

WHAT IS NO CAP?

THE SMALL BUSINESS CASE FOR CREDIT ACCESS
EXPANSION.

NO CAP is a national credit education initiative built for every small business owner, founder, and consumer who wants to understand how credit actually works, become bankable, and protect their access to the capital that fuels growth. The initiative pairs **credit education** with **policy advocacy** — making the small business case in federal credit access debates while equipping individuals with the practical tools to use credit strategically.

Powered by the U.S. Black Chambers, Inc., NO CAP is grounded in responsible lending, the path to becoming bankable, and the protection of the credit access that fuels American small business growth.

3.5M+

Black-owned businesses in America — 4.4M including solo operators

SBA Advocacy, 2024

85%

Of Americans could see credit lines eliminated or limited by proposed caps — that's 8 out of 10 entrepreneurs with personal credit cards with a credit score below 800

NO CAP Initiative · U.S. Black Chambers

\$6T

Of U.S. consumer spending — including at local small businesses — runs on credit cards

Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

58%

Of small businesses regularly use credit cards — the most-used financing product

Federal Reserve SBBS, 2024

1974

Year ECOA established equal credit opportunity as federal law

Equal Credit Opportunity Act

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Credit isn't just debt. It's working capital when you know how to use it.

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The conversation should be about expanding access, not restricting it.

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Protecting access isn't a partisan position. It's a small business position.

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THE FOUR CAMPAIGN PILLARS

01 · EDUCATION

BECOME BANKABLE.

Six lessons covering business credit construction, credit cards as working capital, what lenders actually look for, the personal vs. business credit divide, and how credit mechanics function in practice. Built for founders at every stage.

03 · RESEARCH

THE CASE.

A 10-page white paper on credit access, small business growth, and the path to becoming bankable. Covers the federal rate cap proposal, the small business case, the Becoming Bankable framework, and citation-ready statistics — grounded in Federal Reserve and CFPB data.

02 · STORYTELLING

VOICES.

Founder stories, money & credit explainers, and build-your-business video content. Real entrepreneurs sharing how credit access shaped their journey — the comeback stories, the scale stories, the bankability stories.

04 · ADVOCACY

YOUR VOICE. YOUR ACCESS.

The small business case for credit access expansion. Educational materials for chamber leaders, small business advocates, and policymakers. Activation infrastructure for when legislative moments come.

THE ISSUE

FEDERAL RATE CAP PROPOSALS & SMALL BUSINESS CREDIT ACCESS.

A federal proposal would cap credit card interest rates at **10% APR**. The proposal first surfaced as a White House directive in January 2026, calling on banks to comply by January 20. The deadline passed; banks did not comply. The proposal remains under active legislative consideration.

NO CAP's position: **the 10% federal cap would be catastrophic for small business credit access**. Even lower caps would constrict the borrowers who need credit most. The conversation should be about expanding access, not restricting it.

When lenders can't price for risk, they stop lending to riskier borrowers. The borrowers pushed out migrate to **merchant cash advances and payday lenders** — products carrying effective rates of 60%, 100%, sometimes higher.

INITIATIVE MILESTONES

NO CAP AT A GLANCE.

Early 2026	NO CAP initiative launched by U.S. Black Chambers, Inc. Educational platform built at usbcnocap.com pairing bankability lessons with founder voices and policy research.
Spring 2026	White Paper published making the small business case for credit access expansion. Covers the federal rate cap proposal, the Becoming Bankable framework, and citation-ready statistics across 10 pages grounded in Federal Reserve and CFPB data.
June 2026	Advocacy lane activated in response to active federal rate cap proposals. Public Advocacy Brief and Chamber & Small Business One-Pager published as part of the initiative's policy education library.
Ongoing	Chamber Activation Network — chamber leaders, small business advocates, and partner organizations across the country signing on to advocate for credit access expansion in their districts.

FOR PRESS & MEDIA INQUIRIES

PRESS CONTACT.

For interviews with USBC leadership, expert commentary, statistics, additional sources, or campaign materials:

U.S. Black Chambers, Inc.
usblackchambers.org
usbcnocap.com

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

INITIATIVE LIBRARY.

Full source citations, additional research, and downloadable materials are available at usbcnocap.com/research, including:

- NO CAP White Paper (10 pages)
- Public Advocacy Brief (1 page)
- Chamber & Small Business One-Pager (1 page)
- Bankability Lessons & Voices archive

USBC INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

WHY USBC LEADS THIS FIGHT.

The U.S. Black Chambers, Inc. represents chambers in **all 50 states**. **3.5 million Black-owned businesses** generate **\$249 billion in annual revenue** across the American economy.

The small business position is the position closest to the borrower — and the position most often missing from federal credit access policy debates. NO CAP exists to put that voice at the table.

USBC has represented Black business interests since 2009, advocating for policy that creates equitable access to capital, contracts, and credit across all 50 states and territories.