

Nebraska Small Business Stabilization Grant Program Guidelines

Utilizing federal COVID-19 Relief Funding, the State of Nebraska has established a program to provide financial assistance to Nebraska-owned small businesses who have been severely impacted by COVID-19 related closures, occupancy restrictions and the overall loss of consumer traffic. Small businesses and their related industries are the pillars of our economic system, and their survival and return to prosperity and growth are paramount. The Stabilization Grant Program provides working capital to small businesses by way of grants that can be used to cover operating expenses.

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) will provide an Eligibility Certification Form and application materials to enable applicants to apply for funding under the Nebraska Small Business Stabilization Program. Eligibility forms and applications will be accepted from July 13, 2020, to July 17, 2020. Awards will be issued to qualifying applicants until all funds are exhausted.

Eligible Businesses

- Eligible businesses include for-profit Nebraska-owned small businesses have 75 employees or fewer and be licenses for withholding as of March 13, 2020. Ineligible businesses/industries/operations include:
 - NAICS 21: Mining
 - NAICS 22: Utilities
 - NAICS 52: Finance and Insurance
 - NAICS 55: Management of Companies and Enterprises
 - NAICS 61: Educational Services
 - NAICS 92: Public Administration
 - Lobbyist and Political Organizations

Eligible Uses of Fund

Eligible uses of Small Business Stabilization Grant funding include any operating expenses put toward continuing a business' operations.

Funds Distribution

DED expects to award individual grants of \$12,000 to eligible businesses, for a total of approximately \$330,000,000.

Application Requirements

An Eligibility Certification Form must be completed. The form can be found at: <http://getnebraskagrowing.nebraska.gov/>

- Must include Eligibility Certification Confirmation Number (provided by State after successful eligibility certification)
- Must include completed application form and supporting documentation including:
 - Form 941-N for first quarter of 2020 (*If business files Form 941-N annually, 2019 Form 941-N filing*)
 - Employee listing as of March 13, 2020

Project Selection

For each application submitted, DED will perform an independent review and, at DED's discretion, may utilize the assistance of outside reviewers. In completing the review, DED will examine the following:

1. The industry of the applying business
2. The impact of COVID-19 on employment at the applicant business
3. The impact of COVID-19 on the revenue of the applicant business

4. The applicant business' planned utilization of grant funding

Application Timing and Process

Applications will be accepted from July 13, 2020, through July 17, 2020. Awards will be issued to qualifying applicants until funds are exhausted. Applicants must complete the Eligibility Certification Form online at <http://getnebraskagrowing.nebraska.gov/>, and must fully comply with all requirements within the allotted time period. Applications that do not include all specified documentation or attachments, or those that have not been fully completed, will not be considered. At its discretion, DED may request supplemental materials from applicants.

Information on Nebraska Small Business Stabilization Grants can be found here: <http://getnebraskagrowing.nebraska.gov/>.

For technical assistance or information on how to apply, visit <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/amplifund/> or call [855-264-6858](tel:855-264-6858).