



New Small Business Grant

Overview

This program will provide grants of \$10,000 to small businesses that were established between **Jan. 1, 2020, through Dec. 31, 2020.**

Eligible Businesses

The business must be a for-profit entity that started operations between Jan. 1, 2020, and Dec. 31, 2020, and that has at least two and no more than 25 Ohio employees paid via W2 wages as of Jan. 1, 2021. The business must have a physical location in Ohio and experienced revenue loss or unplanned costs because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The business must be in good standing with the Ohio Secretary of State, the Ohio Department of Taxation, and any other governmental entity charged with regulating the business.

Ineligible Businesses

Businesses not eligible for funding include those that: previously received the Small Business Relief Grant; are a nonprofit entity; are publicly traded; are operated by a governmental agency or entity; are a club; are primarily engaged in political or lobbying activities or political issue advocacy; operate as a sexually oriented business; engage in conduct regulated by the Ohio Casino Control Commission or the Ohio State Racing Commission; are owned by individuals who are under the age of 18; are a hospital, ambulatory surgical center, private school, or long-term care center; are primarily engaged in the sale, cultivation or distribution of cannabis products; are a state liquor agency; primarily sell tobacco products, cigarettes, electronic smoking devices, or vapor products; are a utility provider; or are a financial institution that makes loans or issues credit to the public, including, but not limited to, banks, credit unions, payday lenders, or any other similar business.

Eligible Uses of Funds

Grant funds can be used to reimburse eligible businesses for the following expenses relating to their Ohio business location as long as the costs do not violate state or federal law and are not otherwise specified as ineligible costs:

- Personal protective equipment to protect employees, customers, or clients from COVID-19.
- Measures taken to protect employees, customers, or clients from COVID-19.
- Mortgage or rent payments for business premises (personal residences explicitly excluded).
- Utility payments.
- Salaries, wages, or compensation paid to contractors or employees, including an employer's share of health insurance costs.
- Business supplies or equipment.

Application Process

Beginning **June 29, 2021**, businesses can submit an application at [BusinessHelp.ohio.gov](https://businesshelp.ohio.gov). To access the application, individuals will be required to login using an existing OH|ID or create a new OH|ID, which provides users with secure access to state of Ohio services and programs. For more information on creating an OH|ID, visit ohid.ohio.gov/. For help in creating an OH|ID account, ohid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ohid/help/account-management.

After an application is approved, businesses also will be required to provide an Ohio Supplier ID assigned by the Ohio Office of Budget and Management. If the applicant business does not currently have an Ohio Supplier ID, the business will be required to register at supplier.ohio.gov. A Supplier ID is required so that grant funds can be distributed by direct deposit.

If an applicant is required to resubmit an application, it will be reviewed in the order in which it was received and will not take the place of the originally filed application.

Awarding Funds

Each business that meets the criteria and submits a complete application will be eligible for a grant in the amount of \$10,000. Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis under the following guidelines:

- \$100,000 will be allocated to eligible businesses in each of Ohio's 88 counties on a first-come, first-served basis. The remainder of funding available will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis regardless of the business' location in Ohio.
- If Development does not receive eligible applications sufficient to award the full \$100,000 to businesses in each county by July 31, 2021, the remaining funds allocated to that county will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis regardless of the business' location in Ohio.

Questions? Email newbusinessgrant@development.ohio.gov