Saline County CARES
Large Business Relief Program
Phase IVa. Guidelines & Eligibility

Saline County has received $2,670,320 from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) to provide economic relief funds for reimbursement of necessary expenditures incurred by entities throughout the county due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. In accordance with Federal guidelines, as announced previously, your Saline County Commission has been working diligently to develop a process to determine a fair and equitable manner to distribute funds for reimbursement of COVID-19 expenditures to eligible entities within the County.

After careful consideration, it was determined that the relief funds will be distributed in phases throughout the reimbursement period with Phase IVa. consisting of using a portion of the funds received to provide reimbursement of COVID expenses to large businesses (16 or more employees) that have been affected by the pandemic.

The Commission recognizes the severe negative impact that COVID-19 has had on all our businesses within the County. In order to assist large businesses during these difficult times, the Commission has chosen to establish the Saline County CARES Large Business Relief Program which will provide up to $10,000 in reimbursement of eligible expenses to large business owners. For large businesses, reimbursement of expenses incurred during Phase IVa. will be restricted to those directly related to safety measures taken in response to COVID 19. Non-inclusive examples include personal protection equipment, business disinfection and sanitation, non-reimbursed COVID testing, and other safety response measures taken necessary as a result of COVID-19.

PROGRAM GUIDELINES
An application process has been developed to determine eligibility in accordance with federal guidelines for receiving funding through this program. To seek funding the Applicant shall submit the County adopted application form in a timely manner. The application for funds shall include a description of the services and materials purchased by the applicant and the cost for such items along with a receipt for payment. Reimbursement shall only be available for expenses incurred by the applicant from March 1, 2020 through December 15, 2020 with Phase IVa. initial funding covering the period of March 1 through June 30. The requirement that expenditures be incurred “due to” the public health emergency means that only eligible expenditures incurred for actions taken by the business to respond to the public health emergency during the grant period dates will be considered for reimbursement.

The applicant may only seek funding that is permitted for reimbursement meeting the federal and state laws and guidelines prescribing the criteria and conditions governing the distribution of COVID-19 funds and the County’s requirements. Funds available from the County are limited in amount and not all eligible expenses may be funded for reimbursement. Funds will be allocated to eligible and qualified large businesses based upon availability.
Applications will be reviewed after receipt for eligibility along with the required documentation. Only those applications deemed to be complete and eligible will be processed and considered for funding.

The County has designated the County Commission as the coordinator of the COVID-19 funding program for the County, and such officials shall make the final determination of eligibility and reimbursable amounts under the designated specified criteria. If the Applicant disagrees with a denial of any requested funds, the Applicant may appeal the decision to the County Commission in writing within five (5) business days of the denial. Such appeal shall set forth the rationale for the appeal. By submitting an application for program funds, the Applicant is agreeing to hold the County and its agents harmless from any and all liability arising out of the administration of the COVID-19 funding program by the County.

**PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY**

The following are non-inclusive examples of businesses that are eligible to request assistance under the Saline County Large Business Relief Program during Phase IVa. for the period of March 1 through June 30, 2020.

- For-profit businesses with 16 or more employees.
- Lending and financial institutions.
- Locally owed chain stores or business franchise owners with business located within the geographical borders of Saline County.

**To be eligible, a business must:**

- Possess a current city, county, and state license or permit to operate, as applicable
- Provide proof of purchase of safety items, personal protection materials, supplies, and services that were un-budgeted additional expenses due to COVID-19
- Be in compliance with local, state, and federal non-discrimination policy, and overall good standing with city and county service providers as of February 1, 2020 (i.e., current on utility bills, no liens or judgments, and paid prior year(s) property taxes, state and federal taxes)
- If receiving other funds under the CARES Act, provide documentation and explanation as to how those funds were spent

**NOTE: REVENUE REPLACEMENT IS NOT A PERMISSABLE USE OF PAYMENTS FROM THIS FUND**

Examples of ineligible reimbursements (non-inclusive):

- Employee salaries
- Rent, mortgage, utilities, insurance
- Expenses that have been, or will be, reimbursed under any federal program, such as the reimbursement by the federal government pursuant to the CARES Act of contributions by States to State unemployment funds
- Reimbursement to donors for services or donated items
- Severance pay
- Expenses for the State share of Medicaid
- Damages covered by insurance
- Legal settlements

Please submit or mail the attached application to Saline County CARES Large Business Relief Fund, Saline County Courthouse, Room 101, Marshall, MO 65340

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