COVID-19 PANDEMIC SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY GRANT PROGRAM REPORT

NEW YORK STATE OF Opportunity. Empire State Development

September 30, 2021
INTRODUCTION

The $800 million COVID-19 Pandemic Small Business Recovery Grant Program (the Program) was created as part of the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget, in partnership of the Executive and the Legislature, to assist COVID-19 impacted small businesses. Empire State Development (ESD), the State of New York State’s chief economic development entity, oversees the Program.

The mission of the Program is simple – to support the small businesses1 that typically have the least access to resources. To that end, the Program strategically encourages participation from micro-businesses2, socially and economically disadvantaged business owners3, minority and/or women owned businesses, and small businesses that did not receive adequate federal COVID-19 support4.

As of September 29, 2021, ESD has awarded $190 million to 11,995 small businesses. The Program provides flexible grants of $5,000 to $50,000, with the average award being $15,879. As per the Program’s mission, 99.4% of awards have gone to micro-businesses, 48.9% of awards have gone to socially and economically disadvantaged small businesses, and 88.6% have gone to minority and/or women owned small businesses5.

Program grants generally represent a significant proportion of an awarded small business’ operating expenses, and the investment has helped small businesses recover from the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Grant awards from the Program are allowing small businesses across the State to cover costs such as payroll, rent or mortgage payments, personal protective equipment (PPE) expenses, utility bills, and any costs associated with compliance with COVID-19 health and safety protocols (a full list of eligible expenses is available in the Appendix).

The small businesses targeted by this Program, by definition, do not have access to the same resources that larger businesses do. Therefore, to ensure the Program’s success, New York State deployed a suite of services to let small businesses know about the Program, and to help them submit complete applications. These services include: funding a network of 69 Technical Assistance (TA) partners to provide one-on-one assistance to over 11,000 applicants; delivering nearly 550 informational webinars to small businesses through trusted community voices; and establishing a call center, which has logged over 146,000 calls with potential applicants to-date. Additionally, ESD

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1 Per 16-ff (a) of the Urban Development Corporation Act, “small business” means a business which is resident in this state, independently owned and operated, not dominant in its field, and employs one hundred or less persons.
2 Per 16-ff (b) of the Urban Development Corporation Act “micro-business“ means a business which is a resident in this state, independently owned and operated, not dominant in its field, and employs ten or less persons.
3 Socially and economically disadvantaged business are those owned by service-disabled veterans, and/or small businesses located in economically distressed geographies.
4 For context, preliminary data from the U.S. Small Business Administration suggests that New York State businesses received tens of billions of dollars across all SBA business assistance programs, including through the Paycheck Protection Program, Economic Injury Disaster Loans & Grants, Restaurant Revitalization Fund grants, and the Shuttered Venue Operator Grant Program. This data further suggests that in-state businesses secured assistance at rates higher than the State’s relative share of the U.S. population.
5 Note that businesses can be classified as more-than-one category (“category” referring to micro, socially and economically distressed, and minority and/or women owned small businesses).
offers all application materials in fourteen languages, is contacting applicants up to 30 times to allow an opportunity to correct their applications⁶; and is engaging in extensive Program promotion, including in cooperation with our legislative partners.

For Governor Kathy Hochul, championing and supporting the State’s many small businesses is a priority. In August 2021, Governor Hochul expanded the Program’s eligibility to invite additional COVID-impacted small businesses to access this vital funding.

Included in this report are: 1) details on Program progress, including summary statistics, 2) information on the State’s efforts to support Program participation, 3) testimonials from actual award recipients to showcase how the Program is making a difference to actual New York small businesses, and 4) an Appendix of additional program details.

This Program, and the Program’s success, would not have been possible without the support and focus of our legislative colleagues; ESD looks forward to an ongoing partnership with the Legislature on this critical initiative.

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⁶ Applicants are given several opportunities to correct an application or to either clarify inconsistent application information, or to submit all required application documentation. For example, an application that represents the business name two different ways on an application would not be immediately disqualified. The applicant would be contacted, and given an opportunity to correct their application. As another example, if an applicant uploaded their 2018 taxes, instead of their 2019 taxes (as required), the applicant would not be disqualified on this basis, and would be given a chance to correct their application.
PROGRAM PROGRESS

As a result of the strategic design and approach of the Program, awards are reaching the target audience. Since launching the application portal in June 2021, 104,061 applications have been started, and are in varying states of completeness. Of these, 38,749 are completed and fully submitted applications, and 65,312 applications are incomplete, and therefore cannot be wholly evaluated for eligibility.

To-date, 11,995 grants have already been awarded, with $190,471,344 received to-date by small businesses.

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7 The Program provides awards to small businesses that are for-profit arts and cultural organizations. To date, $7.4M has been awarded to such small businesses. Qualifying for-profit arts and cultural organizations include businesses engaged in fields including, architecture, dance, design, film, music, theater, opera, media, literature, museum activities, visual arts, folk arts and casting, to name a few.
AWARDS TO MICRO-BUSINESSES

$186,968,602 has been awarded to 11,918 micro-businesses, representing 99.4% of all awards. As mentioned above, micro-businesses are those with 10 or fewer employees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM PROGRESS FOR MICRO-BUSINESSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>38,264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed &amp; fully submitted applications from micro-businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of total applications from micro-businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11,918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards to micro-businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99%+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of total awards to micro-businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$187M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awarded to micro-businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of total funding awarded to micro-businesses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AWARDS TO SOCIALLY & ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS OWNERS

$95,653,320 has been awarded to 5,870 socially and economically disadvantaged businesses, representing 49% of total awards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM PROGRESS FOR SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20,586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed &amp; fully submitted applications from socially &amp; economically disadvantaged businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of total applications from socially &amp; economically disadvantaged businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards to socially &amp; economically disadvantaged businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of total awards to socially &amp; economically disadvantaged businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$96M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awarded to socially &amp; economically disadvantaged businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of total funding awarded to socially &amp; economically disadvantaged businesses.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
$158,950,401 has been awarded to 10,629 minority and/or women-owned small businesses, representing 88.6% of total awards. As part of the application process, applicants were invited to provide such demographic information, on a voluntary basis, to inform the public of the degree to which Program funds were being distributed to minority and women owned businesses.

### PROGRAM PROGRESS FOR MWBE BUSINESSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completed &amp; fully submitted applications from MWBE businesses</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>32,190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards to MWBE businesses</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>10,629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awarded to MWBE businesses</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>$159M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

89% of total awards to MWBE businesses
AWARDS BY GEOGRAPHY

The Program awards represent a commitment to an equitable distribution of resources across the State. Awards to-date largely align with small business density, and it is important to note that the application portal is still open for additional small businesses to apply.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Completed &amp; Fully Submitted Applications</th>
<th>Applications Awarded</th>
<th>Awarded Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albany</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>$1,877,527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allegany</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$21,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronx</td>
<td>3,374</td>
<td>1,080</td>
<td>$12,082,912</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broome</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>$772,023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cattaraugus</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>Cayuga</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$250,200</td>
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<td>Chautauqua</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemung</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chenango</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$84,407</td>
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<td>Clinton</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>$298,487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>$250,442</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cortland</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>$193,874</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>$152,085</td>
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<td>Dutchess</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>$1,534,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erie</td>
<td>1,069</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>$3,746,719</td>
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<td>Essex</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>Franklin</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Fulton</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$62,647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genesee</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$132,952</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greene</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$193,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$80,128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herkimer</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$104,510</td>
</tr>
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<td>Jefferson</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$574,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kings</td>
<td>6,755</td>
<td>2,111</td>
<td>$30,048,278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$10,511</td>
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<td>Livingston</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>$203,708</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>$193,196</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>$2,532,188</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$38,334</td>
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<td>Nassau</td>
<td>2,211</td>
<td>591</td>
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<td>3,766</td>
<td>1,002</td>
<td>$26,990,485</td>
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<tr>
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<td>162</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>$574,568</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oneida</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>$510,094</td>
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<td>Onondaga</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>64</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ontario</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>$438,185</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>$1,226,570</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orleans</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>$98,259</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oswego</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>$300,751</td>
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<td>Otsego</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>$478,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Putnam</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>$384,158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens</td>
<td>12,184</td>
<td>5,090</td>
<td>$59,032,013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rensselaer</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>$685,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>822</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>$4,114,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockland</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>$2,212,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Lawrence</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$146,921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saratoga</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>$1,256,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schenectady</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>$532,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schoharie</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$73,946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuyler</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$71,129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seneca</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$93,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steuben</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>$434,238</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suffolk</td>
<td>1,505</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>$9,622,435</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sullivan</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>$346,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tioga</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$112,182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tompkins</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>$346,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ulster</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>$800,128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$209,936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$130,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne</td>
<td>76</td>
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<td>$309,757</td>
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<tr>
<td>Westchester</td>
<td>1,090</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>$7,778,551</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$71,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yates</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$44,544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** 38,749 11,995 $190,471,344

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8 Insufficient geographic information exists and therefore the location cannot be determined.
### AWARDS BY REGION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Completed &amp; Fully Submitted Applications</th>
<th>Applications Awarded</th>
<th>Awarded Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital Region</td>
<td>949</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>$5,004,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central NY</td>
<td>674</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>$2,542,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finger Lakes</td>
<td>928</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>$3,925,266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Island</td>
<td>3,716</td>
<td>986</td>
<td>$22,949,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Hudson</td>
<td>2,171</td>
<td>546</td>
<td>$14,222,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohawk Valley</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>$963,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>26,901</td>
<td>9,499</td>
<td>$132,268,281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Country</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>$939,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Tier</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>$2,760,542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western NY</td>
<td>1,440</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>$4,896,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown&lt;sup&gt;9&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>38,749</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,995</strong></td>
<td><strong>$190,471,344</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>9</sup> Insufficient geographic information exists and therefore the location cannot be determined.
SUPPORTING PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

In response to pandemic-induced economic hardships which have disproportionately affected the small businesses targeted by the Program, ESD, with legislative support, launched a series of initiatives to guide eligible small businesses through the Program application process. The efforts were designed to ensure small businesses throughout the State were first made aware of the Program, and second, had continuous assistance and guidance available to them throughout the application process.

1) NETWORK OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PARTNERS

As part of this effort, ESD established a network of Technical Assistance (TA) partners to provide hands-on guidance to small businesses seeking funding. The Program allocated $10 million in technical assistance grants to 69 partners, including: 21 of New York’s statewide Entrepreneurship Assistance Centers, 23 Small Business Development Centers, and 25 community organizations and chambers of commerce. These TA partners are helping small businesses secure financial assistance through the Program, as well as secure funding from other federal and State COVID-recovery programs. TA partners have used these funds to hire additional staff, to allow one-on-one direct counseling sessions with all interested small businesses.

ESD’s network of partners serve as trusted voices for many small businesses. Located in communities throughout the State, these TA partners have been serving as local ambassadors for the Program, to meet potential applicants in their cities, boroughs, towns, and villages. There are at least two participating TA partners in each region of the State, and in New York City, there is at least one participating TA partner in each borough (a full list of all Technical Assistance Partners is available in the Appendix).

2) GRANT ADMINISTRATOR

To create a streamlined and simple application, and to process a high volume of awards expeditiously, ESD, with legislative support, competitively procured a third-party grant administrator for the Program.

The selected administrator, Lendistry, is a minority-led Community Development Financial Institution. Lendistry has provided similar COVID-recovery grant services to other states, such as
California and Pennsylvania, and is a U.S. Small Business Administration Community Advantage lender\textsuperscript{10}.

3) LANGUAGE TRANSLATION SERVICES

Program materials, including educational materials and applications, are available in 14 languages. Materials are offered in Arabic, Bengali, Chinese-Mandarin, English, French, German, Haitian Creole, Hindi, Italian, Korean, Polish, Russian, Spanish, and Yiddish.

4) CALL CENTER

ESD established a call center to provide all applicants the ability to discuss any questions with a live expert. To date, 146,000 calls have been received by the call center. The call center is open Monday to Friday from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM Eastern Time and Saturday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The call center also allows ESD an opportunity to contact applicants to cure applications, and has placed over 50,000 calls to applicants, offering guidance in finalizing applications.

5) APPLICANT ENGAGEMENT

In the event an application is incomplete, or includes inconsistent information, ESD allows every applicant the ability to cure their submission. To this end, all applicants with an incomplete submission receive outreach originating from ESD, from ESD’s TA partners, and from Lendistry, to provide every opportunity for an applicant to successfully apply. New York State recognizes that small businesses, particularly those targeted by the Program, deserve the opportunity to be made aware of insufficiencies, and given time to correct and finalize applications.

6) MARKETING CAMPAIGN

ESD launched an integrated marketing effort in May 2021, to coincide with the opening of the application portal in June 2021. As part of this multi-platform campaign, statewide television advertising was used to build broad awareness of the Program, while digital, social media, and print efforts helped amplify the message.

\textsuperscript{10} The Community Advantage Program was created by the U.S. Small Business Administration to address the credit, management, and technical assistance needs of small businesses in underserved markets.
To reach the small businesses targeted by the Program, television ads ran in both Spanish and English. Print ads were also placed in local and/or foreign language papers across the State to encourage participation from applicants whose primary language is not English, or who may not have online access.

New York State’s Legislative leaders have also been instrumental in raising awareness of the Program, and the Program’s network of support services.

7) PROGRAM EXPANSION

In August 2021, Governor Hochul expanded the Program by raising the revenue cap for eligible businesses from $500,000 to $2,500,000, and by expanding the Paycheck Protection Program Loan Exception from $100,000 to $250,000. This strategic expansion allowed New York State to invite additional small businesses to apply.

ESD remains engaged in Program marketing and outreach and is actively messaging the expanded Program eligibility to build awareness.

8) GRANT DISBURSEMENTS

In August, Governor Hochul updated New Yorkers that the Program had already awarded $48M. In the time since, funding awarded to small businesses has more than tripled. Awarded funds increased from $48M on August 25, 2021, to $190M on September 29, 2021.

The number of small businesses that received awards has more than quadrupled from 2,381 to 11,995.

These increases are due to extensive engagement from ESD and ESDs program partners to award applications that have been submitted since the start of the Program. ESD anticipates that the recently announced program expansion will follow a similar trajectory, wherein awards to the newly eligible small businesses will grow over time, as this newly eligible population increasingly submits applications.

9) ELIMINATING TAXES ON GRANT AWARDS

In June 2021, the New York State Legislature passed, and the Governor signed, a law to exempt grants made under this Program from certain taxes. Specifically, the law provides an exemption from the corporate franchise tax, and from personal income tax, for all grants made through the Program.
This important law ensures that funds directed to COVID-impacted small businesses remain with the awardee\textsuperscript{11}.

10) FRAUD PROTECTION SYSTEM

The Program utilizes a robust anti-fraud methodology to protect State funds and the integrity of the Program. Embedded in the Program design is a multi-layer fraud protection system that incorporates technology, inclusive of a thorough cyber review, and manual review of all applications.

\textsuperscript{11} The law amends paragraph (a) of subdivision 9 of section 208, and subsection (c) of section 612 of the tax law.
AWARDEE STORIES

The COVID-19 Pandemic Small Business Recovery Grant Program is making a meaningful impact on small businesses across the State. To highlight the ways in which recipients are benefiting from the Program, below are testimonials from actual award recipients.

**Playbook MG (branding/marketing)**

*Owner: Jean Jones*
*Grant Award: $37,589*
*Location: Brooklyn, NY*

“Teamwork makes a dream work! This grant helped keep the Playbook MG dream alive by making it possible to cover payroll for our employees. We believe in putting together a group of people that target different parts of the business, and collectively their efforts are unmatched. This isn’t possible without the overhead to ensure the support staff is in place to accomplish the tasks at hand. The grant is far reaching in the sense it acts like a game of dominoes, by engaging with leadership to empower them to take the necessary steps to get the pieces and players in the right direction so they can be their best selves and perform/work at their best too.”

**CustomPrintablesNY (printing/design)**

*Owner: Angela Dominick*
*Grant Award: $10,000*
*Location: Auburn, NY*

“You saved us. Between my husband losing his job of over 15+ years due to the pandemic, I’m a mom-owned business who was drowning trying to keep our family’s head above water and help make up for that big loss in income. If it wasn’t for Empire State Development and the grant we wouldn’t have been able to afford the necessary protection required in our shipping area or with bills. It got us over that hump and to keep going forward, without having to pull money from our personal
accounts (which are practically depleted). In all honestly, if we did not receive it, this mom may have also been out of a business too. Thank you so much for all the help. Whether you know it or not, you DID make a difference in our life!

Buffalo Film Works (film studio)
Owner: Jennifer O’Neill
Grant Award: $38,737
Location: Buffalo, NY
“The grant enabled us to reopen our business by providing funds that helped us abide by the newly imposed restrictions due to COVID-19. We are happy to be back in business, creating high-wage jobs for and reinvesting in the local, creative economy.”

First Priority Security, LLC (security)
Owner: James Allen
Grant Award: $13,740
Location: New York City
“It was like finding a lake in the desert. We are a small security company and when the pandemic hit, New York City shut down and our ability to produce revenue was almost impossible. The fear of not being able to meet payroll and pay our monthly bills was weighing on us heavily. It had gotten to the point where we were paying everything out of pocket. When we received the grant from Empire State Development it helped save our business and allow us to stay open and give us the extra time we needed to allow the city to open back up.”
APPENDIX

To ensure that grant funds are provided to businesses that were most significantly impacted by the pandemic and resulting business interruptions or closures, New York State required specific eligibility criteria to address the target audience. Full eligibility criteria for the COVID-19 Small Business Recovery Grant Program is detailed below.

AVAILABLE AWARDS

Grant awards range from $5,000 to $50,000, depending on a business’ gross receipts for 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANNUAL GROSS RECEIPTS:</th>
<th>ANNUAL GROSS RECEIPTS:</th>
<th>ANNUAL GROSS RECEIPTS:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 – $49,999.99</td>
<td>$50,000 – $99,999.99</td>
<td>$100,000 – $2,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AWARD is $5,000 / business</td>
<td>AWARD is $10,000 / business</td>
<td>AWARD IS 10% OF GROSS RECEIPTS (maximum grant is $50,000)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ELIGIBLE BUSINESSES

- Must be a viable small business (100 employees or fewer), micro-business (10 employees or fewer) in New York State.
- Must have begun operation on or before March 1, 2019 and continue to be in operation as of the data of the application. Venues that were shuttered due to COVID restrictions are eligible to apply.
- Must show a 25% loss in gross receipts as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic or compliance with COVID-19 health and safety protocols which resulted in business modifications, interruptions, or closures, including any 2020 Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation and/or Lost Wage Assistance Programs.
- As expanded by Governor Hochul on August 25, 2021, eligible small businesses must have between $25,000 and $2,500,000 (previously $500,000) in either 2019 or 2020 gross receipts.
• Must not have qualified for business grant assistance programs under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 or any other available federal COVID-19 economic recovery or business assistance grant programs, including loans forgiven under the federal Paycheck Protection Program, or are unable to obtain sufficient business assistance from such federal programs.

• Eligible Applicants may have received or been awarded the following federal assistance:
  o Paycheck Protection Program loans totaling $250,000 (expanded by Governor Hochul on August 25, 2021) or less.
  o COVID-19 EIDL Advance Grant of $10,000 or less.
  o COVID-19 EIDL Supplemental Targeted Advance Grant of $5,000 or less.
  o SBA Shuttered Venue Operator Grant.

INELIGIBLE BUSINESSES

• All Non-Profits, churches and other religious institutions
• Government-owned entities or elected official offices
• Businesses primarily engaged in political or lobbying activities
• Businesses that received awards from the SBA Restaurant Revitalization Grant Program
• Landlords and passive real estate businesses
• Illegal businesses or enterprises
• Other industry or business types as specified by Empire State Development.

ELIGIBLE USE OF GRANT FUNDS

The Program provides a wide array of eligible uses in response to the extensive and varied impacts of COVID-19 on the small business ecosystem. In this way, the Program aims to assist a significant number of affected small businesses.

• Specifically, the grants must be used for COVID-19 related losses or expenses incurred between March 1, 2020, and April 1, 2021. These include:
  o Payroll costs
  o Commercial rent or mortgage payments for NYS-based property (but not any rent or mortgage prepayments)
  o Payment of local property or school taxes associated with a small business location in NYS
  o Insurance costs
  o Utility costs
o Costs of personal protection equipment (PPE) necessary to protect worker and consumer health and safety
o Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) costs
o Other machinery or equipment costs
o Supplies and materials necessary for compliance with COVID-19 health and safety protocols
o Other documented COVID-19 costs as approved by Empire State Development

INELIGIBLE USE OF GRANT FUNDS

- Grants awarded under the Program may not be used to re-pay or pay down any portion of a loan obtained through a federal COVID-19 relief package for business assistance or any New York State business assistance programs.

ONGOING SUPPORT FOR ADDITIONAL APPLICANTS

The Program application portal remains open and additional applications are being accepted under the expanded eligibility criteria. As noted earlier, ESD has compiled and publicized a network of TA partners that provide instruction, training, technical assistance, and support services to entrepreneurs and small businesses in local communities statewide. The statewide and regional organizations listed below provide confidential business counseling and training at no cost, including assistance with not only the Program applications, but also other New York State and federal pandemic relief grant and loan applications. Interested applicants are encouraged to contact their respective TA partner.

Provide link to application page with more info.

STATEWIDE

THE CAYEMITTE GROUP
29 South Chestnut Street, Suite 201
New Paltz, NY 12561

NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY MINORITY SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.
65 West 36th Street, Suite 702
New York, NY 10018

NEW YORK SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
State University of New York
H. Carl McCall SUNY Building
NEW YORK TRI-STATE CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINORITY CONTRACTORS
58-09 28th Avenue
Woodside, NY 11377

PURSUIT
50 Beaver Street
Albany, NY 12207

CAPITAL REGION

ALBANY SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
University at Albany
6 Executive Park Drive, Entrance B
Albany, NY 12203
Email: kbaker@albany.edu

CAPITAL CHAMBER FOUNDATION, INC.
Capital Region Entrepreneurial Boot Camp
Five Computer Drive South
Albany, NY 12205

CENTRAL NY REGION

CENTERSTATE CORPORATION FOR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
115 W. Fayette Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

ONONDAGA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Onondaga Community College
4926 Onondaga Road, Mulroy Hall
Syracuse, NY 13215-4585

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
South Side Innovation Center
2610 South Salina Street
Syracuse, NY 13205

FINGER LAKES

BROCKPORT SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
College of Brockport
350 New Campus Drive, Hartwell 101
Brockport, NY 14420
Email: sbdc@brockport.edu
IBERO-AMERICAN ACTION LEAGUE, INC.- FINGER LAKES
122 N Genesee Street
Geneva, NY 14456

URBAN LEAGUE OF ROCHESTER, NY, INC.
265 North Clinton Avenue
Rochester, NY 14605-1857

LONG ISLAND REGION
EXCELSIOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
151 Hempstead Turnpike, 2nd Floor
West Hempstead, NY 11552

FARMINGDALE SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
2350 Broadhollow RD
Campus Commons
Farmingdale, NY 11735-1006
Email: sbdc@farmingdale.edu

HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY
Oak Street Center, Room 107-B
255 Hofstra University
Hempstead, NY 11549

STONY BROOK SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Stony Brook University
Research & Development Park
Stony Brook, NY 11794-6016
Email: sbdc@stonybrook.edu

SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE – GRANT CAMPUS
Sally Ann Slacke Building
1001 Crooked Hill Road
Brentwood, NY 11717

MID-HUDSON REGION
MID-HUDSON SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
SUNY Ulster Kingston Center
94 Mary’s Avenue
Kingston, NY 12401
Email: sbdc@sunyulster.edu

ROCKLAND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Rockland Community College  
145 College Road, Brucker Hall  
Suffern, NY 10901-3699  
Email: tmorley@sunyrockland.edu

WOMEN’S ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT CENTER INC.  
901 North Broadway, Suite 23  
White Plains, NY 10603

WOMEN’S ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT CENTER  
Ulster and Putnam County, Inc.  
3 Neptune Road, Suite A21  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

MOHAWK VALLEY REGION  
BUSINESS TRAINING INSTITUTE, INC.  
The Radisson Centre  
200 Genesee Street  
Utica, NY 13502

MOHAWK VALLEY SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER  
Mohawk Valley Community College  
326 Broad Street  
Utica, NY 13501  
Email: sbdc@mvcc.edu

NORTH COUNTRY REGION  
ADIRONDACK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (AEDC)  
67 Main Street, Suite 300  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983

CANTON SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER  
SUNY Canton  
34 Cornell Drive, French Hall  
Canton, NY 13617-1098  
Email: sbdc@canton.edu

PLATTSBURGH-NORTH COUNTRY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
PO Box 310, 7061 Route 9  
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

WATERTOWN SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER  
Jefferson Community College  
1220 Coffeen Street  
Watertown, NY 13601-1897  
Email: sbdc@sunyjefferson.edu
NEW YORK CITY REGION

ARTS BUSINESS COLLABORATIVE, INC.
31-00 47th Avenue, Suite 3100
Long Island City, NY 11101

ASIAN AMERICAN FEDERATION
120 Wall Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10005

BEDFORD STUYVESANT RESTORATION CORPORATION
1368 Fulton Street
Brooklyn, NY 11216

BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF NEW YORK CITY, INC.
99 Wall Street
New York City, NY 10005

BRIDGE STREET DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
460 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11216

BRONX SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Lehman College Campus
250 Bedford Park Blvd., West
Bronx, NY 10468

BROOKLYN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
335 Adams Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201

BROOKLYN NAVY YARD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
141 Flushing Avenue, Ste. 801
Brooklyn, NY 11205

BROOKLYN SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
NYC College of Technology
25 Chapel Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201

BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK, INC.
96-11 40th Road
Corona, NY 11368

CAMBA, INC.
2244 Church Avenue, 4th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11226
CHINATOWN MANPOWER PROJECT/BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER
70 Mulberry Street, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10013

COLUMBIA-HARLEM SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Interchurch Center
475 Riverside Drive, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10115-6902

EVERGREEN EXCHANGE
2 Kingsland Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11211

FARMERS BOULEVARD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
111-29 Farmers Boulevard
St. Albans, NY 11412

GREATER JAMAICA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
9004 161 Street
Jamaica, NY 11432

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF EAST NEW YORK
80 Jamaica Avenue, 3rd Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11207

MIDTOWN MANHATTAN SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Baruch College, Field Center
55 Lexington Avenue, Room 2-140
New York, NY 10010

MANHATTAN SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Pace University
163 William Street, Room 328
New York, NY 10038

MANHATTAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
575 Fifth Avenue, 14th Floor
New York, NY 10017

NEW YORK WOMEN’S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
1524 Amsterdam Avenue
New York, NY 10031

QUEENS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
120-55 Queens Blvd., Suite 309
Kew Gardens, NY 11424-1015

QUEENS-LAGUARDIA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
LaGuardia Community College
30-20 Thomson Avenue
Long Island City, NY 11101

QUEENS-YORK SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
City University of New York
York College, 94-50 159th Street
Jamaica, NY 11451

RENAISSANCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
2 Allen Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10002

START SMALL. THINK BIG., INC.
511 Avenue of the Americas, #4151
New York, NY 10011

STATEN ISLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION, INC.
PO Box 41277
Staten Island, NY 10304

STATEN ISLAND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
College of Staten Island
2800 Victory Blvd., Building 3A, Room 105
Staten Island, NY 10314-9806

TRUFUND FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.
39 West 37 Street
New York, NY 10018

WASHINGTON HEIGHTS – INWOOD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
611 W. 177th Street, Lower Level
New York, NY 10033

WOMEN’S HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
50 East 168th Street
Bronx, NY 10452

WOMEN’S VENTURE FUND
50 Broadway, 29th Floor
New York, NY 10004

WORLDCAST LIVE, INC.
53 Bridge St., Suite 508
Brooklyn, NY 11201

SOUTHERN TIER REGION

CORTLAND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
83 Main Street
PO Box 427
Cortland, NY 13045

BINGHAMTON LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
SUNY Broome Community College
Continuing Education-Entrepreneurship Assistance Center
120 Hawley Street, 3rd Floor, Rm 306
Binghamton, NY 13901
BINGHAMTON SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Binghamton University
120 Hawley Street
Binghamton, NY 13901
Email: sbdc@binghamton.edu

WESTERN NY REGION

ACCORD CORPORATION
84 Schuyler Street
PO Box 573
Belmont, NY 14813

BUFFALO SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Buffalo State College
1300 Elmwood Avenue, GC206
Buffalo, NY 14222-4222
Email: smallbus@buffalostate.edu

IBERO-AMERICAN ACTION LEAGUE, INC. – BUFFALO
327 Niagara Street, Suite 10
Buffalo, NY 14201

JAMESTOWN SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Jamestown Community College
525 Falconer Street
Jamestown, NY 14702-0020
Email: SBDC@mail.sunyjcc.edu

NIAGARA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Niagara County Community College
3111 Saunders Settlement Road
Sanborn, NY 14132
Email: sbdc@niagaracc.suny.edu