

On-Line Sales Framework, Maryland Economic Development Assistance Authority and Fund, Department of Commerce
\$0.5 Million (T00F00.23)

Purpose: Recovery Now Funding

The Maryland Economic Development Assistance Authority and Fund, in the Department of Commerce, shall provide grants to businesses to assist the businesses in setting up an online sales framework and offering employees telework opportunities.

May 19 - Program Highlights and Plans to Allocate Remaining Balance:

- The Department of Commerce (Commerce) sent out grant agreements to the counties on March 24, 2021.
- The counties must update Commerce's online portal with grant recipients by July 31, 2021 to include the following:
 - Name, location, and FEIN of each grantee;
 - Amount of grant received by grantee;
 - Use of grant proceeds; and
 - Demographic information responses of each grantee.
- As of May 14, 2021 the following counties have signed and returned their grant agreements:
 - Allegany County;
 - Anne Arundel County;
 - Baltimore City;
 - Caroline County;
 - Carroll County;
 - Cecil County;
 - Charles County;
 - Dorchester County;
 - Frederick County;
 - Garrett County;
 - Harford County;
 - Howard County;
 - Kent County;
 - Montgomery County;
 - Prince George's County;
 - Queen Anne's County;
 - St. Mary's County;
 - Somerset County;
 - Talbot County;
 - Washington County;
 - Wicomico County; and
 - Worcester County.

- Calvert County requires the grant agreements go before the Board of Commissioners for approval at a regular meeting. The county attorney informed the Board of Commissioners that the vote must take place at a public meeting and must be advertised two weeks prior to the meeting. This pushed the review of the agreement back to May 11, 2021.
- Baltimore County has agreed to sign the grant agreement. We have sent a modified agreement to Baltimore County and are awaiting the return of the executed grant agreement.
- Commerce alerted the counties on April 1, 2021, that they will allow the use of a portion of each grant to cover *new* expenses incurred by their jurisdiction as a direct result of administering the grant programs. No more than 10% of grant funds may be used to pay for administrative costs. And the administrative costs paid from grant funds must be itemized in the final report submitted to Commerce describing the use of grant funds.
- Commerce is allowing counties to target specific industry sectors for these grants.
- Commerce began drafting amended grant agreements to send to the counties for the additional funding that has been made available for FY 2022. Although not required, Commerce will distribute the additional \$5 million by population.

May 19 - Programmatic and/or Implementation Issues:

- Ensure local jurisdictions prioritize applicants who have not received State/MEDAAF funding.
- Some of the local jurisdictions have raised concerns that the amount of the grant they have received is too small to effectively distribute to businesses.

May 19 - Distribution of Funds:

County	Population 2021	Maryland Percentage	Online Sales Funding (Recovery Now)	Returned Grant Agreements as of May 14?	Funding Distributed as of May 14?	Additional Sales Funding (Supp Budget #5)
Allegany	69,366	1.14%	\$5,718	Yes	Yes	\$57,181
Anne Arundel	586,656	9.67%	\$48,361	Yes	Yes	\$483,606
Baltimore City	575,584	9.49%	\$47,448	Yes	Yes	\$474,479
Baltimore	826,392	13.62%	\$68,123	No	No	\$681,230
Calvert	93,445	1.54%	\$7,703	No	No	\$77,031
Caroline	33,606	0.55%	\$2,770	Yes	Yes	\$27,703
Carroll	168,807	2.78%	\$13,915	Yes	Yes	\$139,155
Cecil	103,277	1.70%	\$8,514	Yes	Yes	\$85,136
Charles	166,819	2.75%	\$13,752	Yes	Yes	\$137,516
Dorchester	31,867	0.53%	\$2,627	Yes	Yes	\$26,269
Frederick	268,755	4.43%	\$22,155	Yes	Yes	\$221,546
Garrett	28,776	0.47%	\$2,372	Yes	No	\$23,721
Harford	258,559	4.26%	\$21,314	Yes	Yes	\$213,141
Howard	331,828	5.47%	\$27,354	Yes	Yes	\$273,540

County	Population 2021	Maryland Percentage	Online Sales Funding (Recovery Now)	Returned Grant Agreements as of May 14?	Funding Distributed as of May 14?	Additional Sales Funding (Supp Budget #5)
Kent	19,398	0.32%	\$1,599	Yes	Yes	\$15,991
Montgomery	1,055,110	17.40%	\$86,977	Yes	Yes	\$869,773
Prince George's	908,743	14.98%	\$74,912	Yes	Yes	\$749,116
Queen Anne's	50,847	0.84%	\$4,192	Yes	Yes	\$41,915
Somerset	25,636	0.42%	\$2,113	Yes	Yes	\$21,133
St. Mary's	115,090	1.90%	\$9,487	Yes	No	\$94,874
Talbot	37,395	0.62%	\$3,083	Yes	Yes	\$30,826
Washington	151,835	2.50%	\$12,516	Yes	Yes	\$125,164
Wicomico	104,739	1.73%	\$8,634	Yes	Yes	\$86,341
Worcester	52,908	0.87%	\$4,361	Yes	Yes	\$43,614
Statewide	6,065,438	1.00%	\$500,000	\$424,174	\$412,314	\$5,000,000

- To date, none of the counties have updated Commerce's online reporting portal of distributed funds.

Source: Department of Commerce, Department of Budget and Management