

Columbia County COVID-19 Relief Block Grant (Small Business/Tourism Grant Program) - Grantround #2

Application Open – Oct. 16

Deadline to Apply – Nov. 9, 11:59 pm, online

It is the intent of the Columbia County Commissioner's Small Business/Tourism Grant to provide qualifying businesses a grant equal to five months of the business' fixed cost budget.

A statutory clause states that "priority" is to be given to businesses that did not receive a loan or grant through the Federal Paycheck Protection Program or the Economic Disaster Loan Program. Therefore, those business' fixed cost calculation will be adjusted upward by 5%.

The County Commissioners have set aside a fund of \$225,000 for this grant program. If sufficient funds are not available to fully fund the intended target, all qualifying businesses will receive a pro-rata share of the \$225,000 set aside amount.

For purposes of this grant, "fixed cost" is defined as base costs involved in operating the business and will consist of:

- Rental lease/mortgage payments
- Property and liability insurance costs
- Property taxes (if paid by the business)
- Utilities to operate the business facility
- Lost inventory due to the COVID-19 emergency

QUALIFICATIONS:

Who is eligible?

- **Any for-profit businesses** or individuals doing business as businesses with base location in Columbia County, PA.
- One Owner per business may apply.
- **Business' who applied and were approved or denied for funding through Grantround #1 in August 2020 are not eligible to reapply again in Grantround #2.**

Approval Requirements:

- Must be in business by March 1, 2019 and still in business on July 1, 2020
- Must intend to stay in business through, at least, July 1, 2021
- Total employees less than 100 OR an entity primarily engaged in the Tourism industry
- Business must be based in Columbia County, PA
- Net Profit in March 1-June 30, 2020 window must be less than Net Profit in March 1- June 30, 2019 window.
- Must not owe federal, state or local taxes
- Must not be subject to criminal justice process as per the question in the application

Required Documentation:

- Most recently filed federal tax return
- Entity documents including DBA or FBN certificate and proof of ownership
- Business License (if sole proprietor)
- Government Issued ID
- Evidence of fixed costs including: mortgage/rent/lease payments, utility costs, license fees, property tax bills, property and liability insurance bills, attest to any inventory lost

Grant program guidelines are subject to change.