

Restaurant Grants, Maryland Economic Development Assistance Authority and Fund, Department of Commerce

\$22.0 Million (T00F00.23)

Purpose: Recovery Now Funding

The Maryland Economic Development Assistance Authority and Fund (MEDAAF) shall provide funding to local governments for grants up to \$12,000 to catering, drinking places (alcoholic beverages), or restaurants and other eating places, categorized as North American Industrial Classification Codes 722320, 7224, and 7225, respectively. Recipient businesses must demonstrate a need for assistance. At least 15% of the amount distributed shall be distributed to disadvantaged businesses. Priority shall be given to businesses that have not received prior funding from the Authority.

May 5 - 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;
 - Plus, answers to the following questions:
 - Does the applicant (owner) have a net worth of less than \$750,000;
 - Did the applicant (owner) have an adjusted gross income of less than \$350,000; and
 - Did the applicant have less than \$6 million in assets?
- As of April 28, 2021, the following counties have signed and returned their grant agreements:
 - Allegany County;
 - Anne Arundel County;
 - Baltimore City;
 - Baltimore County;
 - 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;
 - 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 meeting was held on April 27, 2021 and did not anticipate any issues in the approval of the grant.
- Howard County's County Executive signed off on the grant agreement on April 27, 2021, Commerce is waiting to receive the returned agreement.
- Commerce alerted the counties on April 1, 2021, that the Department 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.

May 5 - Programmatic and/or Implementation Issues:

- Ensure local jurisdictions prioritize applicants who have not received State/MEDAAF funding.
- Some counties have not completed distribution of previously released funds. These funds must be allocated prior to receiving this grant program's funding. If there is a possibility that there are remaining funds, they can be rolled over into this grant program.

May 5 - Distribution of Funds:

County	Population - 2021	MD Population Percentage	Restaurant Funding	Returned Grant Agreements as of April 28?	Funding Distributed as of April 28?
Allegany	69,366	1.14%	\$251,598	Yes	Yes
Anne Arundel	586,656	9.67%	\$2,127,865	Yes	Yes
Baltimore City	575,584	9.49%	\$2,087,705	Yes	Yes
Baltimore	826,392	13.62%	\$2,997,413	Yes	Yes
Calvert	93,445	1.54%	\$338,935	No	No
Caroline	33,606	0.55%	\$121,893	Yes	Yes
Carroll	168,807	2.78%	\$612,281	Yes	Yes
Cecil	103,277	1.70%	\$374,597	Yes	Yes
Charles	166,819	2.75%	\$605,071	Yes	Yes
Dorchester	31,867	0.53%	\$115,585	Yes	Yes
Frederick	268,755	4.43%	\$974,803	Yes	Yes
Garrett	28,776	0.47%	\$104,374	Yes	No
Harford	258,559	4.26%	\$937,821	Yes	Yes
Howard	331,828	5.47%	\$1,203,576	Yes	No
Kent	19,398	0.32%	\$70,359	Yes	Yes
Montgomery	1,055,110	17.40%	\$3,826,998	Yes	Yes
Prince George's	908,743	14.98%	\$3,296,109	Yes	Yes
Queen Anne's	50,847	0.84%	\$184,428	Yes	Yes
Somerset	25,636	0.42%	\$92,985	Yes	Yes
St. Mary's	115,090	1.90%	\$417,444	Yes	Yes
Talbot	37,395	0.62%	\$135,636	Yes	Yes
Washington	151,835	2.50%	\$550,722	Yes	Yes
Wicomico	104,739	1.73%	\$379,900	Yes	Yes
Worcester	52,908	0.87%	\$191,903	Yes	Yes
Statewide	6,065,438	-	\$22,000,000	\$21,661,065	\$20,353,115

Source: Department of Commerce, Department of Budget and Management