

Due to the overwhelming response to Round 1 of the Small Business Grant Program allocated by the Brown County Board of Commissioners in October. The Board of Commissioners will proceed with Round 2 of the Small Business Grant to further assist small businesses afflicted by COVID-19. Allocating \$250,000 to be distributed to small business applicants in grant amounts up to \$10,000 each.

Again the Commissioners will apply CARES ACT Funds received by Brown County as a sub-recipient of the State of Ohio, to assist small businesses, recognizing that these businesses provide the foundation for our local economy and jobs in our hometowns.

The intent of the grant is to help small businesses who financially suffered due to COVID-19. Meaning they were interrupted by the required shut down, voluntarily closed to promote social distancing or were financially impacted by limited customer demand as a result of the pandemic. The Commissioners see the burden and hope to give back.

Candidates should complete a grant application and can submit from November 18th through November 30th.

To qualify for the grant program, businesses must:

Be locally owned and located in Brown County

Have fewer than 25 employees and gross annual revenue less than \$1 million

Have a physical presence and/or have reported in the most recent filed tax return as having an allowable home office

Be current on all state, federal and local taxes

Be in compliance with the State of Ohio small business requirements

Suffered a negative financial impact due to COVID-19 when comparing FY 2019 and FY 2020.

Small businesses meeting the criteria should submit a letter of interest to sbeath@browncountyohio.gov for further instructions regarding application.