

**Aurora Economic Recovery Grant Program**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**  
**June 9, 2020**

**What is the Aurora Economic Recovery Grant Program?**

The city of Aurora is launching the Aurora Economic Recovery Grant Program to provide \$6 million in CARES Relief Funds provided from Adams and Arapahoe counties to provide economic assistance in the form of grants to businesses and nonprofits in Aurora during the COVID-19 outbreak and economic downturn.

**What is the goal of the program?**

The funds are designed to target small and mid-sized businesses and nonprofits that demonstrate financial stress or disrupted operations due to the public health crisis. The goal is to provide assistance to businesses and nonprofits that are trying to reopen and/or modify their business plans or facilities to serve customers in a safe way.

**What kind of help is available?**

Applicants may apply for a grant up to \$15,000.

**Who may apply?**

Eligible businesses must be located within the city of Aurora, established prior to Jan. 1, 2020, have generated less than \$5 million in gross revenue in 2019, have 100 or fewer employees, have an Aurora business license, be in good standing, and meet one of the following requirements, which is 50% of the business owned by an Aurora resident, 50% of the gross receipts originate in Aurora or 50% of employees are Aurora residents.

Eligible nonprofits must have a headquarters or main office in Aurora, be registered with the Colorado Secretary of State as a nonprofit, have an Aurora business license, demonstrate that programs target those impacted by COVID-19 and new public health guidelines, have an IRS Form 990 from 2018 or 2019, and are not a national or global organization that offers substantial services outside of the Aurora-Denver metropolitan region.

**When can I apply?**

The application process will open June 15 at [AuroraGov.org/AER](http://AuroraGov.org/AER). The application deadline is 11:59 p.m. June 22.

**If I meet the minimum qualifications, will I automatically qualify for funding?**

No. There is a limited amount of funding available and this is a competitive program, so additional factors will be evaluated such as the extent of time the business was closed or limited in its operations and how much, if any, funding the business has received through other grant or loan programs.

**If I meet the minimum qualifications, what additional documents will I be required to supply?**

The grant funds will be issued as a reimbursement for specific eligible activities that are outlined within the application and allow the business to operate safely and in accordance with State and Tri-County Health guidelines. Businesses and non-profits should be prepared to submit documents that demonstrate the cost/expenditure of funds for eligible items such as PPE, touchless payment systems, inventories and supplies, or other infrastructure items.

If operating expenses (i.e., rent or utilities) are requested and other funding (PPP, EIDL) has been received, documentation should be provided (such as invoices or receipts) to demonstrate that grant funds do not duplicate activities for which other funds were expended.

**How may I use the grant funds?**

Grant funds may be used for inventory, utilities, personal protective equipment, funds for additional or new infrastructure related to COVID-19 and touchless payment systems, among other things. Grant funds will be provided on a reimbursement basis with appropriate documentation.

**If I applied for the previous Aurora Economic Relief Loan and Grant Program or have applied for federal assistance, may I apply for this program?**

Yes, but grant funding for this program may not duplicate needs funded by other programs or grants received by the business/nonprofit. Applicants must acknowledge in the application all other funding received and how that funding is being used.

**What if I have questions?**

Email us at [AER@auroragov.org](mailto:AER@auroragov.org). Several pre-application webinars will be scheduled in both English and Spanish. To sign up, visit [AuroraGov.org/AER](http://AuroraGov.org/AER) and click on the link to the Aurora-South Metro Small Business Development Center website.