



COUNTY OF AMHERST



Public Information Officer

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Public Service Announcement

July 15, 2020

Board of Supervisors Offers Local CARES ACT Funding Grants

The Amherst County Board of Supervisors has set aside some of the money the County received from the Federal CARES ACT funding for local support grants. Two different grant programs were approved; small business and non-profit. Applications for the programs will be accepted on an ongoing basis until funds are depleted. Incomplete applications will not be considered until all information is received.

Small Business Support Grant: To qualify for this grant a business must operate in Amherst County. Businesses must have been in operation for at least a year before March 1, 2020 and have reduced revenue caused by COVID-19. Grant funds may be used to pay rent or mortgage, utility bills, re-opening expenses, marketing, re-hiring or hiring employees. The Economic Development Authority will evaluate all submissions and award grants. Applications for the first round of grants are currently being accepted. For a full list of criteria and the application please visit: <https://amherstvabusiness.com/covid-19-grants-resources/>

Non-profit Support Grant: Organizations that operate exclusively in Amherst County as well as regional organizations that have served in Amherst county for at least a year may be eligible for this grant. Organizations must be able to prove either a 10% loss in donations or a 10% increase in operating costs. Funds may be used for rent or mortgage, utilities, necessary PPE supplies, or increased supplies cost. The Economic Development Authority will evaluate all submissions and award grants. Applications for the first round of grants will begin being accepted July 16. For a full list of criteria and the application please visit: <https://amherstvabusiness.com/covid-19-grants-resources/>

Additional information may be obtained from Joy Niehaus at jlniehaus@countyofamherst.com or (434)-946-9400.

AMHERST COUNTY COVID 19 GRANT PROGRAM

BUSINESS GRANT

MAXIMUM GRANT

- Up to \$25,000 Amherst owned and operated business with 21+ employees.
- Up to \$10,000 Amherst owned and operated business with up to 20 employees.
- Up to \$5,000 for Amherst business not locally owned.

CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY:

- Has been in operation since March 1, 2019.
- Business has a physical location in Amherst County.
- Business must be current on taxes and have a current Amherst Town/County business license (if required).
- Locally owned is defined as having one owner residing in Amherst County.
- Business interruption (reduction in revenue, an increase of expenses, etc.) caused by COVID-19 and/or required closure ordered by the Governor must exceed 10% difference compared to the same month/quarter as last year.
- Town businesses may apply for County and/or town assistance. These will be coordinated to eliminate duplication of benefits.
- Banks and financial institutions are ineligible to apply.

EXPENSES ELIGIBLE FOR GRANT:

- Rent or mortgage payments.
- Utilities (electric, water/sewer, gas, telephone, internet).
- Expenses paid to re-start business.
- Marketing – Advertising efforts to promote business re-start or to implement an online sales presence.
- Compensation – Any costs associated with re-hiring or hiring new employees.

TO APPLY:

- Visit the Economic Development Authority at:
<https://amherstvabusiness.com/covid-19-grants-resources/>

NON PROFIT GRANT

MAXIMUM GRANT

- Up to \$15,000 for organizations operating solely within the county, and who normally receive less than \$1,000,000 from previously established revenue streams or activities that have been disrupted.
- Up to \$10,000 for regional organizations that have served Amherst County for one year prior, and who normally receive less than \$1,000,000 from previously established revenue streams or activities that have been disrupted.
- Up to \$100,000 for organizations operating solely within the county, and who normally receive at least \$1,000,000 from previously established revenue streams or activities that have been disrupted.

CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY:

- Must have been operating for 1 year before March 1, 2020.
- Organization is located in Amherst County or serves Amherst County.
- Demonstrated 10% reduction in donations, or 10% increase in operational costs during the relevant period due to disruption caused by the Governor's declared emergency and orders.

EXPENSES ELIGIBLE FOR GRANT:

- Rent or mortgage payments.
- Utilities (electric, water/sewer, gas, telephone, internet).
- PPE supplies needed.
- increased supplies cost due to increase demand of service (e.g., food bank increased needs).

TO APPLY:

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