

Milwaukee County Small Business Recovery Initiative Grant Information

Eligibility

Applicants must be 18 years of age to apply. For business owners with multiple businesses, please complete one application for each business. Businesses must be individually identifiable with the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions or financial records.

Awards will be made to qualified businesses; eligibility is based on accurate and complete submission. Priority will be given especially to entrepreneurs of color, women- and veteran-owned businesses and other enterprises in historically under-served places who don't have access to flexible, affordable capital.

All applicants will be required to certify that they are promoting the best interests of the community and are negatively impacted by the Covid-19 crisis.

Criteria of Eligibility:

- For-profit business
- Located in Milwaukee County
- 20 or fewer full-time or full-time-equivalent employees at full operation
- 2019 revenues greater than \$0 but less than \$2 million
- Business entities in good standing with the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions
- Current on property taxes owed to the municipality where the business is located

The following business types are not eligible:

- Gambling/Gaming establishments
- National franchises – locally-owned with multiple locations (locally-owned single location is eligible)
- Adult Entertainment establishments
- Pawn shops
- Payday/Auto Loan stores
- Not-for-profit businesses
- Tobacco/Liquor stores
- Corporate/Franchise Gas Stations with multiple locations (locally-owned single location is eligible)
- Banks
- Used Car Sales
- Funeral Homes
- Financial Services

- Corporate/Franchise Pharmacies with multiple locations (locally-owned single location is eligible)
- Businesses primarily in the business of renting real estate to others
- Passive real estate investment businesses
- Firearm/Weapons dealers

Publicity

If awarded, please be advised that the business/applicant's application information, name, statements, and other information provided during the award process may be used for promotional purposes in all forms of media and the business/applicant may be contacted by MEDC and/or the program sponsors for such purposes. Applicant grants to MEDC and the program sponsors a perpetual license to use such information without additional compensation (except where prohibited by law), and without any right to review and/or approve such content. Until notified, applicants must agree not to share any status as finalist publicly, including but not limited to all social media platforms, news media, or local publications.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I change my application after it's been submitted?

It is recommended that before completing and submitting the online form, respondents review answers carefully, as your work may not be saved if you leave the web page before submitting the application. You may also lose your work if your internet is disconnected, or as a result of other potential web browser issues. MEDC cannot accept changes to the application once it has been submitted, so please review it carefully.

Do grant applicants receive a confirmation that they submitted their application?

Every applicant receives a confirmation email from noreply@fs11.formsite.com.

When will MEDC's online application portal close for submission?

Applications are being accepted until October 1, 2020 at 5pm.

How will I be contacted or know if I will receive a grant?

MEDC will primarily utilize email to communicate with all applicants. Be sure to check email regularly, including spam folders. Email updates to all applicants will come from Milwaukee County Small Business Recovery Initiative Grant Program at MKECoSBRecovery@medconline.com.

What are the size of the awards?

Grants will be made in amounts ranging from \$7,500 to \$20,000. MEDC will use the funding to provide grants to businesses facing immediate financial pressure because of Covid-19.

What can the grant be used for?

- Restock inventory (no alcohol)
- PPE for employees or customers
- Physical modification of space to align with COVID guidance
- Cost of rent or principal/interest for building mortgage
- Utilities
- Payroll

The Grantee shall fully comply with all applicable federal, state, local (and any other governmental) laws, executive orders, rules, and regulations in connection with its use of grant funds.

Does anything need to be repaid?

No, these grants do not need to be repaid. However, all taxes associated with the acceptance and/or uses of cash awarded are the sole responsibility of the individual grantee. Cash awarded will be reported by MEDC to the IRS as MEDC deems necessary according to applicable law. It is further the policy of MEDC that all MEDC grantees be advised to consult with their own tax professionals and/or legal counsel to ascertain the tax impact of the cash awards. MEDC will issue a Form 1099 for any grant of \$600 or more.

Why do I need to provide information about other funds received for COVID-19 relief?

The awarding of a grant by MEDC will not affect the ability of a business to apply for and receive other federal assistance available under the CARES Act. However, grantees are advised that the same business expenses cannot be funded by more than one grant funded by CARES Act. Here's an example of completing this section;

Funding Source	Amount Received
SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan and Advance	\$10,000
SBA Paycheck Protection Program	\$5,000
WEDC SB 20/20 or We're All In	\$2,500
Local Chamber of Commerce Program	\$1,000
Other	
W2 Payments – For Daycare Providers Only	

Based on this example the business owner disclosed \$18,500 in CARES Act funds received from other funding sources. Completing this application affirms the applicant has financial needs that exceed the amount identified in the table.

Will receiving a grant impact other federal assistance or unemployment insurance eligibility?

A grant may affect your unemployment insurance claim if the grant is used to pay payroll expenses during the period you receive unemployment benefits. The amount of unemployment assistance is usually determined by recent earnings, and most likely, you will have to certify on a weekly basis to any income received the previous week as wages. Please consult your state's unemployment office for more information about unemployment insurance claims.

Recipients of PPP loans or other funding under the CARES Act must be prepared to demonstrate, upon request by the SBA or other government agency or as a component of an application for forgiveness of a PPP loan, that no other funding source was used to pay for the same costs as those paid for by the PPP loan or CARES Act funding.

What document can I provide if I do not have a Form 941?

We recognize some sole proprietors and home-based businesses will not have form 941. In lieu of this form please upload a letter stating the reason you are unable to submit the required form.

Why does the application ask for invoices to be uploaded?

Applicants planning to be reimbursed with the award of the Small Business Recovery Initiative Grant for expenses incurred between March 1, 2020 and September 30, 2020 are asked to submit the invoices of those expenses at the time of the application in order to reduce the amount of information we may need to request in the future.

Have additional questions?

Inquiries can be sent to MKECoSBRecovery@medconline.com.