Micro-Grants & Micro-Loans for New York Small Businesses

This document lists pandemic-relief micro-grant and micro-loan programs available to small businesses in New York State, organized by region. The list is not exhaustive, but it may be useful as a helpful starting guide to find grant or loan programs. Do you know of an active micro-grant or micro-loan program that is not on this list? Please forward the information to researchnetwork@nysbdc.org to have it added to the list.

https://nysbdc.org/

Updated: June 29, 2021

Find COVID-19 and general funding options available nationally or location-specific using this SBA COVID-19 Funding Options tool.

For information about SBA Coronavirus Small Business Financial Assistance Programs, including the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL), Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (SVOG), and the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF) please visit SBA Small Business Guidance and Loan Resources.

Visit Empire State Development for information on the New York Forward Loan Fund and other Business Pandemic Recovery Initiatives.

***Another useful tool for finding industry-specific or project-specific pandemic-relief grants is Grant Station, where you can filter results to find relevant information for specific situations. The New York Foundation for the Arts is maintaining a list of active emergency grants relevant to artists.***

*** Some Micro-Loan programs targeted to COVID relief offer special incentives like reduced interest rates, deferred payment periods, waived application fees, or limited collateral requirements. One additional source beyond those listed below is Empire State Development’s Alternative Lender Directory. ***
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Empire State Development-Business Pandemic Recovery Initiatives

Grants, Tax Credits, and Technical Assistance Programs for Businesses Affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic

*Pandemic Small Business Recovery Grant Program

Applications open

The $800 million COVID-19 Pandemic Small Business Recovery Grant Program provides grant funding to small businesses and for-profit independent arts and cultural organizations impacted by the pandemic. The grants will be flexible and can be used for a number of different business needs.

*Restaurant Resiliency Program

This $25 million grant program provides funding to restaurants that choose to provide meals and food to people within distressed or under-represented communities. Grant funds will allow restaurants to cover the costs of food, preparation, and delivery of meals to vulnerable populations. Program details are still being finalized.

*Restaurant Return-To-Work Tax Credit

For small, independently owned restaurants within New York City or any area in New York State designated by the NYS Department of Health as either an Orange or a Red zone for at least 30 consecutive days. Program details are still being finalized.

*New York City Musical and Theatrical Production Tax Credit

$100 million in tax credits to jump start the entertainment industry and support tourism activity in New York City. Program details are still being finalized.

*New York Forward Loan Fund (NYFLF)

The New York Forward Loan Fund (NYFLF) is an economic recovery loan program aimed at supporting New York State small businesses, nonprofits, and small residential landlords.
**Capital Region**

**Micro-Grants**

*Albany Central Ave BID Emergency Grants*

**Eligible Geography:** City of Albany Central Ave BID

CBID has limited Emergency grants and assistance for businesses impacted by the COVID Pandemic, including Emergency PPE, Marketing Grants, and Emergency Repairs.

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**Micro-Loans**

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<tr>
<td>Clinton, Essex, Hamilton, Warren &amp; Washington Counties</td>
<td>COVID-19 Business Interruption Micro-Loan Program</td>
<td>Lake Champlain – Lake George Regional Planning Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady counties</td>
<td>Capital Region Advancement Fund</td>
<td>Capital Region Chamber</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greene County</td>
<td>Greene County EDC Emergency Loans</td>
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## Central New York Micro-Loans

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cortland</td>
<td>COVID-19 Business Assistance Loans</td>
<td>Cortland County BDC</td>
<td>$10,000-$20,000 (2% rate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oswego</td>
<td>COVID-19 Emergency Relief Loan Program</td>
<td>Operation Oswego County</td>
<td>$10,000 max (0% rate)</td>
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<td>County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cayuga</td>
<td>COVID-19 Emergency Microloan Program</td>
<td>Cayuga Economic Development Agency</td>
<td>up to $5,000 (1% rate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>County</td>
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## Finger Lakes
### Micro-Loans

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<tr>
<td>Seneca County</td>
<td>SENIDA Revolving Loan Program</td>
<td>Seneca County IDA</td>
<td>$250,000 max (4% rate max)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Emergency Loans</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Rochester</td>
<td>KIVA Rochester Crowdfunded Loans</td>
<td>Kiva Rochester</td>
<td>$1,000-$5,000 (0% rate)</td>
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Long Island

Micro-Grants

*Nassau County Restaurant Recovery Grant Program

Eligibility: Full-Service Restaurants within Nassau County

The Restaurant Recovery Grant Program (RRGP) online application portal is under construction and therefore cannot accept NEW applications at this time. Check back for updates coming soon! Nassau County is launching the Nassau County Restaurant Recovery Program for full-service restaurants located within the County that experienced reductions in sales and/or revenue due to COVID-19 and that are in need of financial assistance to continue to operate or to be able to reopen as allowed by law during the crisis. Up to a $10,000 grant per business will be awarded for eligible businesses that have experienced a gross revenue loss of greater than 25% due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Qualified businesses with 0-10 full-time or full-time equivalent employees may receive $5,000 for eligible reimbursable expenses, while businesses with 11-50 full-time or full-time equivalent employees may receive up to $10,000 for eligible reimbursable expenses.

*Town of Islip COVID-19 Emergency PPE Grant

Provides assistance in purchasing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to small businesses located in the Town of Islip.

Micro-Loans

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New York City, Westchester, and Long Island</td>
<td>Coronavirus Financial Impact Loan</td>
<td>Hebrew Free Loan Society</td>
<td>$2,000-$5,000 (0% rate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Islip</td>
<td>COVID-19 Disaster Loan Program</td>
<td>Islip IDA</td>
<td>$25,000 max (0% rate)</td>
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https://nysbdc.org/
**Mid-Hudson Micro-Grants**

*Dutchess County Microenterprise Stabilization Grant Program*

**Eligibility:** For-profit business located in designated low-to-moderate-income-area in Dutchess County with 5 or fewer employees, including the owner; additional income & hiring requirements.

The county has made $430,000 in grants available to assist microenterprise businesses negatively affected by COVID-19; a microenterprise is defined as a business with five or fewer employees, including the owner. The program will provide grants of up to $10,000 to stabilize microenterprises and preserve low- and moderate-income jobs.

*Westchester County Microenterprise Stabilization Grant Program*

**Eligibility:** For-profit business located in Westchester County with 5 or fewer employees, including the owner; additional income & hiring requirements.

This opportunity, which provides grants up to $10,000, is for eligible small businesses located in lower-income areas across the county that have been negatively impacted by COVID-19. Grants can only be used to reimburse eligible business expenses as of September 1, 2020.

*City of Poughkeepsie Microenterprise Stabilization Grant Program*

**Eligibility:** For-profit business located in designated low-to-moderate-income-area in the City of Poughkeepsie with 5 or fewer employees, including the owner; additional income & hiring requirements.

The City has made available $200,000 in grants available to assist microenterprise businesses negatively impacted by COVID-19. This will provide grants of up to $10,000 to stabilize microenterprises and preserve low and moderate income jobs.

*City of Beacon Microenterprise Stabilization Grant Program*

**Eligibility:** For-profit business located in designated low-to-moderate-income-area in the City of Beacon with 5 or fewer employees, including the owner; additional income & hiring requirements.

The City of Beacon is committed to providing the resources and support to our small businesses that are the backbone of the City’s success and economic vitality. The well-being of the City’s economy depends on the success of these businesses and the City supporting them during these uncertain times. As part of our continued commitment to assisting these businesses, the City is partnering with Community Capital of New York to offer Microenterprise Stabilization Grants.
*Yonkers Micro-Enterprise Stabilization Fund*

**Eligibility:** Yonkers businesses with 5 employees or less

The MESF is a fund created to provide grants to support microenterprises financially impacted by COVID-19. The fund will provide grant capital up to $10,000 to eligible entities to assist in meeting urgent needs.

### Micro-Loans

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester, The Bronx, or Fairfield, CT</td>
<td>Community Capital NY Small Business Lending</td>
<td>Community Capital NY</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City, Westchester County, and Long Island</td>
<td>Coronavirus Financial Impact Loan</td>
<td>Hebrew Free Loan Society</td>
<td>$2,000-$5,000 (0% rate)</td>
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## Mohawk Valley

**Micro-Loans**

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<tr>
<td>Oneida &amp; Herkimer Counties</td>
<td>UIDC Small Business COVID Loan Program</td>
<td>Utica Industrial Development Corporation</td>
<td>$5,000-$15,000 (4% rate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Utica</td>
<td>City of Utica COVID-19 Stimulus Funding Program</td>
<td>City of Utica</td>
<td>$10,000 max (0% rate)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
New York City

Micro-Grants

*Interest Rate Reduction Grant*

The Interest Rate Reduction Grant will help reduce the interest expense owed on an existing loan with select Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI). CDFIs focus on serving businesses who cannot easily access capital and creating opportunities that positively impact the communities they serve. SBS has partnered with 11 CDFIs who work primarily with Asian, Black, Latinx, and immigrant business owners. Businesses must have an existing loan and should contact their CDFI to confirm if they are eligible to apply.

*Citizens Committee for NYC Neighborhood Business Grants*

Applications are now closed and will re-open in Fall 2021.

Eligibility: NYC small businesses

Small businesses will receive grants of $5,000 - $10,000 to maintain payroll and operations. We will prioritize businesses owned by people of color, immigrants, and women. Proposals that focus on adapting businesses to the challenges of COVID-19 (i.e. delivering orders, fulfilling online requests for products, conducting training and classes online) will also be prioritized.

*City Bar Justice Center’s COVID-19 Small Business Remote Legal Clinic*

The CV-19 Clinic is an opportunity for New York City’s entrepreneurs and small businesses who have suffered adversely from the impact of the COVID-19 crisis to receive free, limited-scope legal advice. Topics include: loans & grants, contracts & force majeure clauses, employment law matters, real estate and commercial leasing issues, and insurance matters.
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
<td>Bring Back Brooklyn Fund</td>
<td>Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>$500-$10,000 (0% rate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manhattan, Queens, &amp; Brooklyn</td>
<td>Emergency Small Business Relief Loan Fund</td>
<td>Renaissance Economic Development Corporation</td>
<td>up to $50,000 (3% rate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bronx, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester, or Fairfield, CT</td>
<td>Community Capital NY Small Business Lending</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City, Westchester, and Long Island</td>
<td>Coronavirus Financial Impact Loan</td>
<td>Hebrew Free Loan Society</td>
<td>$2,000-$5,000 (0% rate)</td>
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Low-to moderate income areas in specific New York City zip codes

| LOW-TO MODERATE INCOME AREAS IN NEW YORK CITY ZIP CODES | NYC LMI Storefront Loan | NYC Department of Small Business Services | CURRENTLY CLOSED; SIGN UP FOR UPDATES |
# North Country Micro-Loans

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<td>Jefferson, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Clinton, Essex, Franklin &amp; Hamilton Counties</td>
<td>COVID-19 Emergency Business Relief Program</td>
<td>North Country Alliance</td>
<td>$25,000 max (5% rate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinton, Essex, Hamilton, Warren &amp; Washington Counties</td>
<td>COVID-19 Business Interruption Micro-Loan Program</td>
<td>Lake Champlain – Lake George Regional Planning Board</td>
<td>$25,000-$150,000 (1.9% rate)</td>
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<td>Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Oneida, Oswego, Lewis, Saratoga, St. Lawrence, Warren, Washington counties</td>
<td>AEDC Disaster Microloan Fund</td>
<td>Adirondack Economic Development Corporation</td>
<td>$5,000 (5% rate)</td>
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[https://nysbdc.org/](https://nysbdc.org/)
Southern Tier

Micro-Grants

*City of Binghamton Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Grant Program

Eligible Geography: City of Binghamton

The COVID-19 Small Business grant program is designed to provide funding that will allow small businesses to remain open, re-open, and retain jobs. It is designed to provide temporary working capital assistance to eligible food, retail, personal services, and other for-profit businesses.

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Micro-Loans

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<tr>
<td>Binghamton</td>
<td><strong>COVID-19 Emergency Small Business Loan</strong></td>
<td>Binghamton Local Development Corporation</td>
<td>up to $15,000 (3.25% rate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broome County</td>
<td><strong>COVID-19 Emergency Loan Fund</strong></td>
<td>Broome County “The Agency”</td>
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Western New York

Micro-Grants

*City of Buffalo Microenterprise Grant Program

Eligibility: City of Buffalo microenterprises (five employees or fewer); At least 51% of the business’s ownership must be considered low-income.

Applications opened February 8. The City of Buffalo and the Buffalo Urban Renewal Agency (BURA) in partnership with WEDI invite all microenterprises (five or fewer employees) to apply for this reimbursement grant program whereas through this program, eligible businesses may be awarded a grant in an amount up to $10,000. The majority owners of the business must be considered low income and must provide documentation of their sources (and their household's sources) of income in the application. This program will reimburse business expenses incurred since March 1, 2020 as long as documentation can be provided for these expenses.

**Erie County IDA COVID-19 DISASTER RELIEF GRANT**

Eligibility: Small businesses & nonprofits with 50 employees or fewer, located in Erie County

Small businesses may be eligible for up to $10,000 in reimbursement for the costs of acquiring personal protective equipment or installing fixtures necessary to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until New York State Executive Order No. 202 is rescinded or available funds have been expended.

**City of Jamestown CDBG COVID Response Small Business Assistance Grant**

Eligibility: for-profit businesses in the city of Jamestown that employ up to fifty (50) employees.

Businesses will be able to apply for grants of up to $20,000 for the purposes of reopening and recovering from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Businesses will be required to provide proof of economic injury due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Jamestown Renaissance Vibrant Downtown Grants**

Jamestown Renaissance Corporation coordinates revitalization strategies to build and make downtown and the adjacent riverfront more attractive for new residents, new businesses, and new investment. There are four active grant programs: “Building and Business Improvement Program”, “Urban E-Commerce”, “Urban Dining”, & “Parklets”. Additional information about these programs available under “Business Development” section of page linked above.
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<td>Chautauqua County</td>
<td>CCIDA Cares Loan</td>
<td>County of Chautauqua IDA</td>
<td>Up to $250,000 (2.44% rate)</td>
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<td>Erie County</td>
<td>COVID-19 Impact Loan</td>
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<td>$25,000-$250,000 (1% rate)</td>
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Statewide & General Grants

*Empire State Development-Business Pandemic Recovery Initiatives*

A collection of Grants, Tax Credits, and Technical Assistance Programs for Businesses Affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

*NYS Council on the Arts FY 2022 Funding Opportunities*

NYSCA FY2022 funding will be offered in 4 rounds. Each round is designed to address the most urgent needs of organizations and artists within New York’s nonprofit creative sector. NYSCA’s accelerated, streamlined, and responsive FY2022 grantmaking process will aid in the arts sector’s multi-year recovery from COVID-19 and spur the revitalization of New York’s creative economy.

*Center for Economic Growth Supply Chain Grant Program*

**Eligibility:** Must be a Manufacturer with manufacturing facilities in New York State

The New York Manufacturing Extension Partnership is offering grants up to $10,000 to select projects that help New York State Manufacturers address impacts to their business due to COVID-19 that were caused by supply chain disruptions. This has presented an opportunity for New York State manufacturers to take steps to optimize their supply chain, explore new markets and products, identify new customers, and implement processes to become more competitive.

*LISC Small Business Relief Grants*

There are currently no upcoming national grant rounds scheduled at this time. Register to sign up for email alerts for future grant opportunities.

*The GoFundMe Small Business Relief Initiative and Fund*

The Small Business Relief Fund will issue $500 matching grants to qualifying businesses that raise at least $500 on GoFundMe.

*IFundWomen Grants*

The IFW COVID-19 Relief Fund provides microgrants to women-owned businesses that are being impacted by this crisis. You can donate to the Relief Fund now or start a campaign on IFW to be considered to receive a grant.

**Eligibility:** women-owned businesses
**SoGal – Black Founder Startup Grant**

**Eligibility:** self-identify as a Black woman or Black nonbinary entrepreneur (inclusive of multiracial Black women and multiracial Black nonbinary folks)

SoGal Foundation has teamed up with Winky Lux, bluemercury, twelveNYC, and other sponsors to make a small step towards progress by providing several $10K and $5K cash grants to Black women or nonbinary entrepreneurs.

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**KKR Small Business Builders**

**Eligibility:** between 5 and 50 employees, less than $7 million USD in annual revenue

Created as a key pillar of KKR's COVID-19 Relief Effort, KKR Small Business Builders (SBB) aims to support entrepreneurs and their small businesses around the world. The grants are designed to help business owners sustain their enterprises, maintain, or create jobs, and spur economic opportunity as they respond to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis and recover from its resultant economic dislocation.

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***Another useful tool for finding industry-specific or project-specific pandemic-relief grants is Grant Station, where you can filter results to find relevant information for specific situations.***

The New York Foundation for the Arts is maintaining a list of active emergency grants relevant to artists.***