



District of Columbia Small Business Recovery Microgrants

Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently Asked Questions

What does "local" mean exactly?

You are considered "local" if your main office is in DC. The main office is wherever the chief executive officer and highest level managerial employees manage and lead the business or organization. If you are an independent contractor or self-employed, you must live in DC. If you are a nonprofit, your services should not extend beyond the DMV region, unless you are an arts or cultural organization (such as a touring dance company based in the District).

Can I ask a question about my materials before submitting my application?

Yes! Please email dmped.grants@dc.gov with your question and as much detail as possible.

I arrived at a page that says that I'm not eligible. What should I do now?

Unfortunately, you're not eligible for the DC Economic Recovery Microgrant, but we want to make sure you get the help you need. Check out these other [resources](#) for small business recovery.

You may be eligible for low-interest, long-term repayment Disaster Loan Assistance from the federal U.S. Small Business Administration. The loan can cover payroll, debt payments, and accounts payable. [Apply for a federal loan now.](#)

I made a mistake answering the eligibility questions. How can I fix it?

If you think you made an error in the "Step 1: Learn about my eligibility" section, you can restart your application [here](#) if you are a business or independent contractor, and [here](#) if you are nonprofit. You can review the answers you provided on the "Sorry, you're not eligible" page.

I need to update my email address, but I have already submitted my application.

Once your application is submitted, you cannot edit your application. If you have made an error in your contact information, please send an e-mail to dmped.grants@dc.gov

I submitted an application prior to March 25th and the eligibility requirements have changed.

Do I need to submit a new application?

No. You will receive an email from the grants system asking for additional information. If you do not receive this email, please contact MS_DMPEDGRANTS_Grantmaking@blackbaud.com.

I operate a franchise. Can I apply?

If your franchise is based in DC and is independently owned and operated, and you meet all of the other eligibility criteria, you are eligible to apply for a DC Small Business Recovery Microgrant.

I am a religious organization. Can I apply?

No. Religious organizations are not eligible to apply for the Small Business Recovery Microgrant.

I have furloughed but not laid off my employees. Can I apply?

Yes, as long as you can demonstrate impact to your actual revenue to date and your projected revenue for the rest of March and April. Please also have supporting documentation that shows that your employees have been furloughed.

Is a Clean Hands Certificate required to be eligible to apply for the grant?

A Clean Hands Certificate is not required to apply for the grant.

I do not have a business license. Am I eligible to apply for the grant?

A business license is not required to be eligible to apply for the grant.

Technical Troubleshooting Tips**I've lost the correct links.**

We've got you!

- If you are a **business** or **independent contractor** and want to start a new application, click [here](#).
- If you are a **nonprofit** and want to start a new application, click [here](#).
- If you have started an application and want to finish it, click [here](#).

When I go to the links above, I get an error message.

Please wait ten minutes and try again. If that doesn't help, take a picture or screenshot of the message and e-mail MS_DMPEDGRANTS_Grantmaking@blackbaud.com.

I've forgotten my password.

No problem! Click the "Forgot Password" link available on [the account login page](#). Your new password is everything immediately after "Your password is:" and before the period. When you click the link in the email, copy and paste this new password into the "current password" field, and then type your new password into the "new password" and "confirm new password" fields.

I've started an application and can't find it again.

If you've started an application and want to finish it, click [here](#). Log in, and then click on your "in progress" application. If your application was started prior to March 25 and it was voided, please see the above FAQs regarding new eligibility requirements.

If you try to create another account with an email you used to create an account before, you will get an error message saying: "Invalid email or password." If you do, click "Return to login" and then "Forgot Password" to recover your password.

I want to start a new application.

If you are a business, self-employed, or an independent contractor and want to start a new application, click [here](#). If you are a nonprofit and want to start a new application, click [here](#).

I've clicked the back button in my browser and I can't get back into the application.

Click [here](#) and then click on your "in progress" application.

My files are too big and I can't upload them.

You should be able to upload large files, it may just take a few minutes.

I'm having technical difficulties with the application.

Please email MS_DMPEDGRANTS_Grantmaking@blackbaud.com with your question and as much detail as possible, including screenshots.

Can I navigate back on my application or go to the previous step if I made an error?

You can use the normal browser "back" arrow in the "Step 1: Learn about my eligibility" section. When on the application (every section starting from "Step 2: Get Ready"), we recommend navigating using the blue rectangles along the top of the page.

How do I know my application was submitted?

After you submit the application, you will receive an email from "Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development" that the proposal was successfully submitted. If you do not receive this email, please be sure to check your SPAM filter.

If your application was saved but not submitted, you will receive an email saying: "Your application has been saved but not yet submitted." To submit your application, please return to your account via the link in the email. You can resume your application at any point before the deadline.

I have submitted my application. Will I definitely receive a grant?

A submitted application does not automatically mean a grant will be awarded. The application needs to be reviewed and then selected for an award.