



Small Business Funding Update

Rural Relief Small Business Grants and Rural Business Development Grants

Local Initiatives Support Corporation Rural Relief Small Business Grants

The [Local Initiatives Support Corporation \(LISC\)](#) is offering [Rural Relief Small Business Grants](#) for up to \$20,000. Grants support small businesses and enterprises affected by COVID-19 across the country, especially those in underserved communities, including entrepreneurs of color, women- and veteran-owned businesses that often lack access to flexible, affordable capital. Applications are being accepted in “rounds” and you must submit a new application for each round in order to be considered for funding in that round. The next application round runs January 26 through February 2. Click [here](#) to learn more and apply.

LISC

USDA Rural Development Rural Business Development Grants

RBDG is a competitive grant designed to support targeted technical assistance, training, and other activities leading to the development or expansion of small and emerging private businesses in rural areas that have fewer than 50 employees and less than \$1 million in gross revenues. Programmatic activities are separated into enterprise or opportunity type grant activities.



Committed to the future of rural communities.

There is no maximum grant amount for enterprise or opportunity type grants; however, smaller requests are given higher priority. Generally, grants range from \$10,000 up to \$500,000. There is no cost sharing requirement. Total opportunity type grant funding is limited statutorily to up to 10% of the total RBDG annual funding.

Rural public entities including, but not limited to: towns, communities, state agencies, authorities, nonprofit corporations, institutions of higher education, federally recognized Tribes, rural cooperatives are eligible for grant funds.

RBDG funds must be directed for projects benefitting rural areas or towns outside the urbanized periphery of any city with a population of 50,000 or more. [Check eligible areas here.](#)

Full program guidance can be found on the [RD Website](#).

Applications are accepted through USDA Rural Development’s local or State offices once per year. [Find your local RD office here.](#)