



Town of Needham, Massachusetts Media Release

Office of the Town Manager
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Town Offers Second Round of Grants to Help Small Businesses Recover from COVID-19

Grants of up to \$10,000 Available

NEEDHAM – Wednesday, April 13, 2022 – The Town of Needham announced today that it is making an additional \$200,000 available to help small businesses and non-profits who have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Last November, the Select Board authorized the Town to provide grants of up to \$10,000 to Needham businesses using a portion of the Town's allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. The Town awarded \$260,000 in grants to 28 local businesses in late February with the Select Board approving additional funding for a second round of business grants. The application period will begin on April 15 and end on May 13, 2022. The application is available on the [Town's website](#).

"Small businesses in Needham continue their long and challenging road to recovery," said Select Board Member Marianne Cooley. "If we want these businesses to be here long after the pandemic is over, we must do all we can now to support them. I am glad we're able to offer another round of funding support to help them during these trying times."

Funds may be used by business to help retain and attract workers, provide for greater safety against COVID-19 including purchasing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), outdoor dining accommodations and improved ventilation, and other approved operating expenses.

"We're happy to be able to provide additional funding to Needham small businesses and non-profits with another round of grants," said Amy Haelsen, Economic Development Manager for the Town of Needham. "We have already seen the impact the first round of grants has had on small businesses in Needham. These funds are making a huge difference for many business owners, providing them with the extra support they needed to help them on their road to recovery."

The small businesses in Needham are the heart and soul of our community, they support local schools, youth sports teams, and a long list of non-profits and community groups, and they collectively contribute so much to the town's tax base," said Haelsen. "We want to ensure that the businesses which were hit the hardest – and continue to struggle – are able to survive and thrive for many more years to come."

The application and grant process are designed to be simple. Businesses must fill out the online [application](#), and provide an explanation of how the funds will be used, copies of required documents including Federal tax returns or Audited Financial Statements from both 2019 and 2020, and a signed affidavit. Grant recipients will be announced in early June.

These grants are provided on a reimbursement basis for approved expenses incurred during the period of June 15, 2022 through January 31, 2023.

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible:

1. Be a Needham business or non-profit with a brick-and-mortar (physical) location
2. Fewer than thirty-five (35) employees
3. Less than \$1,500,000 in annual net revenue, and
4. Registered with, in good standing with, and operating in, the Town of Needham and must be current on all local taxes and licenses. Have not been approved for a grant in the first round of the Needham Small Business Recovery Grant Program in February 2022.

Priority will be given to businesses that applied for CARES Act funding last year and didn't receive it due to lack of available funding (PPP, EIDL, Restaurant Revitalization Fund).

To learn more about the program and apply, please visit the Town's [website](#).

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