

LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYER ASSISTANCE GRANT FUND

PROGRAM GOALS

- Ensure equitable distribution of economic stimulus dollars to assist businesses impacted by the pandemic.
- Support retention or hiring of employees by businesses.
- Assist businesses in implementing Covid-19 related safety measures and complying with local health orders.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

- WDACS will deploy \$46 million in CARES Act funding to micro enterprises,¹ small businesses,² social enterprises, B CORPS, and Community Business Enterprises (CBEs).³

OVERALL FUNDING CRITERIA & METHODOLOGY

- Countywide geographic apportionment based on individuals living at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) (\$12,760 or below annually) to reach disadvantaged areas.
- Within each Supervisorial District (SD), use the CalEnviro Screen (CES) to further prioritize businesses in economically disadvantaged areas. Additional efforts will be made to incorporate unemployment rates by Supervisorial District.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT	TARGET FUND % BASED ON FPL
1	23.2%
2	28.2%
3	18%
4	15.23 %
5	15.01 %
Totals	100 %

FUNDING CATEGORIES

- Businesses invited to apply for the Employer Assistance Grant (EAG) may apply for one of the three (3) categories of funding including: **Pandemic Compliance Funds, General Employer Assistance Grant Funds, and Social Impact Funds.**
- A qualified business may receive a maximum of \$50,000 across all funding categories.

¹ The State of California defines “Microbusiness” as a small business which, together with affiliates, has average annual gross receipts of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) or less over the previous three years, or is a manufacturer with 25 or fewer employees.

² The State of California defines “small business” as an independently owned and operated business that has 100 or fewer employees, and average annual gross receipts threshold of fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) or less over the previous three (3) years.

³ The CBE program includes designations for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), Women Business Enterprise (WBE), and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE). WDACS has conducted targeted outreach to CBE’s to meet program goals.

CATEGORY	PURPOSE	AMOUNT	ELIGIBILITY	DISTRIBUTION
Pandemic Compliance Business & Worker Partnership Funds	Help businesses with between 1-100 employees stay in compliance with local health orders and recommended safety measures while offsetting the cost of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).	Total: Up to \$10 million Awards of up to \$5,000 will be distributed to up to 2,000 eligible businesses	All micro- and small businesses Countywide	There is no prioritization, chosen by lottery
General Employer Assistance Grant Funds (EAG Fund)	Will be awarded to businesses between 1-100 employees in LA County impacted by COVID-19 to subsidize operating costs.	Total: Up to \$21 million Compliance with local health orders and recommended safety measures while offsetting the cost of PPE Awards of up to \$25,000 will be distributed to approximately 840 eligible businesses Countywide	Micro and small businesses in LA County. Prioritization will be given to businesses outside of the City of LA.	Prioritized by CalEnviro Screen (CES) within each SD. Have not received local CARES Act \$ before In the event of a tie, businesses will be prioritized by the number of employees
Social Impact Fund	To help LA County Social Enterprises, Community Business Enterprises (CBEs) and B Corporations to offset the cost of business operations.	Total: Up to \$15 million Awards of up to \$50,000 will be distributed to approximately 300 eligible businesses Countywide	Certified Social Enterprises, CBEs, B-Corps Countywide	Prioritized by CES within each SD. Have not received local CARES Act \$ before In the event of a tie, businesses will be prioritized by the number of employees

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND LONG-TERM IMPACT OF FUNDING:

- Social Impact Fund awardees will receive continued technical assistance past the duration of the grant and will be connected to one-on-one business counselors, including access to capital, worker re-training, and business restructuring when needed. Continued technical assistance for both the business and its employees will ensure that businesses make the greatest impact and investment in their local communities and succeed in economic recovery and long-term sustainability.

- Micro and small business applicants will also receive technical assistance throughout the duration of the grant. This assistance will be provided through the Disaster Help Center and in partnership with the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA) – Office of Small Business counselors.

OUTREACH

- Initial outreach efforts include directly targeting the approximately 9,000 businesses on our waitlist from the Employer Assistance Grant launched in April 2020. Additionally, WDACS is outreaching to and providing technical assistance to CBEs, Social Enterprises, and B Corporations to ensure that they are aware of the opportunity and have the requisite materials ready to apply. These businesses will be invited to apply and will be given priority during the application process.
- After the initial review of applications is completed, if additional businesses applicants are required, WDACS will make a concerted effort to outreach to affinity chambers of commerce within the target areas.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- WDACS will open the application via our website on September 28, and process applications the week of October 5. Businesses can apply by visiting workforce.lacounty.gov/eagf/.
- The application will remain open for one week, from September 28 to October 2.
- WDACS has contracted with REDF to perform due diligence and award business grants in accordance with the referenced methodology.

EVALUATION

- REDF, with support from WDACS, will conduct a survey at 3 and 6-month intervals from when an entity received a grant to assess the impact of the funding on businesses.