

Small Business Recovery Grant Program



Southeast Texas was significantly impacted in 2020 by the COVID-19 pandemic as well as Hurricanes Laura and Delta. On March 19, 2020, Dr. John Hellerstedt, commissioner of DSHS, declared a public health disaster in Texas, because COVID-19 “has created an immediate threat, poses a high risk of death to a large number of people, and creates a substantial risk of public exposure because of the disease’s method of transmission and evidence that there is community spread in Texas.” On August 27th, Hurricane Laura made landfall causing significant property damage and economic loss. Six weeks later, Hurricane Delta impacted Orange County and further contributed to the economic disorder. In an effort to assist local small businesses recover from a difficult year, the Orange County Economic Development Corporation, with generous support from Dow Sabine River Operations, will take applications for \$1000 recovery grants. \$45,000 has been designated for this purpose.

Funds will be distributed to approved for-profit businesses throughout Orange County on a first come basis. Applications may be submitted **BEGINNING January 19, 2021, at 12:00pm** in the Orange County EDC office located at 123 S. 6th Street, Orange through January 22, 2021 at 5:00pm. Applications will be time stamped when received COMPLETE. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Applications must be submitted IN PERSON and individuals may only submit ONE application. Applications will be reviewed for eligibility in the order they are received, and recipients will be notified. The Orange County Economic Development Corporation will administer all evaluation and allocation responsibilities.

APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT
WWW.ORANGECOUNTYEDC.COM
or 123 S 6TH STREET, ORANGE

The following criteria will be used to determine eligibility of funds:

- For profit business physically located in Orange County, Texas
- Must collect sales tax and be in good standing with the Texas State Comptroller.
- Business must have been operational prior to March 1, 2020
- Business must have sustained documented physical or economic loss as a result of COVID-19, Hurricane Laura or Hurricane Delta
- Fewer than 10 employees (part-time are counted as ½)
- Be in good standing and not indebted to Orange County, Texas or its municipalities or authorities
- Must have followed Federal, State and Local business operations requirements and procedures related to COVID-19.

Approved funds may be used for

- Replacement of essential equipment
- Inventory loss
- Payroll or working capital
- Site improvements
- Insurance deductible
- Rent or mortgage payments
- Employee support (salaries, insurance, paid leave, etc.)
- Utilities
- Supply purchases to offer alternative business access

- Purchase of personal protective equipment for employees and/or customers

Ineligible use of funds

- Improvements of any kind, including repairs, renovations, additions and new construction, or other associated costs to residential real estate used as the business' office or administration (including any home-based business)

Applicant businesses will be required to provide the following information

- COMPLETE application
- Copy of owner's driver's license
- Proof of business ownership (Secretary of State filing, property tax record, business tax return)
- Most recent sales tax report
- Form W9

Orange County EDC reserves the right to request additional information to determine eligibility. Incomplete applications WILL NOT be time stamped or considered accepted until submitted with all necessary documentation.

A visual inspection will be documented for each applicant business once the application has been verified. Approved applicants will be notified on or before January 29, 2021.

Please direct all inquiries to:
Jessica Hill, CEcD
Executive Director
409.833.7770 | 409.540.9338
jhill@orangecountyedc.com

2020 Small Business Recovery Grant Application

Personal Information

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Cell:

Current address:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

Business Information

Business Name:

DBA:

Tax Id No.:

Owner's Name:

How long in Business?

Phone:

E-mail:

Physical Street Address:

City:

State, Zip Code:

County:

Mailing Address (if different):

City:

State, Zip Code:

Secretary of State #:

Have you filed bankruptcy or had a judgement in excess of \$5000 in the past five years?

YES _____ NO _____

How many full-time employees did the business have on March 1, 2020? _____

Part-Time _____

How many full-time employees do you have as of application date? _____

Part-Time _____

Was your business impacted by _____ COVID-19 _____ Hurricane Laura _____ Hurricane Delta

What were the impacts to your business from COVID-19 between March 25, 2020 and November 1, 2020 Please only choose one.

_____ Temp Closure _____ Partial Closure/Reduced Hours/Econ. Loss
 _____ Remained Open/Considered Essential _____ None

Was your business required to close for COVID-19 due to local, state or federal declaration?

YES _____ NO _____

As of the date of this application, is your business open?

YES _____ NO _____

Please detail the impact to your business due to COVID-19.

What were the impacts to your business as a result of Hurricane Laura

_____ Building Damage _____ Economic Loss _____ None

Please detail the impact to your business due to Hurricane Laura.

What were the impacts to your business as a result of Hurricane Delta?		<input type="checkbox"/> Building Damage	<input type="checkbox"/> Economic Loss	<input type="checkbox"/> None
Please detail the impact to your business due to Hurricane Delta:				
Describe the impact your business has on the community:				
Please indicate how your business will utilize the grant funding:				
I, the undersigned, state and affirm that all of the above statements and information are true and correct. I further understand that knowingly misrepresenting any information in my application may result in legal action and the repayment of funds administered to the applicant business.				
Signature of Applicant:			Date:	

COMPLETE APPLICATIONS MUST INCLUDE

- Signed Application
- Copy of owner's driver's license
- Proof of business ownership (see guidelines)
- Most recent sales tax report
- Form W9