

Board of County Commissioners

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Carroll Rebound Grant Changes Definition of Sole Proprietor Application Deadline Extended to July 31st

Westminster, MD, Friday, July 10, 2020 – Yesterday in Open Session, the Carroll County Board of Commissioners voted to expand the Carroll Rebound grant program for small businesses and nonprofits to include all eligible sole proprietors who operate in a commercial or industrial zone. Any sole proprietors who applied for Carroll Rebound but were declined due to employment do NOT need to reapply. These applications will be reviewed under the new criteria.

The commissioners also approved extending the deadline for the Carroll Rebound program from July 15th to July 31, 2020.

The Carroll Rebound application portal now **closes on Friday, July 31st at 5:00 pm**. Grant applications will be reviewed by an internal team with awards based on need and the pandemic's impact on the business or nonprofit operations.

Full time employees are counted as working 30+ hours per week. Accordingly, grants will be awarded as follows:

- Sole proprietors, with or without employees, up to \$2,500
- Businesses with less than two full time equivalent employees, up to \$2,500
- Businesses with 2-10 full time equivalent employees, up to \$5,000
- Businesses with 11-50 full time equivalent employees, up to \$8,000

Eligibility for businesses and nonprofits is different as described below; both must apply online at <https://carrollbiz.org/carrollrebound/> and meet the following conditions to be considered for the grant:

Eligible sole proprietors and businesses **must**:

- Have been established prior to September 1, 2019

CARROLL COUNTY

The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978 or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 or email ada@carrollcountymd.gov as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.

- Be a for-profit entity registered and in good standing with the State of Maryland and Carroll County (if required to do so by law)
- Have a physical location in a Carroll County commercial or industrial zoning district (exception – tourism venues or agribusiness operations)
- Be current on all taxes owed to Carroll County and/or the State of Maryland

Ineligible businesses:

- Private/trade schools
- Faith-based organizations
- Home-based businesses
- Real estate holding companies
- Independent contractors (including realtors, hair stylists, multi-level marketing, etc.)
- National/regional chains and publicly traded companies/franchises

Eligible nonprofits **must:**

- Be 501(c)(3) nonprofits
- Have been established prior to September 1, 2019
- Employ a minimum of one (1) full-time equivalent (FTE) employee and a maximum of 50 FTE employees, defined at 30+ hours per week

Ineligible nonprofits:

- Churches (See IRS 1828)
- Fraternal and/or Civic Organizations
- Homeowners Associations
- Labor Unions
- Private or Political Foundations
- Volunteer Fire Companies (will be addressed through the Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Association)

Eligible grant uses include the following: information technology upgrades and e-commerce programs, marketing, employee training, commercial cleaning, professional services, equipment or vehicle expenses and other COVID-19 business and health-related expenses e.g. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), supplies, plexiglass shields, masks, etc.

Ineligible fund uses include wages, lease or mortgage payments, utilities, insurance, and expenses not related to COVID-19 pandemic impacts.

Businesses that applied and were awarded a grant from the Carroll County Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant Fund or any other local, state, federal grant programs ARE ELIGIBLE to apply, although a listing of previous grant awards will be required as part of the application. Applicants will be required to provide financial and employment verification documents and, if awarded, sign a grant agreement, and provide an IRS W-9 and an Electronic Transfer Fund form.

If you have Carroll Rebound program questions, please email info@carrollbiz.org.

Interested businesses should sign up for [Carroll Connect](#) and Carroll County Economic Development [e-news](#) and watch for information via the Department of Economic Development website at <https://carrollbiz.org>. No-cost business counseling is also available through the Carroll County Small Business Development Center - please visit <https://www.marylandsbdc.org/locations/northern-region> to connect with a counselor for further business assistance.

About Carroll County Department of Economic Development

The Carroll County Department of Economic Development is a results-oriented team that creates competitive business solutions. To learn more about the programs or opportunities available in Carroll County email info@carrollbiz.org, visit <https://carrollbiz.org>, follow @CarrollEconDev on Twitter or call 410-386-2070.

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