



JO DAVIESS COUNTY BOARD

**330 North Bench Street
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PRESS RELEASE

Friday, June 26, 2020

Jo Daviess County Small Business Stabilization Grant Program

The Jo Daviess County Board has extended the Jo Daviess County Small Business Stabilization Grant Program (SBSG). Applications for round three of the SBSG Program will be accepted until Friday, July 10, 2020 @ 4:00 pm.

The purpose of the \$250,000 SBSG program is to help small businesses deemed “non-essential” pursuant to Governor Pritzker’s “Stay at Home” executive order, that are located within Jo Daviess County, to remain viable during and following the COVID-19 pandemic. On May 20, 2020 the Jo Daviess County Board awarded grants to 23 Jo Daviess County small businesses totaling \$40,214. On June 25, 2020 the Jo Daviess County Board awarded grants to 14 Jo Daviess County small businesses totaling \$18,108.

The program is intended to help “non-essential” small businesses in Jo Daviess County pay expenses not covered by the federal governments “Paycheck Protection Program” or other sources of State or Federal COVID-19 relief funding. The maximum award a business can receive is \$5,000 for one-month of qualifying expenses. The Jo Daviess County Board has authorized funding of this grant program through the Economic Development Investment Fund of the County.

The County believes small, “non-essential” businesses are, in fact, an essential part of our business and culture community and realizes the significant impact COVID-19 has had on them. Many of our small “non-essential” businesses have been left out of financial options and they are our most vulnerable businesses and in need of financial assistance.

On June 25, 2020, the Jo Daviess County Board amended the eligibility requirements for the SBSG Program to include: If a business qualifies for the federal “Paycheck Protection Program,” the business owner must have applied for a loan under the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), been denied in writing or received less than \$5,000 in PPP funds. The County Board also extended the SBSG Program for a round three with a revised application process beginning on Friday, June 19, 2020 and applications due by 4 p.m. on Friday, July 10, 2020.

To be eligible for the SBSG program, a business (profit or non-profit) must meet certain criteria including:

- Must be deemed a “non-essential” business under the “Stay at Home” order or a restaurant that is now limited to serving food for consumption off-premises, Bed & Breakfast, home based salon & spa/barbershop;
- Must operate out of a brick-and-mortar location with the exception of Bed & Breakfast, home based salon & spa/barbershop, home based daycare and the business is not able to pay rent, mortgage or utilities;
- Must meet the definition of small business defined as a business who employs less than 12 full-time employees or the equivalent weekly hours of 12 full-time employees;

Scott Toot
County Board Chair

Steve Allendorf
Vice-Chair

Dan Reimer
County Administrator



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- Must be legally capable of entering into a binding contract;
 - Must remain open for one-year following the grant award,
 - If a business qualifies for the federal "Paycheck Protection Program," the business owner must have applied for a loan under the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), been denied in writing or received less than \$5,000 in PPP funds.
 - Any "non-essential" business that has applied for the federal "Paycheck Protection Program" and has not yet received notice of award is eligible to apply for the SBSG program. If applicant is awarded funding through the federal "Paycheck Protection Program", any SBSG grant funds received from Jo Daviess County must be repaid.
 - The Grant Committee will consider, in appropriate cases, the applications of businesses for which the Paycheck Protection Program is impractical or in the event of the illiquidity or termination of the Paycheck Protection Program. Such businesses are encouraged to contact the Planning & Development Department or Northwest Illinois Economic Development prior to applying.

Applications for round three of the Jo Daviess County SBSG Program will be accepted beginning June 19, 2020. For Consideration applications must be received by Friday, July 10, 2020 @ 4:00 pm.

For further information and technical instructions please contact Eric Tison, JDC Planning & Development Administrator; etison@jodaviess.org or Emily Legel, Executive Director NWILED; elegel@nwiled.org Grant applications are available on the JDC website: www.jodaviess.org/covid19

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