

## **Microenterprise Recovery Grant Program**

### **Questions and Answers**

**1. Can applicants apply for a Business Tax Registration Certificate (BTRC) now?**

A BTRC with business start date of 3/1/2020 or before is required to apply for the Microenterprise Recovery Grant Program. If applicants apply for a BTRC with the business start date, assuming the business has been operating for a few years, they may have to pay back taxes. Applicants should contact the Office of Finance for additional information by email at [finance.customerservice@lacity.org](mailto:finance.customerservice@lacity.org) or by calling the Customer Service Center at (844) 663-4411.

**2. Are employee records needed?**

Employee records are needed only for those applicants who are claiming employees.

**3. Is the grant lottery based?**

Yes, selection is based on a weighted lottery system with higher priority given to select categories.

**4. Can home-based businesses apply?**

Yes, home businesses may apply. A higher priority will be given to brick-and-mortar businesses.

**5. Can Sidewalk Vendors apply?**

Yes, Sidewalk Vendors can apply. A higher priority will be given to brick-and-mortar businesses.

**6. Will current Hollywood BSC staff be able to assist applicants who they helped apply for the grant if they are selected as finalists?**

The option to continue working with current Hollywood BSC staff will be made available to applicants.

**7. Will the application portal link be available on the EWDD website?**

Yes, the application portal link will be available on the EWDD website at <https://ewddlacity.com/index.php/recovery/microenterprise>.

**8. Can owner-operators count towards job creations/retentions?**

Only W-2 employees can count towards job creations/retentions.

**9. Will applicants get a confirmation email once they submit their application?**

Yes, applicants will receive notification by email from BMI when the application is submitted. They will be notified by email as well if they are selected as a finalist.

**10. Can the email notifications be translated to the finalists preferred language?**

At this time, the City does not have the capability to translate the emails to the finalists preferred language. The City expects to contract with a translation service provider in the next months to better facilitate communication with non-English speakers.