

Athens County Small Business Relief Fund

The purpose of the Athens County CARES Act Small Business Relief Fund program is to alleviate sudden and severe economic dislocation resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic business closures mandated by the State of Ohio, and aims to provide monetary relief from business interruptions or additional precautions. Grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded in the first round of funding. Businesses may be eligible to apply for a second round of funding for an additional \$5,000.



WHO IS QUALIFIED TO APPLY?

Qualified applicants should meet the following criteria:

- Businesses must have been impacted by the state-mandated closures that began March 15th
- Businesses must be located in Athens County and be in operation prior to February 15, 2020
- Businesses must have more than two FTE employees but fewer than twenty-five FTE employees
- Annual gross receipts of the business preferred to be less than \$2,000,000
- Businesses must be in good standing with local, state, and federal jurisdictions in regard to taxes

This is a reimbursement based program. Applicant must provide proof of eligible expenditures with application.

WHAT EXPENSES ARE ELIGIBLE?

- Eligible expenses must be related to costs of business interruptions caused by required closures
- Requests must be for business funds already spent on qualified expenses that have not been paid for with other government funds (e.g. EIDL or PPP)
- Eligible costs include: payroll expenses; lease or mortgage expenses; certain operational expenses; supplies related to interruption of the business due to required closures; unemployment/employee leave costs directly related to COVID-19; PPE or other COVID-19 costs. See grant guidelines for specifics.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Applications are available online at <https://rb.gy/i7fw3u>. Email application and supporting documents to admin@athenscountyohedc.com by Friday, October 30 at 3pm for consideration. Applications will be reviewed by the Grant Review Committee and final decisions will be awarded by the County Commissioners based on the grant review scoring rubric until the grant funding is exhausted.

Any questions can be directed to admin@athenscountyohedc.com

This grant is supported by the Athens Area Entrepreneurial Development Group which includes the Small Business Development Center, the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, the Innovation Center, and the Athens County Economic Development Center.