$225 Million Grant Program for Small Businesses Impacted by COVID-19

On June 8, Gov. Tom Wolf announced a $225 million statewide grant program to support small businesses impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Anticipated to launch on June 30, 2020, the Commonwealth’s Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) will distribute funds to Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) which will serve as the local portals through which businesses will apply for grant funds. In the Pittsburgh region, these CDFIs are:

- **Bridgeway Capital**
  - [bridgewaycapital.org](http://bridgewaycapital.org)
  - (412) 201-2450

- **Northside Community Development Fund**
  - [ncsdfund.org](http://ncsdfund.org)
  - (412) 322-0290

- **The Progress Fund**
  - [www.progressfund.org](http://www.progressfund.org)
  - (724) 216-9160

More information on the program can be found at [pabusinessgrants.com](http://pabusinessgrants.com)

**Application Rounds**

The program WILL NOT operate on a first-come, first-served basis. Instead, funds will made available through four application/funding rounds. The first round will open on June 30, 2020 and will remain open for 10 business days. Applications not selected for funding in the first round will AUTOMATICALLY move to the second funding round. As such, there is no need for businesses to apply more than once. Dates for the three remaining funding rounds will be announced after the close of the preceding round.

**Program Eligibility**

**Eligible Business Entities**
- Must be physically located, certified to do business, and generate at least 51% of their revenues in Pennsylvania
- Must have 25 or fewer full-time equivalent employees prior to February 15, 2020
- Must have annual revenue of $1 million or less prior to the impact of COVID-19

**Ineligible Business Entities**
- Businesses physically based outside of Pennsylvania
- Businesses in active default (*not on a payment plan*) with taxes or fees owed to the Commonwealth and/or the IRS
- Nonprofit organizations, places of worship and other religious institutions
- Government-owned entities or elected official offices
- Businesses that experienced NO revenue loss and additional costs due to COVID-19
- Other ineligible entities as specified by the Commonwealth at a later date

**Program Priorities**

The program will PRIORITIZE small businesses that are:
- Owned and operated by low and moderate-income people; or
- Located in areas of need including areas with populations that have incomes significantly below median income levels, high levels of poverty, higher than average unemployment rates, or significant population loss.
- The types of businesses that were most impacted by the economic shutdown and experienced the greatest revenue losses.
**Program Priorities (continued)**

The program will give additional consideration to the following factors:

- Women-owned businesses;
- Communities targeted for business investment by state government programs like Main Street and Elm Street; and
- Rural communities.

At least 50% of the grants to small businesses will be awarded to Historically Disadvantaged Businesses (HDBs). HDBs are at least 51% owned and operated by persons who are Black, Hispanic, Native American, Asian American, or Pacific Islander and have traditionally been discriminated against and disadvantaged when seeking financial services and products. The program will also ensure that grant funds are awarded to small business located across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**Funding Tiers**

Grants ranging from $5,000 to $50,000 will be awarded based upon the applying business’s gross revenue as stated on their 2018 or 2019 tax returns. Grant funding tiers are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELIGIBLE BUSINESS'S Annual Gross Revenue</th>
<th>MAX GRANT AMOUNT Per Business</th>
<th>ELIGIBLE BUSINESS'S Annual Gross Revenue</th>
<th>MAX GRANT AMOUNT Per Business</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to $50,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$250,001 - $500,000</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,001 - $75,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$500,001 - $750,000</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>$75,001 - $100,000</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$750,001 - $850,000</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,001 - $250,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$850,001 - $1,000,000</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grant Application Checklist**

Businesses must submit the following information/documentation with their application:

1. **Government-issued Photo ID such as a Driver’s License, State ID or Passport**
2. **Business Financial Information:**
   - **Revenue from March 1st to May 31st of 2019 and 2020**
   - **Most recently submitted Federal Tax Return – 2018 or 2019 business and personal tax returns, including Schedule C**
   - **If startup occurred between January 1 and February 15, 2020 – Profit and Loss Statement**
3. **Proof of Business Registration with the Pennsylvania Department of State, as applicable:**
   - **If a Corporation or Limited Liability Company – Articles of Incorporation**
   - **If a Sole Proprietor – Fictitious Name Registration/”Doing Business As”**
   - **If Applicable – Business License**
4. **Bank Account Information**

*Please Note: Additional application materials may be identified later*