

COVID-19 SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
of ABILENE

Grant Program Overview

- HUD grant to City of Abilene through the CARES Act
- Community Foundation of Abilene (CFA) administering funds
- Not a loan - Grant is not required to be paid back
- Over \$500,000 available to support small businesses negatively affected by COVID-19
- \$2,500-\$50,000 grants available per qualified business
- Job Retention for Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) business owners and employees



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION of ABILENE

Search

Who We Are ▾ Community Impact ▾ Donors & Advisors ▾ Nonprofits ▾ News & Blog ▾ Scholarships

Home » Community Impact » COVID-19 Small Business Grants

COVID-19 Small Business Grants



IN THIS SECTION:

- Impact Stories
- Abilene Gives
- Winters Gives
- Coleman County Foundation
- COVID-19 Small Business Grants

The Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program administered by the Community Foundation of Abilene will provide pandemic-relief grant funding to small businesses impacted by COVID-19 that operate in Abilene, Texas. These funds do not need to be paid back.

The program is funded through a grant to the City of Abilene from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Coronavirus Aid, Relief Economic Security Act (CARES Act). In response to the economic hardships experienced by small businesses resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Community Foundation of Abilene will administer funds to retain jobs and stabilize local businesses. Grant funds may be used for overhead expenses, rent, utilities, and necessary equipment to continue business operations, among others.

The program is subject to the availability of funds, compliance with program guidelines and submission of the required application and supporting documentation. [You can review the Program Guidelines by clicking here.](#)

The first step in the process is to complete the eligibility assessment available below from **Wednesday, March 31 through April 22, 2021 at 5 p.m.** Based on the information submitted in the eligibility assessment, you will either receive an emailed link to the application or an email notifying you of other resources.

If you have questions about this program, please contact our Grants Associate, Kassidy Nygaard at 325-676-3883 or email knygaard@cfabilene.org.

COMPLETE THE ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

REGISTER FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING #2

TIMELINE OF COVID-19 SMALL BUSINESS GRANT PROCESS

MARCH 29 3 P.M.	MARCH 31 9 A.M.	APRIL 5 9 A.M.	APRIL 13 2 P.M.	APRIL 27 4 P.M.	MAY 10 5 P.M.	AUG 31 5 P.M.	NOV 30 5 P.M.
Public Information Meeting #1 via Zoom providing an overview of the grant process	Mandatory eligibility assessment opens	Application process opens to businesses qualified through eligibility assessment	Public Information Meeting #2 via Zoom to answer eligibility and application questions	Application closes	Application notification of awards	3-month reporting due	6-month reporting due
?	✓	🚩	?	!	\$	📅	📅

*ALL UPDATES AND RESOURCES CAN BE FOUND AT: [CFABILENE.ORG/SMALL-BUSINESS](https://cfabilene.org/small-business)

WATCH THE ZOOM RECORDING OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING #1

Download the Slides for Public Information Meeting #1

Eligible Businesses

- In operation as of March 16, 2019- 1 year prior to COVID-19 Emergency Declaration
- 50 or fewer employees as of March 16, 2020
- Annual gross revenue under \$750,000
- Proof of revenue loss in 2020, compared to 2019
- Located within Abilene City Limits
- Current with business registration, licensing, fees and taxes
- Must not be in bankruptcy (or filed within last 12 months)

Eligible Income Levels

1. **5 or fewer employees**, including owner =
Microenterprise

• **Microenterprise Owner must be Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI)**

2. **6 or more employees**, owner does **not**
have to be LMI:

➤ Must use funds to retain at least one Full Time Equivalent (FTE) job that is LMI for at least 3 months from grant date.

➤ 2 Part-time positions totaling 40 hours per week qualify as FTE job (both part-time employees must be LMI)

These limits are effective as of July 1, 2020. These maximum income numbers must be demonstrated for the retention of jobs held by low- and moderate-income persons.

Household Size	Maximum Income
1	\$36,300
2	\$41,500
3	\$46,700
4	\$51,850
5	\$56,000
6	\$60,150
7	\$64,300
8	\$68,450

Ineligible Businesses

- Non-Profit organizations
- Home-based businesses
- Payday or Title Loan businesses
- Financial or Lending institutions
- Franchises or Chains not locally owned
- Sexually oriented businesses
- Liquor or Tobacco shops
- Firearms or Weapons dealers
- Gambling establishments
- Pawn shops
- Any business operating without appropriate zoning or permits

Eligible & Ineligible Expenses

ELIGIBLE

- Equipment / Machinery (directly related to COVID-19)
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Technology (ex. Online order and payment systems, software, website)
- Working Capital
- Payroll/ Contract Labor
- Rent/Mortgage Payments
- Supplier Payments
- Healthcare Benefits

INELIGIBLE

- Expenses prior to March 16, 2020
- Non-business debt
- Taxes & Fines
- Physical Alteration of building
- Equipment not related to COVID-19

Other CARES Act Funding

- Other CARES act funding **DOES NOT** disqualify you (PPP, EIDL, FEMA)
- Grant funds can't be used for the same expenses that the other CARES Act funds covered. (No “duplication of benefits”)
- Must disclose other funding and how it was spent

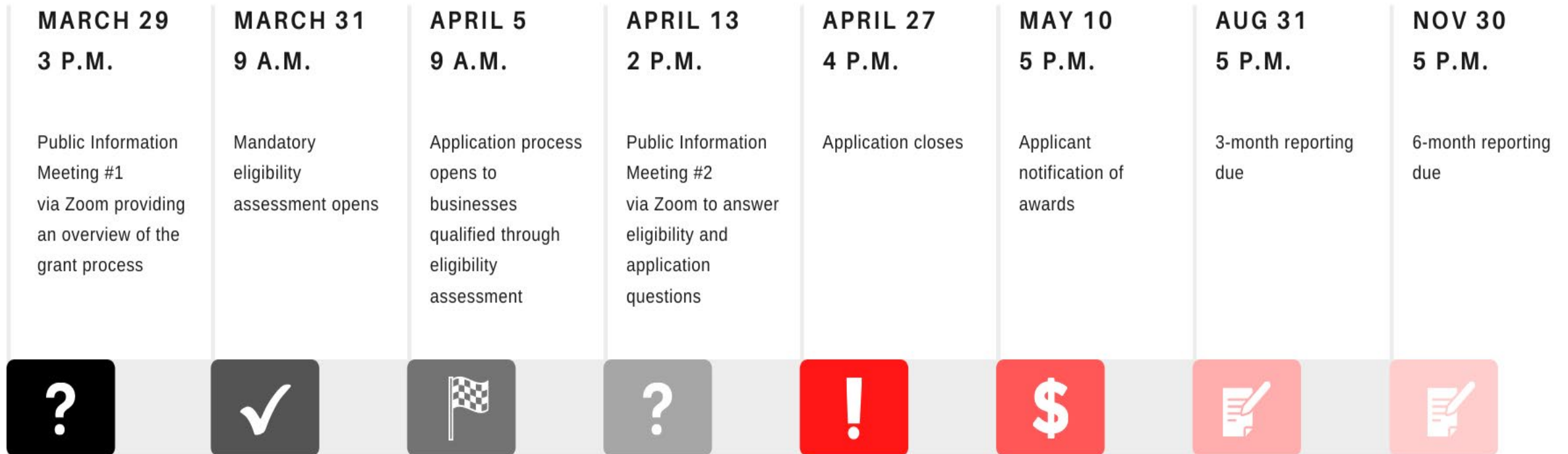
Example: Received a PPP loan in June 2020

- Used PPP funds for payroll & rent June - September 2020
- Can use grant funds for payroll & rent October 2020 – January 2021

FAQ's

- DUNS number:
 - search to find out if you already have one before applying
 - If you've received other CARES act funding, you likely have one.
- HUD Answers- can take around 2 weeks
- Eligibility Assessment is not inclusive of all rules, just some of the most common eliminators.
- Home-based businesses are not eligible
- Businesses started after March 16, 2019 are not eligible

TIMELINE OF COVID-19 SMALL BUSINESS GRANT PROCESS



*ALL UPDATES AND RESOURCES CAN BE FOUND AT: [CFABILENE.ORG/SMALL-BUSINESS](https://cfabilene.org/small-business)

Support

All area small businesses are encouraged to register with **Abilene's Small Business Development Center (SBDC)** for free consultation and support.

Applicants for COVID-19 Small Business Grants can also reach out to them for assistance with required **supporting documentation** for the application.

Call **325-670-0300** to register, and check out <https://www.abilenesbdc.org>.



For program eligibility and application questions, contact **Kassidy Nygaard** at **325-676-3883** or knygaard@cfabilene.org