



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

Patrick S. Blacklock
County Administrator

625 Court Street, Room 202 ▪ Woodland, CA 95695
Phone: (530) 666-8042 ▪ Fax: (530) 668-4029
www.yolocounty.org

Jenny Tan
Public Information Officer
Jenny.Tan@yolocounty.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 18, 2020

Contact: Jenny Tan, Public Information Officer
Work Cell: (530) 908-0186

Yolo County Announces COVID-19 Small Business Grant Program

(Woodland, CA) – Yolo County has issued CARES Act funding for a new Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Small Business Grant Program to help mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on small businesses. Eligible applicants will be invited to submit completed applications beginning September 28, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. and ending October 4, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

The Small Business Grant Program was developed collaboratively using a task force with representatives from each of the cities in Yolo County. The objective of the program is to offer financial assistance to for-profit small businesses, with a maximum of 25 full-time employees (FTE), located in the unincorporated and incorporated areas of Yolo County. Part-time employees can also be considered for this program. The grant provides economic assistance to help sustain small businesses by reimbursing expenditures directly related to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Up to \$750,000 in funding is eligible to be dispersed from the grant program. Small businesses may apply for the following:

- Businesses with 1 to 10 FTE can apply for up to \$500 per FTE up to a maximum of \$5,000.
- Businesses with 11 to 25 FTE can apply for up to \$500 per FTE up to a maximum of \$10,000.

In order to be eligible for grant funding the business must be a for-profit small business that has an active business license and has operated out of a physical location in Yolo County for at least one year. Applicants may apply for grant funds to reimburse the business for costs related to the negative impacts of COVID-19. Expenses must be documented and have been incurred between March 1, 2020 and the date of the grant application. Eligible expenses for reimbursement include, but are not limited to:

- Innovation to promote outdoor business to protect employee and public health
- Payroll/employee retention or supporting employees
- Purchase of Personal Protective Equipment to protect employee and public health and efforts to sanitize the business environment
- Rent or mortgage payments (excluding property tax payments) realized during the

required closure of the business due to COVID-19, including the required closure of only indoor operations

- Addressing temporary COVID-19 related restrictions on business activity
- Increasing technology capacity to enable alternative work arrangements, such as Telecommuting

“One of the areas hardest hit by the COVID-19 crisis has been our small businesses, the backbone of our local economy. Beset by closures and the need to often re-tool their operations these businesses have displayed great ingenuity and resiliency”, said Chair of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors Gary Sandy. “The County of Yolo is launching a special fund to assist these small businesses with costs associated with redesigns and new equipment purchases as a means of buffering them from the continuing pandemic. Our communities rely on these businesses and these funds will be used to stabilize and enhance their continued operations.”

Grant awards to businesses will be made based on funding availability and eligibility. Due to limited funds, not all eligible businesses can be assisted. In order to ensure equitable distribution of funds across the County, grants will be awarded using a lottery system where a random selection of applications will occur by geographic location. The amount of funds available for each jurisdiction are based on population as follows:

- City of Davis: \$236,000
- City of West Sacramento: \$182,000
- City of Woodland: \$206,000
- City of Winters and unincorporated Yolo County: \$126,000

Applicants will be invited to submit applications online beginning September 28, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. and ending October 4, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. All required documentation must be uploaded and submitted with the application online. No physical applications will be accepted.

Additional information about the Small Business Grant Program, including a program overview document and a Frequently Asked Questions document, is available on the County website at www.yolocounty.org/small-business-grant. For additional updates follow Yolo County on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/YoloCounty/> or Twitter at: <https://twitter.com/YoloCountyCA>.

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