

## **Micro Business Technology Integration Grant**

As a result of the Relief Act of 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) into law. Under the Act, \$350 billion was provided for eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSFRF) and the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF). The funds are designed to assist governments in responding to the pandemic, addressing its economic impact, and establishing a foundation for a strong and equitable recovery.

An appropriation of funds has been made available by the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSFRF) and the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF) to be used to provide grants to businesses and assist with the following:

- To respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts;
- To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 pandemic by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the recipient, or by providing grants to eligible employers who have eligible workers who performed essential work;
- For the provision of government services to the extent of a reduction in revenue by the recipient due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

The Prince Georges County Economic Development Corporation has decided to promote a grant program to assist micro businesses with integrating technology into their business model and operations. Micro business refers to a type of small business that employs fewer than 10 people (**define employees in FAQ**), according to the Small Business Association. In contrast, a “small business” differs from micro businesses due to the maximum size of employees being 500. Micro businesses include solo entrepreneurs, freelancers, and many business owners who operate out of a single location. Financing and marketing can be more of an issue for these businesses, which is why the Micro Business Technology Integration Grant will be of great value to those businesses in Prince Georges County. As a result of the COVID 19 public health emergency, many of the county’s micro businesses were not able to take advantage of certain grant programs and financial lending opportunities, due to their inability to meet grant qualifications or lending guidelines.

The Prince Georges County Economic Development Corporation has an allocation of \$100,000 for distribution to eligible grantees for the Micro Business Technology Integration Grant. This program will provide up to \$2,500 to Prince Georges County – based micro businesses to support low-cost marketing efforts, remote processing, equipment for credit card processing, social media marketing efforts, as well as other ways to assist these businesses with enhancing their technological capabilities.

Applications will be accepted between September xx, 2023 and September xx, 2023. Applications will be reviewed once all have been received. Grants will not be approved and awarded on a rolling basis. Applicants are not guaranteed to received funding.

### **KEY DATES**

Application Acceptance  
Notification of Awards

**September xx23 through xx23  
September xx, 2023**

Acceptance of Grant Agreement  
Disbursement of Funds

**September xx, 2023** (Grantee Deadline)  
**October xx, 2023**

**ELIGIBILITY:**

- Have been established prior to March 9, 2020;
- Be registered and in good standing with Maryland SDAT;
- Applicants that did not receive a COVID-19 Business Relief Grant or Loan will be prioritized over applicants that received a COVID-19 Business Relief Grant or Loan from the Maryland Department of Commerce;
- Currently be in operation.
- Have a physical location within Prince Georges County; and
- Cannot have more than 10 total employees excluding the owner
- Minimum 3 years in business

**USE OF GRANT:**

Eligible businesses may receive a grant up to \$2,500 to support expenses incurred to assist businesses with enhancing their technological capabilities during COVID (after March 2020).

**HOW TO APPLY:**

To apply for the Micro Business Technology Integration Grant funds, a link to the application portal will be available on September xx, 2023.

Prior to submission of your application, confirm that your business is “Active” and in “Good Standing” by using SDAT’s free search the link below. Evidence of Good Standing is required to complete the online application.

Application Documents:

- **Company verification, per The Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS)**
- **W9 Form**
- **EIN (if applicable)**
- **Evidence of Good Standing (Screenshot/Photo will be accepted)**
- **Profit & Loss Statement Form (Attachment Provided)**
- **Articles of Incorporation/Organization/Formation**

<https://egov.maryland.gov/BusinessExpress/EntitySearch>

If your business is not in good standing, you will be ineligible to receive funds. If you need assistance with getting your business back into good standing, directions can be found at the link below and on the attached checklist.

<https://businessexpress.maryland.gov/manage/maintain-good-standing-status>

**REQUIRED DOCUMENTS & Information:**

- Complete online application
- Completed Employment Verification Form
- Evidence of Good Standing (Screenshot/Photo will be accepted)
- Revenue Declaration Provided on Application

- Articles of Incorporation/Organization/Formation

**NOTICE OF GRANT AWARD & ACCEPTANCE**

Recipients of a grant will be notified by email provided on the application. Applicants will certify at the end of the application that all information provided is accurate and true. Grant recipients, and the dollar amount of the grant received, are public information.

Grant funds may be reported as taxable income to the businesses. IRS 1099 Forms will be issued to each grant recipient.