



Safety Enhancement Grant: Program Overview

The Economic Development Authority (EDA) of the Town of Ashland is pleased to offer businesses located within corporate limits of the Town the opportunity to apply for a Safety Enhancement Grant. The purpose of the grant program is to assist Ashland businesses in meeting enhanced safety guidelines under the Governor's Phase I, II, and III plans for reopening the Commonwealth. While technically a program of the EDA administration will be managed by Town of Ashland staff.

Selection: Projects will be reviewed to determine if the funds requested help the business meet a specific guideline required or recommended by the State in order to re-open. See the Project Checklist at the end of this document.

Guidelines:

1. Business must be located within the Town of Ashland and current on all Town taxes, including meals and transient taxes due on or before March 16, 2020, and have a current business license as of the date of the application. The applicant may be the business owner or operator. Non-profit organizations and home-based businesses are not eligible.
2. Grants are intended to be awarded prior to the project's initiation, and it may cover the entire cost of the proposed project. Grant reviewers will respond to all complete applications within two business days. This program will exist until all funds allocated to it by the EDA are expended or the program is suspended by the EDA.
3. Projects completed between April 1, 2020, and May 15, 2020, may be eligible for reimbursement with appropriate documentation including receipts.
4. The completed application must be submitted to planning@ashlandva.gov, and approved by, the EDA's designated grant reviewer. Any changes made to the details of the application after it has been approved must be submitted *before* completion, are subject to approval, and may jeopardize the grant.

Town of Ashland Economic Development Authority
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P.O. Box 1600
Ashland, Virginia 23005

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5. The applicant will be paid upon approval of the application and processing by the Economic Development Authority.
6. Projects must comply with all local, state and federal rules. If necessary, appropriate permits must be obtained.
7. The program is not intended to fund routine operations, such as standard cleaning supplies (ie. dish soap). The program is intended to fill funding gaps in completing safety measures necessary to reopen business operations.
8. Proof of purchase must be submitted within sixty (60) days of the receipt of grant funds. An extension may be granted if the grant reviewer is contacted prior to the deadline.
9. Grants will be awarded up to \$2,000 per businesses. The EDA reserves the right to adjust the program and its funding tiers at its discretion.

Project Checklist:

Does the proposed project comply with all relevant local, state and federal rules?

Does the project address a specific State requirement for reopening under Phase I, II, or III of the Governor's guidelines?

Will the business re-open before or after receiving the grant?

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