



Maricopa County Small Business/Nonprofit Relief Grants – Frequently Asked Questions

What are Small Business/Nonprofit Relief Grants?

Maricopa County is offering grants up to \$25,000 to small businesses and nonprofits experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Relief grants are intended to support the continued viability of small businesses and nonprofits across the Valley.

How much funding is available for Small Business/Nonprofit Relief Grants?

\$22.5 million is available for Small Business/Nonprofit Relief Grants.

Who can qualify for a grant?

- ✓ In operation in Maricopa County, but not within the cities of Phoenix or Mesa, prior to January 1, 2019.
- ✓ Employs 50 or fewer full-time equivalents as of March 1, 2020.
- ✓ Did not generate more than \$5 million in gross revenues between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019.
- ✓ Gross revenues declined by at least 25% as a result of COVID-19 from March through June 2020 as compared to March through June 2019.
- ✓ Meets required zoning and regulatory requirements including:
 - Having the proper zoning entitlements.
 - Not having any active enforcement actions against the applicant by Maricopa County or their respective city/town government.
 - Being in substantial compliance, meaning that the County or respective city/town has not taken any enforcement action authorized by law for any deficiencies.
 - Is in good standing with the Arizona Corporation Commission.
- ✓ Complies with the following provisions:
 - Not an adult-oriented business as defined by A.R.S. § 11-811 (E)(5).
 - Not engaged in the growth, harvest, storage, transport, distribution, use or otherwise providing cannabis for medical or recreational purposes.
 - Not owned, in whole or part, by a Maricopa County official or employee who, in their official capacity, participates in the oversight, development or implementation of the Maricopa County Small Business/Nonprofit Relief Program.

What is the source of funds for these grants?

A portion of Maricopa County's federal CARES Act funding has been allocated to aid small businesses and nonprofits financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic through this program.

Why don't small businesses and nonprofits located in Mesa and Phoenix qualify for these grants?

Mesa and Phoenix municipal governments received CARES Act funding directly from the federal government and have established similar programs to support entities in those communities.

Do the grants need to be paid back?

No, but any grant funds, and any income earned on those funds, that are not spent or committed for the purposes of the grant, must be returned to the Foundation by October 31, 2020.

What is the application review and decision-making process?

The Arizona Community Foundation will review applications to confirm eligibility. The Foundation will review applications on a rolling basis and notify applicants of the status of their application within **two** business days of receipt.

When will the application be available?

The online application will be available on the morning of Monday, August 17, 2020, at azfoundation.org/maricoparelief in both English and Spanish.

Is there a deadline to apply?

The deadline to apply is Friday, October 2, 2020. Grants will be awarded on a rolling basis based on date of submission until funding is exhausted or the grant period closes.

When can my small business or nonprofit expect to receive funds if awarded?

Grant payments will be issued by check within 15 business days of the award notification to the recipient. Recipients will receive communications via email through the online application portal at azfoundation.org/maricoparelief.

Will all qualified applicants receive a \$25,000 grant?

Eligible small businesses and nonprofits qualified to receive grants will receive amounts up to \$25,000. Awards will be calculated based on applicant's actual loss as determined by gross revenues decline in March through June 2020 as compared to March through June 2019.

What if I have more questions?

Applicants may contact the Arizona Community Foundation at MaricopaRelief@azfoundation.org for additional assistance.