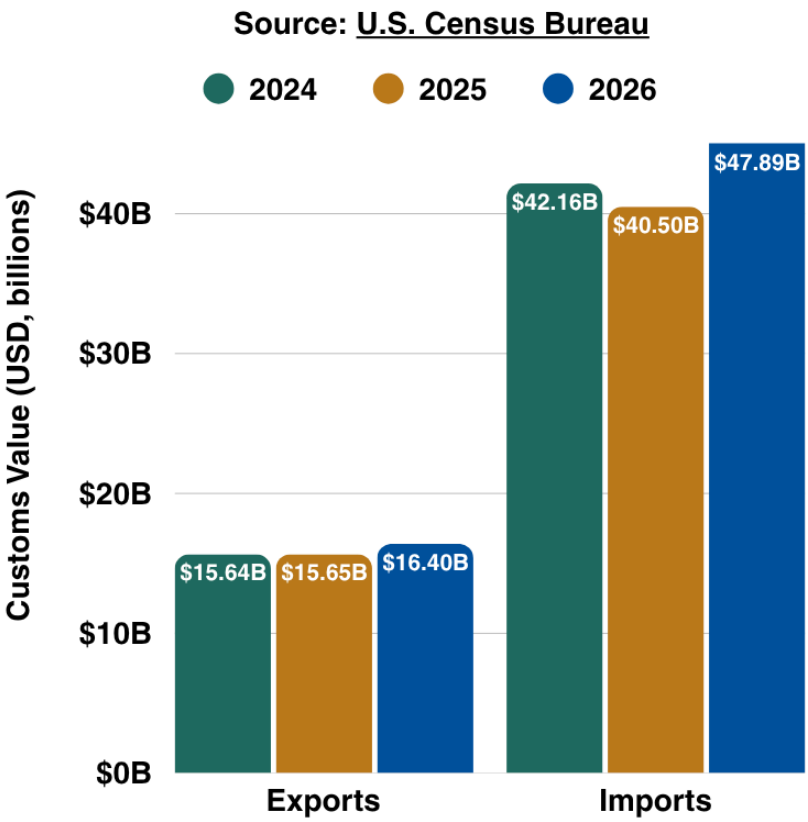
California's International Trade in June 2026

Top 5 California Export Markets		
Country	**Exports (USD, billions)**	**YoY Change**
Mexico	$2.85	7.43%
Canada	$1.39	2.71%
Taiwan	$1.03	-13.97%
Netherlands	$1.00	67.33%
Japan	$0.94	0.43%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Top 5 California Import Markets		
Country	**Imports (USD, billions)**	**YoY Change**
Vietnam	$8.58	64.95%
China	$6.28	31.02%
Mexico	$5.37	7.61%
Taiwan	$4.34	-22.73%
South Korea	$4.00	39.75%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



Latest Resources and Tools

Immigration Resources



Digital Immigration Resources Guide for Employers

GO-Biz has created a trusted digital guide to help employers understand their responsibilities, prepare their businesses, and

support their workforces. It includes practical tools, training, and fact sheets.

Training Opportunities & Informational Resources - Trade



California Exporting Guide by the Export-Import Bank of the United States

To provide support for California exporters, EXIM created a California Exporting Guide that outlines key export facts, tools, and opportunities.



U.S. Department of Commerce Country Commercial Guides

Reports on market details, opportunities, regulations, and customs prepared at U.S. Embassies worldwide by the U.S. Commerce Department, State Department, and other professionals.

Training Opportunities & Informational Resources - Investment



GO-Biz Regional Data Tool

GO-Biz's Regional Data Tool is an interactive web-mapping data tool containing up-to-date demographic, industry, business, education, consumer expenditure, and occupation data for the cities, counties, and economic regions across California. Partners can visualize and explore robust community data and maps to aid business recruitment and expansion.



Foreign Direct Investment in California, 2026 Report

World Trade Center LA (WTCLA), in partnership with GO-Biz and Loyola Marymount University, has released its eleventh annual report on FDI in California. See the report to learn more about FDI trends by source country, sector, and California region.



California Business Investment Guide

Compiled by GO-Biz, this guide is intended to help businesses

and for-profit entities identify relevant new and existing state funding resources for cost savings and success.

Grant & Funding Opportunities - Trade



State Trade Expansion Program (STEP)

GO-Biz administers the STEP grant program, which seeks to expand the number of small business exporters and increase the volume of goods and services they export. STEP helps small businesses to begin exporting or grow their existing export sales by executing STEP Events, which include organizing state pavilions at international trade shows and trade missions. Visit the STEP website or contact STEP Director Mariana Guevara to learn more.



Western U.S. Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA) Fund Match Program

California's membership in WUSATA allows eligible small businesses in the food and ag sector the ability to expand international marketing budgets for a variety of activities. The FundMatch program supports up to 50 percent reimbursement of promotional expenditures related to trade shows, labeling, advertising, retail promotions, and much more. Visit the WUSATA website or contact Josh Eddy to learn more.

A variety of helpful resources, including **past newsletters**, forms for event promotion and delegation visits and business export assistance are available on the **GO-Biz website**.

Stay connected to GO-Biz

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