

Deputy District Director



Deputy District Director Jennifer Baker leads outreach efforts to expand the SBA's visibility across Oregon and SW Washington, identifying new target audiences and forging collaborative partnerships. She has performed as a key agency liaison to stakeholders in the broader small business assistance community and as the district office technical representative, charged with monitoring successful implementation of a multi-million dollar grant portfolio. Jennifer's earnest desire to help small businesses reach new heights of competitiveness inspires her to pursue deeper levels of strategic engagement in support of the agency mission.

Prior to her work with the SBA, Jennifer gained 12 years of experience in business management and international trade/commercial policy. She has worked with the public and private sectors successfully directing trade compliance remediation efforts on a range of topics, including Customs, Intellectual Property Rights, Trade in Services, SPS and TBT measures, and accession to the World Trade Organization. Professional assignments have found Jennifer living in Ethiopia and Vanuatu, and traveling extensively in Southeast Asia. From 2004 to 2008, Jennifer worked as an international trade specialist with the U.S. Commerce Department, and for two of those years as Commerce's lead negotiator for U.S.-Malaysia free trade agreement negotiations. She also served on temporary assignment as a Director for Trade Capacity Building with the U.S. Trade Representative in 2005.

Jennifer holds a M.A. in International Policy, with specialization in trade and development from the Monterey Institute of International Studies; and she holds a B.A. in International Studies and Modern Languages from Pacific University in Forest Grove, OR.