



Lodging Grant

Overview

This program will provide grants of \$10,000, \$20,000, or \$30,000 to hotels, motels, and bed and breakfast operations. The amount of individual grants to eligible businesses will be determined by the business' decline in occupancy rate in 2020.

Eligible Businesses

The business must be a for-profit entity with at least one Ohio location that has been in operation since at least Dec. 1, 2019, and must have a hotel/motel license from the Ohio Department of Commerce. Businesses can be a hotel, motel, or bed and breakfast. The business must have experienced at least a 10% reduction in occupancy in 2020 as a result of COVID-19. 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: are not required to obtain a hotel/motel license from the Ohio Department of Commerce, either based on capacity or other exemptions; are operated by a governmental agency or entity; operate as a sexually oriented business; engage in conduct regulated by the Ohio Casino Control Commission or the Ohio State Racing Commission; or are owned by individuals who are under the age of 18.

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.
- Utility payments.
- Business supplies or equipment.
- Mortgage or rent payments for business premises (personal residences explicitly excluded).
- Salaries, wages, or compensation paid to contractors or employees, including an employer's share of health insurance costs.

Application Process

Beginning **June 29, 2021**, businesses can submit an application at 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 Ohio business location that meets the criteria and submits a complete application will be eligible for a grant, if funds are available. The grant amount will be the lesser of:

- The actual amount of revenue reduction when comparing the 2019 total gross sales/receipts to the 2020 total gross sales/receipts.
- The amount identified below based on the calculated average daily occupancy rate reduction:
 - 10-30% average daily occupancy rate reduction: \$10,000 grant.
 - 30-50% average daily occupancy rate reduction: \$20,000 grant.
 - 51% or more average daily occupancy rate reduction: \$30,000 grant.

Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis under the following guidelines:

- \$150,000 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 \$150,000 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 lodginggrant@development.ohio.gov