

# Tioga County COVID-19 Relief Block Grant Program

## Application Period Now Open

The Tioga County Commissioners have announced the grant application period is open, effective August 3<sup>rd</sup> – August 17<sup>th</sup>.

The intent of the grants is to assist qualifying businesses, organizations, and municipalities with financial relief for business disruptions and expenses incurred due to COVID-19.

## Funding Available Through the CARES Act and Act 24 of 2020

The CARES Act was signed into law by the President on March 27, 2020 and provides funding for a variety of programs intended to alleviate the impact of COVID-19. Section 5001 of the CARES Act establishes the Coronavirus Relief Fund which offsets necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Act 24 of 2020 was signed by Governor Wolf on May 29, 2020. This legislation provides \$625 million in CARES Act Coronavirus Relief funding by means of block grants for counties in the commonwealth through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED).

## Program Timeline

- **August 3** – Grant **application opens** at 8 a.m.
- **August 17** – Grant applications are due by 4:30 p.m.
- **Mid September** – Grant awards announced\*
- **December 30** –Deadline for spending grant funds

\*Exact date will be announced at a later date.

## Eligible Applicants

- Small Businesses with under 100 employees
- Tourism Related Businesses
- Non-Profits with 501c (3) and 501c (19) designations

- Municipalities, Local Police Departments and
- Fire and Ambulance Organizations

**NOTE:** Priority for CARES Act Funding will be given to businesses that have not received previous COVID-19 funding grants.

## Eligible Uses of Block Grant Funding

**Funds shall be used to cover only those costs necessary to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency that were:**

- Not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (government applicants); and
- Incurred during the period from March 1, 2020 to December 30, 2020.

**The Tioga County Commissioners have decided to allocate the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund block grant to the following eligible uses including:**

- Offsetting the cost of the County's COVID-19 direct response, planning and outreach efforts, including the purchase of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Grants to small businesses with fewer than 100 employees.
- Tourism Related Businesses
- Assistance to municipalities in the County for COVID-19 response and planning efforts, including the purchase of Personal Protective Equipment.
- Nonprofit assistance programs for tax exempt entities covered by Section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

## Ineligible Expenses

**Ineligible expenses include but are not limited to the following:**

- Expenses not related to the COVID-19 public emergency
- Expenses incurred outside of the March 1 to December 30, 2020 timeframe
- Expenses that have been or will be reimbursed through another federal program or some other funding source
- Damages covered by insurance
- Payroll or benefits expenses for employees whose work duties are not substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency
- Reimbursing donors for donated items or services
- Employee bonuses other than hazard pay or overtime

- Severance pay
- Legal settlements

## Application and Review Procedures

All applications must be submitted by **Monday, August 17, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.** Applications will be reviewed in each eligible use category and funding recommendations will be submitted to the Tioga County Commissioners who will make final funding awards. Applications will be evaluated based upon the applicant's need for funding, community impact of the investment, and ability to spend program funds within established guidelines.

## Procedures for Accessing Funds

Successful applicants will be notified by **mid-September** and will enter into a contract with Tioga County for expenditure of funds. **All funds must be fully expended by Wednesday, December 30, 2020.**

## Compliance, Reporting, and Auditing

Fund payments are only subject to the requirements in the Uniform Guidance (2 C.F.R. Part 200) applicable to federal financial assistance, including 2 C.F.R. § 200.303 regarding internal controls, 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.330 through 200.332 regarding subrecipient monitoring and management, and Subpart F regarding audit requirements.

## Additional Questions

Please refer to the **Frequently Asked Questions** document.

## For Additional Information and to Submit Applications:

### **Non-Profits, Fire and Ambulance:**

Tioga County Partnership for Community Health

Website: [www.tiogapartnership.org](http://www.tiogapartnership.org)

Email: Sue Sticklin at [ssticklin@tiogapartnership.org](mailto:ssticklin@tiogapartnership.org)

Phone: 570-723-0520

### **Small Businesses, Municipalities and Police Departments:**

Develop Tioga

Website: [www.developitioga.org](http://www.developitioga.org)

Email: [khamilton@developitioga.org](mailto:khamilton@developitioga.org)

Phone: 570-723-8232