

Targeted Small Business Sole Operator Relief Fund

COVID-19

Frequently Asked Questions

This program will continue to process applications on an ongoing basis until all funds are exhausted. Applications are processed in both order of receipt of application and submission of all required documents and Targeted Small Business certification approval.

What is the purpose of the Targeted Small Business (TSB) Sole Operator Relief Fund?

The purpose of the Targeted Small Business (TSB) Sole Operator Relief Fund is to provide financial assistance to businesses that are experiencing business interruption due to the COVID-19 virus, are Certified Targeted Small Businesses or have an application for certification in process prior to April 10 and who are sole owners of their business with no employees.

Targeted Small Business Sole Operator Relief Fund

These funds will assist Targeted Small Businesses (TSB) who are sole operators through the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) up to **\$10,000**. These funds will assist eligible businesses in maintaining or reopening business operations impacted by the COVID-19 virus. This assistance is only intended to provide businesses with immediate, short-term cash flow assistance for approximately the next 30 days. The funds are not to be used to pay debts incurred prior to the March 17 proclamation.

Who is Eligible?

- Business must be experiencing business disruption due to COVID-19 pandemic; and
- Business must be certified as a [Targeted Small Business](#) or have an application in process by April 10, 2020, to become certified as a Targeted Small Business in accordance with Chapter 52 of [Iowa Code](#) and;
- Business must be owned by a single owner and have no employees prior to March 17, 2020; and
- Business income must be primary source of personal income for business owner; and
- Business must have been in business for twelve months prior to April 10, 2020.

My business is not currently certified as a Targeted Small Business, what are the requirements?

To be eligible for TSB certification, businesses must be:

- Located in the state of Iowa
- Operating for a profit
- Make less than \$4 million in gross income, computed as an average of the preceding three fiscal years

- Majority owned (51% or more), operated and managed by a female, individual with minority status, service-disabled veteran or individual with a disability

How do I apply to become a certified Targeted Small Business?

The Targeted Small Business application is available [here](#). Applications **must** be received by April 10.

Is it true that small businesses should not apply for SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) because they would not be eligible for IEDA's grant program?

- NO. Applying to the SBA EIDL program has no bearing on applying to the IEDA's Small Business Relief Program.
- Additionally, we have taken every step to assist in ensuring that assistance received through the Small Business Relief Program will not hinder eligibility for the SBA EIDL program or other federal programs that may become available.

Businesses that do not qualify for Targeted Small Business (TSB) Certification or have employees and are therefore ineligible for this grant, however, may be able to access the following resources:

- [Small Business Relief Grant](#)
- Sales and use or withholding tax deferral and waiver of penalty and interest (available on the same Iowa Small Business Relief Grant application).
- Unemployment Tax Extensions: Iowa Workforce Development is offering Iowa businesses first quarter unemployment tax extensions. Businesses can request an extensions by contacting them at 1-888-848-7442 or [email](#).
- IEDA is also closely monitoring additional assistance that may become available for Iowa businesses from the federal level.

How to Apply

Applications are available at iowabusinessrecovery.com. Due to the anticipated volume of applications this program will receive, IEDA and the Iowa Center for Economic Success staff will work diligently to review and respond to applications as received.

- Incomplete applications will not be reviewed for eligibility.
- **Applications will be accepted until grant funds are exhausted**
- **Application Review Process:** Applications will be reviewed and processed in the order received by the Iowa Center for Economic Success. Once all documentation requirements have been fulfilled by the applicant and the applicant is deemed eligible, the Iowa Center will make a recommendation to the IEDA regarding the applicant's eligibility and grant amount. The IEDA will verify the applicant's TSB certification status and provide final approval to the applicant.

Who do I contact with questions?

For questions about applying for this grant, please contact: tsbrecovery@iowaeda.com.

***A completed application to the Iowa Center for Economic Success is not a guarantee of financial assistance or tax deferral. Each application will be reviewed by IEDA and Iowa Center for Economic Success staff. Awards of financial assistance may be less than the requested amount.*