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Applications Are Open for \$800 million in Grants to Small Businesses

Small businesses can now apply for grants to offset COVID pandemic income losses, Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright has announced.

The **\$800 million COVID-19 Pandemic Small Business Recovery Grant Program** reimburses New York small businesses with grants of up to \$50,000 for COVID-related expenses incurred between [March 1, 2020](#) and [April 1, 2021](#).

Grants will be for a minimum award of \$5,000 and a maximum award of \$50,000 and will be calculated based on a New York State business' annual gross receipts for 2019.

Small business owners can contact Assembly Member Seawright's office at [212 288 4607](#) for additional information. Reimbursable COVID-19 related expenses can include:

- Payroll costs
- Commercial rent or mortgage payments for NYS-based property
- Payment of local property or school taxes
- Insurance costs
- Utility costs
- Costs of personal protection equipment necessary to protect worker and consumer health and safety
- Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning cost
- Other machinery or equipment costs
- Supplies and materials necessary for compliance with COVID-19 health and safety protocols

Grants are awarded to small and micro businesses and small for-profit independent arts and cultural organizations, with priority being given to socially and economically

disadvantaged business owners, including minority- and women-owned business enterprises, service-disabled veteran-owned businesses and veteran-owned businesses, and businesses located in economically distressed communities.

The Empire State Development Corporation has also created a website —[NYSBusinessRecovery.ny.gov](https://www.nysbusinessrecovery.ny.gov) —to highlight the various resources available to support small businesses seeking pandemic relief.

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