

Applications open December 1st, 2020

COVID Relief for Small Businesses

Let us help you get your business on the road to recovery. Learn how your business could benefit from available funds as a result of the CARES Act.

Program Overview

As a result of the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the Greater Nashville Regional Council has been awarded over \$2.4 million by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) to help capitalize new loans to help provide relief to small businesses that have suffered economic injury due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The **COVID-19 Recovery Loan** is part of the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Program which provides low-cost, flexible financing options to help qualified businesses get back on the road to success.

General Loan Information

- Maximum loan size is \$250,000.
- No interest during first two years of loan term.
- Loan terms based on project type.
- No origination or processing fees.

Who can apply?

Existing small businesses located in at least one of the following counties: Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, Robertson, Rutherford, Stewart, Sumner, Trousdale, Williamson, Wilson*

What are the requirements?

Eligible small businesses must demonstrate economic loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic, meet minimum credit criteria, and have sufficient collateral. For more information visit www.gnrc.org/recoveryloans

What types of projects are eligible?

- Acquisition of owner-occupied building, office, condo, or land
- Construction or rehabilitation of facilities
- Site improvements; Infrastructure or Utilities
- Machinery or Equipment Purchase
- Training (specific to business's COVID-19 recovery plan)
- Working Capital

How to apply?

Find out if you pre-qualify at www.gnrc.org/recoveryloans. If your business qualifies, you will receive instructions for completing the application process. Once you submit your application, one of our credit analysts will review your information and reach out to you to with the next steps.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is the COVID-19 Recovery Loan forgivable?

No, the loans provided to small businesses through this particular Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) program are not forgivable.

Can my business apply if it received an SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) or SBA Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan or any other federal, state, or local assistance to address business needs resulting from the pandemic?

Yes, receipt of an SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan or SBA Paycheck Protection Program loan or any other public assistance does not impact eligibility provided those loans are in good standing and RLF funds are not used for identical expenses or to make payments on or refinance existing loans.

Are the loans only for businesses?

Yes. The COVID-19 Recovery Loan Program is only open to existing for-profit small businesses as defined by the Small Business Administration, and the business must be located within the thirteen county GNRC lending area.

Are start-ups eligible?

No, COVID-19 Recovery Loans are only for existing businesses that had revenue at least for the full year prior to the initial COVID-19 emergency declaration on March 22, 2020. GNRC does offer other loan programs that assist start-up businesses acquire fixed assets such as equipment and commercial real estate. For information on other programs, please visit www.gnrc.org/212/Small-Business-Lending

Why is GNRC targeting certain industries and demographic groups?

All eligible small businesses in Middle Tennessee are encouraged to apply. The industries and business sectors targeted experienced significant disruptions from COVID-19 related closures and cancellations.

Does GNRC require collateral?

Loans will be collateralized with business assets potentially including real estate. GNRC also requires personal guarantees.

Are the payments fixed for the life of the loan?

GNRC is offering loans with zero interest for the first 24-months. The monthly payment will increase after two years because it will include both principal and interest.

May a business use the loan to refinance or consolidate other debt?

No, the proceeds may not be used to refinance or make payments on existing debt.

Who do I contact if I have a question or want to apply?

Information on the loan program including and eligibility screening tool and application are available at www.gnrc.org/recoveryloans. You may also email questions to contactus@gnrc.org.