

WarmupWarrenton

COVID-19 Small Business Grant Program



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The Town of Warrenton recognizes the vital importance of our local small businesses to the economy and recognizes the urgency of responding to the negative impact caused by the pandemic. The Town has established this grant program to help small and local businesses meet the challenges imposed by COVID during the difficult winter months.

Funds may be used for physical or technological improvements related to safe business operations serving the public in response to COVID. Funds may be used for new expenses or to reimburse eligible expenses undertaken between the period July 1, 2020 to March 1, 2021. There will be a cap on the amount a grantee may receive based on the number of grant applicants, the size of the business, and the number of employees.

First-round applications are due no later than Tuesday, December 23, 2020 at midnight.

The initial program fund has \$240,000, with grants awarded up to \$10,000 per business. Grantees will be notified of grant awards no later than January 4, 2021. The Town will continue to receive Second Round applications on a rolling basis through March 15, 2021. The committee will review applications as needed until March 31, 2021, or until grant funds are exhausted.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

1. Located within the Town limits and in good standing with the Town;
2. Have a physical storefront in the Town and have one or more full-time equivalent employees in addition to the owner;
3. A locally owned for-profit, non-franchised business in the retail, restaurant, or the hospitality sector;
4. Established and operating prior to January 1, 2020;
5. Open for business or will re-open (in person or online) before January 1, 2021.

ACCEPTABLE USES OF GRANT FUNDS

1. Professional services and technology to facilitate e-commerce and or virtual business operations;
2. Touchless transactions;
3. Professional services related to design and construction/alteration of the built environment necessary to promote physical and social distancing, as well as the actual costs for alterations;
4. Tenting, heating, and other methods of providing winter outdoor service;
5. Expenses related to expanded outdoor service (gas, electric, communication);
6. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE);
7. Other technology and supplies to promote health and safety.

Grant funds cannot be used for Town/state taxes, public utility payments (Town water and sewer, e.g.), or ongoing payroll and business expenses not related to COVID response.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL STAFF@WARRENTONVA.GOV



PATH FOUNDATION



The Fauquier Bank



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Am I eligible to apply if I am an operator that lives outside of Warrenton, but my business is located in Warrenton?

A: Yes. All independent and locally-owned businesses may apply. Non-local franchises are ineligible.

Q: How can the Warm-up Warrenton Winterization Grant Funds be used?

A: Prior to funds being disbursed, the applicant must submit a budget of planned expenses for review and approval. Warm-up Warrenton Grant Funds can be used to purchase, but not limited to:

- Tents (rental or purchased)
- Heaters
- Propane
- Outdoor space operational costs
- Lighting
- Furniture
- Advertising & marketing of the business

Q: What information will I need to provide in order to apply for the Warm-up Warrenton Winterization Grant?

A: Applicants must submit a valid Town Business License, and be in good standing on taxes, utilities, and any additional active permit.

Q: Will I need to report my expenditures?

A: Yes. Funds must be spent and an expenditure report must be submitted by April 30, 2021. The expenditure report must include support documentation for actuals, including, but not limited to receipts, and paid invoices for all direct and indirect costs. Quotes will not be considered sufficient as proof of purchase.

Q: I purchased material and/or supplies for my outdoor space prior to the Warm-up Warrenton Winterization Grant Program. Am I eligible for reimbursement if proof of purchase is provided?

A: Yes. Prior expenditures to meet the program criteria can be reimbursed if all sufficient documentation is provided.

Q: When will the funds be released?

A: The disbursement of funds will begin no later than January 31, 2020 for first round applications. Second round disbursements will be on a rolling basis until March 31, 2021 or until grant funds are exhausted.

Q: Who can I contact if I have further questions?

A: Please submit additional questions by emailing staff@warrentonva.gov

