

Carver County Small Business Emergency Assistance Program Frequently Asked Questions

How much money is available in the Carver County Small Business Emergency Assistance Program?

There is \$700,000 available for businesses throughout Carver County. Additionally, some cities are committing additional funds to serve more businesses in their city. As of August 6, 2020 the following cities have committed additional funds:

Waconia: \$600,000

What is the maximum award?

The maximum beneficiary payment is \$10,000.

When and where can I apply?

Applications will be accepted online only from August 17 to September 4. To access the applications, visit the Carver County CDA's website at www.carvercda.org.

How will funding decisions be made?

If applications exceed the funding that is available, businesses will be chosen through a randomized selection process.

When will I know if my business has been selected for an award?

The grant administrator, NextStage, will notify applicants via email if they were chosen to receive an award by September 18.

What does "locally owned and operated" and "physical establishment in Carver County" mean?

Eligible applicants must have a physical location within Carver County boundaries, be located in a commercial or industrial zoned district or allowed by a conditional use permit. Additionally, majority ownership of the business should be Minnesota-based.

I own a farm and have been impacted by COVID, am I eligible to apply?

Yes. For-profit farming operations are eligible to apply.

I am a non-profit organization, can I apply?

No, non-profit organizations are not eligible to apply for the Carver County Small Business Emergency Assistance program; however, they are eligible to apply for the Carver County Non-Profit Emergency Assistance fund. More information can be found on the CDA's website at www.carvercda.org.

I have received funding through either the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and/or Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL), am I eligible to apply and receive these funds?

Yes. However, Carver County Small Business Emergency Assistance program funds must be used to cover different expenses or expenses over and above what the federal funds were used for.

I have applied and was awarded for COVID-related emergency small business funding through the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development. Can I apply?

No. If a business received funds from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) through the Small Business Emergency Grant Program or the Small Business Emergency Loan program, they are not eligible to apply for the Carver County Small Business Emergency Assistance program. If a business applied for funds, but was not awarded funds, then they are eligible to apply for this program.

What questions will be on the application? How long will it take to complete?

The application contains questions related to the eligibility of the business and should take less than 15 minutes to fill out. No verification documents will be required at this stage.

What documentation is required? Must I submit this documentation at the time of application?

Following submission of the application, and if awarded funds, then the applicant will be required to submit documentation listed in the program guidelines. This documentation is not required at the time of application.

My business had 40 or less employees prior to the COVID crisis, but currently all or a portion of the employees have been laid off. Am I eligible to apply?

Yes. Eligibility is based upon the number of employees the business had on March 1, 2020.

I am a sole proprietor. Do I qualify for the grant program?

Yes. Sole proprietors can qualify for the program.

How will my credit score affect my application?

Credit scores and collateral requirements will not affect your eligibility or selection.

I need help filling out this application or I have a general question about the application process. Who should I contact?

You may contact any one of the following:

Elise Durbin, Carver County CDA, 952-556-2778 or elised@carvercda.org

SouthWest Metro Chamber of Commerce, 952-474-3233 or info@swmetrochamber.com

Waconia Chamber of Commerce, 952-442-5812 or request@destinationwaconia.org

NYA Area Chamber of Commerce, 952-737-7403, info@nyachamber.org

Watertown Area Chamber of Commerce, 952-955-5175, watertownchamber@gmail.com