

Los Angeles County Employer Assistance Grant Fund Webinar

Hosted by the Los Angeles County Workforce Development,
Aging and Community Services (WDACS)

April 7, 2020 at 1:30 PM PST



Webinar Agenda

- Brief Overview of WDACS and REDF
- Employer Assistance Grant Fund Overview
- Eligible Business Applicants
- Supporting Documents
- Eligible Uses of Grant Funds
- Award Considerations
- Grantee Requirements
- Conclusion

Brief Overview of WDACS

Services for Job Seekers

- ▶ Transforming Individuals with Barriers to Employment
- ▶ Pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs
- ▶ Job Training through America's Job Centers of CA (AJCC)
- ▶ Preparing Next Generation Workforce

Services for Businesses

- ▶ Business Advisory Services (Business Needs Assessments, Labor Market Information etc.)
- ▶ Recruitment and Hiring Services (Targeted Recruitments, Tax Credits etc.)
- ▶ Workforce Training (On-the-Job Training, Customized Training etc.)
- ▶ Rapid Response & Layoff Aversion

Brief Overview of REDF

- ▶ The Roberts Enterprise Development Fund (REDF) is distinctive as the only philanthropy in the United States to invest in high impact SEs that employ and empower people overcoming significant barriers to employment.
- ▶ Since 1997, REDF has invested in 183 social enterprises in 26 states. We provide grants, advisory services, and loans to propel the growth and effectiveness of these mission-driven businesses so that more people striving to improve their lives have the jobs and support they need to succeed.
- ▶ **REDF is partnering with WDACS to administer the Employer Assistance Grant Fund**

Employer Assistance Grant Fund Overview

Overview of the Grant Fund

- March 4, 2020, California Governor Newsom announced a State of Emergency across California as a result of COVID-19.
- WDACS applied for and received Additional Assistance funding from the State of California Employment Development Department (EDD) to assist our local workers and businesses during the COVID-19 crisis.
- WDACS will use a portion of the funds to provide grants to **qualified businesses** within LA County that demonstrate **significant economic hardship** as a result of COVID-19 in order to help them retain workers and remain in business during these challenging times.

Overview of the Grant Fund

- **Grant Fund Total** = \$500,000 dollars
 - Note: Approximately 25% of awards are reserved for social enterprises that demonstrate a need and ability to serve vulnerable populations.
- **Grant Award Amount** = Up to \$10,000, based on demonstrated need.

Eligible Business Applicants

Applicant Eligibility

- **For-profit corporation, partnership, or non-profit with a for-profit** activity in Los Angeles County.
Note: Social enterprises and non-profit (501(c)3) firms qualify.
- Have between **2 and 50 full-time employees**.
 - ▶ For applicants that serve high barrier and/or vulnerable populations, the employee cap excludes such transitional employees.
- **Less than \$2,000,000** in gross receipts or annual revenue.
- Have been established **at least one quarter prior to March 4, 2020** (On or before December 4, 2019).
- Demonstrate **significant economic hardship** as a result of COVID-19.

Significant Economic Hardship

- Businesses that have demonstrated evidence of a loss of revenue of 20% will have met the burden of demonstrating significant economic hardship.

Additional Documents to Support Significant Economic Hardship

Required application documents:

- Financial and/or organizational documentation that supports demonstration of significant economic hardship as a result of the COVID-19

Examples include at least one of the following:

- 20% loss in revenue since March 4, 2020 compared to the average monthly revenue for the previous 6 months. Reduction in revenue must be related to the COVID-19 crisis.
- Prohibitive costs that need to be covered because of any level of revenue reduction associated with the impact of the COVID-19 virus.
- Prohibitive costs related to COVID-19 prevention measures.
- Other circumstances subject to review on a case by case basis.

Required Application Documents

➤ As part of a company’s application for the grant they must submit a budget sheet

Los Angeles County COVID-19 Employer Assistance Grant Fund Budget Form		
Employer Name:		
Contact Name:		
Contact Email:		
Performance Period:		
LINE ITEMS	BUDGET	Provide a detailed explanation and the basis for the budget amount requested in Column B
GRAND TOTAL	\$ -	
NOTES		

Required Application Documents

- Year-end 2019 financial statement and the most recent interim statement (if available).

Eligible Uses of Grant Funds

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Funds may be used for the following:

- Rent/Mortgage payments
- Inventory
- Utility expenses
- Payables incurred before the covered period
- Social Enterprise Client Support Services, if applicable
- Other operational costs, as needed

Examples of Eligible Uses of Fund

- Costs to support operations, such as rent, mortgage and utilities or other ordinary business expenses
- Purchasing cleaning/sanitization supplies and/or services that will allow a small business to maintain an onsite workforce as a result of exposure reduction through frequent deep cleaning
- The purchase of software/programs that employees would need to use from home to support their work.
- The purchase of remote access supplies, including laptop computers and/or smart phones, which the employees would need to use from home to support their work.
- Innovative expenses to remain in business.

Unallowable uses of funds

- Funds cannot be used for employee payroll and fringe costs, other employee support costs (i.e., childcare), transportation, lodging or meals expenses, outstanding tax liens, legal judgements or lobbying activities.

Award Considerations

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- Economic Impacts of COVID-19
- Analysis of the best use of funding
- Number of employees impacted
- Number of layoffs averted by funding
- Amount of revenue generated and/or retained by funding
- Analysis of other leveraged funding sources

Grantee Requirements

- Compliance with the grant will be monitored for 3 years
- Participating companies must submit Statement of Expenditures within 6 months of eligible expenditures. This will be streamlined as to not place an undue burden on a business
- Awarded businesses must retain Los Angeles County Employer Assistance Grant Program records for at least three years following the final expenditure, or until any related litigation is complete.
- The Department of Labor (DOL) or Economic Development Department (EDD) may contact grantees as part of monitoring additional assistance funds

Conclusion

➤ Application Timeline

- The application portal will open on Thursday, April 9, 2020, at 8:00 AM.
- As funds are limited, the first round of applications will be processed on a first-come-first-served basis and will **close once 150 applications are received** or at 8:00 AM on Wednesday, April 15, whichever is first.
- Applicants will receive approval or decline email by April 17
- Funds scheduled to be disbursed by April 24 (contingent on timely responses from applicants for information)

Los Angeles Regional SBDC Network

LA SBDC provides no-cost business advising to small businesses.

4PM Today - Webinar on how to apply for LA County grant:

<https://zoom.us/j/4417178100>

Daily webinar on navigating SBA loan options:

<https://smallbizla.org/covid19/>

SmallBizLA.org

866-588-SBDC (7232) for English speakers

800-794-1402 for Spanish speakers



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Conclusion

- Visit [Workforce.lacounty.gov](https://www.workforce.lacounty.gov) for more information or contact us at bizdev@wdacs.lacounty.gov with any questions regarding the Employer Assistance Grant Fund
- Follow us at **@LACBizdev** for current business news and information to help your business
- For additional resources, you may contact the Los Angeles County Business and Worker Disaster Help Center at **(833) 238-4450**