



## Michigan Small Business Survival Grant

In an effort to continue to support small businesses, the [Michigan Small Business Survival Grant Program](#) will provide funding to eligible small businesses disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and the [Gatherings and Mask Order](#) issued by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services on December 7, 2020 through December 20, 2020 and the order taking effect on November 18, 2020 that it rescinded and replaced.

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### How to Prepare to Apply

#### THE GRANT APPLICATION PERIOD IS NOW CLOSED!

Please review the following documents to help prepare for the application. More information and resources will be posted as they become available.

- [Application Questions](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Press Release Announcement \(1/14/21\)](#)
- [Application How-To Video](#)
- [Connect Space Account Creation](#)-*must use to apply for grant*: A business may create an account in Connect Space in advance of the application opening or may already have an account. Please visit <https://pmbc.connect.space> and click "Sign Up Now" to create an account. A Connect Space account is required to apply and only applications submitted online will be accepted. Physical or emailed copies of the application will not be accepted. Be sure to note your password as it may be necessary to enter when signing into your account in order to apply.

### Eligibility Requirements

In order to be eligible for funding under the Program, small businesses must be a for-profit or non-profit company and meet all criteria below. Furthermore, each local EDO may have additional eligibility criteria. Please use the table below to find your local EDO and review any additional eligibility criteria prior to applying.

- Had 1 to 100 employees (including full-time, part-time and owner/employees) on a world-wide basis on November 17, 2020.
- Is in an industry that demonstrates it is affected by the Order.
- Needs working capital to support payroll expenses, rent, mortgage payments, utility expenses, or other similar expenses.
- Demonstrates an income loss as a result of the Order as determined by the EDO in which an eligible business is located.
- Is not a live music and entertainment venue that is eligible for funds under Section 401 of Public Act 257 of 2020: [Michigan Stages Survival Grant Program](#).

## Industries Affected by the Order

Eligible businesses disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and the Gatherings and Mask Order will largely fall into one of the categories below. However, businesses in other industries may be considered if they can demonstrate they meet the eligibility, at the discretion of the EDO, particularly if they were impacted by the Gatherings and Mask Order.

- Food service establishments (such as restaurants and bars, coffee, bakeries, catering, breweries, distilleries, wineries, tea shops, banquet facilities and other food and beverage service providers)
- Retail (such as boutiques, bookstores, hardware, anything being sold that is not food)
- Exercise facilities (such as gyms, studios, pool facilities, ice skating rinks, organized sports)
- Entertainment venues or live event venues that are not eligible for the Michigan Stages Survival Grant as defined under Section 401 of Public Act 257 of 2020
- Recreational Facilities and places of public amusement (such as bowling alleys, arcades, bingo halls)
- Nonprofits (such as library, museum, churches, religious centers, advocacy organizations)
- Personal care services (such as hair, nail, tanning, massage, spa)
- Schools
- Childcare and camps
- Transportation (such as limo services)
- Other (applicant must specify in the application)

## Program Overview and Economic Development Organization (EDO) Funding Allocations

- Grant funding is distributed to the 15 local or nonprofit economic development organizations listed in the table below. Each local EDO will review submitted applications from businesses located in their area and provide grants to eligible small businesses that need working capital to support payroll expenses, rent, mortgage payments, utility expenses, or other similar expenses.
- EDOs will be responsible for accepting, reviewing and approving applications, and ultimately, awarding and disbursing grant funds to the selected businesses.
- Southwest Michigan First, serving the counties of Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren has been allocated \$4,150,000.

## Grant Amount

- Awarded grant amounts will be at the discretion of each EDO administering the grants.
- Grants may be awarded up to \$20,000 for an eligible business that has been temporarily closed and up to \$15,000 for an eligible business that has been partially closed, or otherwise is open.

## Eligible Expenses

- Grant funds may be used by the business for eligible expenses including working capital to support payroll expenses, rent, mortgage payments, utility expenses, and other expenses related to reopening a business incurred between November 18, 2020 and April 30, 2021.

## Grant Eligibility and Scoring Criteria

A summary of scoring criteria is found on the following page.

## Michigan Small Business Survival Grant 2021 Scoring Sheet

Must meet all criteria on the state application to be considered for scoring criteria. The priority for funding is based on the scoring criteria outlined below.

### Process

- 1.) Review applicants who demonstrate a loss of funding due to the November/December MDHHS.
- 2.) Review and award applicants using the below scoring criteria.

**Business ID:**

**Business Legal Name:**

**Business Name/DBA Name:**

**Business Mailing Address:**

**Business County of primary physical location:**

**Grant Amount Requested:**

**Grant Amount Rewarded:**

**Primary EIN or TIN Number:**

**Amount of all COVID-19 Relief funding received from other sources since March 1, 2020:**

**Total support from Local sources**

**Total support from State sources**

**Total support from Federal sources**

### Criteria

**A.) Applicant is a For-Profit entity**

**B.) Applicant is part of one of the following sectors:**

Food Service Establishments (restaurants and bars, coffee, bakeries, catering, breweries, distilleries, wineries, tea shops, banquet facilities and other food and beverage service providers).

Exercise facilities (such as gyms, studios, pool facilities, ice skating rinks, organized sports)

Entertainment venues or live event venues that are not eligible for the Michigan Stages Survival Grant)

Recreational Facilities and places of public amusement (such as bowling alleys, arcades, bingo halls)

Nonprofits (such as library, museum, churches, religious centers, advocacy organizations)

Transportation (such as limo services)

Retail (such as boutiques, bookstores, hardware, anything being sold except food)

Personal care services (such as hair, nail, tanning, massage, spa)

Childcare and camps

**C.) As a result of the "Gatherings and Mask Order" beginning on November 18, 2020 to present, what is the operating status of the business?**

Completely closed

Partially open/operating

Fully open

**D.) Does the business demonstrate a loss of gross revenue for each of the months of October, November and December in 2020 in comparison against the same months in 2019?**

Yes

No

**E.) Applicant has been in operation for more than three (3) years:**

Yes

No

**F.) Applicant had a total headcount of \_\_\_\_ on November 17, 2020:**

1 to 10

11 to 25

26 to 50

51 to 75

76 to 100

**G.) Applicant's average wage is above \$30,000**

Yes

No

### Funding Goal

Award an average grant amount of up to \$15,000 that will allow for approximately 262 grants across the Southwest Michigan region.

## How to Apply

### THE GRANT APPLICATION PERIOD IS NOW CLOSED!

The [Michigan Small Business Survival Grant Program application](#) will open at 9:00 a.m. EST on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 and close on Friday, January 22 at 12:00 p.m. (noon) EST.

- Please note, all applications received during the application period will be reviewed and considered; grants **are not** being awarded on a first come, first serve basis.
- Once you start the application, you must complete it. You cannot save it partially done and return later.
- Once the application is complete, you may go back in and edit it until the time the application window closes on January 22 at noon.
- If you are in the process of completing your application during the 12:00 p.m. deadline, you will have a few hours to submit and still be considered.

Due to the current and anticipated high demand in the Connect Space application platform and Queue It system, the MEDC will manage the application closure at 12:00 Noon EST Friday as follows:

- No new users will be able to enter the queue system after 12:00 Noon EST on Friday.
- Applicants already in the application platform working on their application can continue to complete and submit their application by 5:00 p.m. EST, Sunday, January 24.
- Applicants in the queue waiting to enter the application may remain in the queue for the opportunity to access the application portal and complete the application.
- The application portal will remain open until 5:00 p.m. EST on Sunday, January 24 to allow businesses in the queue to funnel into the platform and to complete and submit their applications. While the MEDC cannot guarantee that all businesses in the queue will be able to complete their applications by that time, the MEDC believes this is the appropriate decision to ensure an opportunity for as many small businesses as possible.

## Technical Support

- MEDC Customer Support will be available through 5:00 p.m. EST Friday at (888) 522-0103 (select menu option 1) or via email at [medceconomic@michigan.org](mailto:medceconomic@michigan.org).
- Connect Space technical support will be available at [support@connectspaceinc.com](mailto:support@connectspaceinc.com) through 5:00 p.m. EST Sunday.

## Process Timeline

Application Window Opens	January 19, 2021 at 9:00 am
Application Window Closes	January 22, 2021 at 12:00 pm (noon)
Application Review and Selection	Week of January 25, 2021
Funds Disbursed	January 29-February 28, 2021

## Announcement

On February 17, 2021, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation announced nearly 6,000 small businesses across Michigan were awarded \$52.5 million through the Michigan Small Business Survival Grant Program. [The full press release on the announcement can be found here.](#)

## Grant Recipients

The [full list of awarded businesses can be found here](#) as issued by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

## Questions?

Contact the Southwest Michigan First team by email at [info@southwestmichiganfirst.com](mailto:info@southwestmichiganfirst.com) or call at 269.553.9588.

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## Michigan Stages Survival Grant Program

The Michigan Strategic Fund also recently approved The [Michigan Stages Survival Grant Program](#) that will provide up to \$40,000 in one-time grants to eligible Michigan live music and entertainment venues that have experienced a significant financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible venues include any businesses/organizations that produce and/or present live, disciplined-based performance experiences and meet all of the [eligibility requirements laid out here](#). All applications received during the application period will be reviewed by the Michigan Independent Venue and Promoter Association, who will recommend final grant awards to the MEDC by February 28 for disbursement.

Businesses eligible for the Michigan Stages Survival Grant Program are not eligible for the Michigan Small Business Survival Grant Program.

**APPLICATIONS FOR THE STAGES SURVIVAL PROGRAM ARE NOW CLOSED.** The window was open for the program at 9:00 a.m. EST on Thursday, January 21 on [michiganbusiness.org/stages](http://michiganbusiness.org/stages), and closed on January 28 at 12:00 p.m. (noon) EST.

Applications will be submitted to, and processed by, the Michigan Independent Venue and Promoter Association (MIVPA) who will recommend grant awards to the MEDC for disbursement by February 28, 2021. To access the program guidelines, FAQ and other resources, go to [michiganbusiness.org/stages](http://michiganbusiness.org/stages).

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*Last Updated: January 21, 2021 | 04:08 p.m.*