

North Augusta Small Business Grant Guidelines

I. Timeline:

- Competitive application period: June 15, 2020 – June 26, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered.

II. Grant Amount & Reimbursement Requirements:

- Grant award: up to \$2,000
- Grant requests must be related to COVID-19 related expense OR to cover City utility bills in arrears since March 13.
- Grants issued based on proof of purchase AND payment:
 - Purchases must be made between March 13, 2020 – July 31, 2020
 - 100% reimbursement grant up to \$2,000
 - Proof of purchase = receipt, invoice, etc.
 - Proof of payment = cleared check, credit card statement, cash receipt, etc.
 - Must submit proof of purchase and payment by August 24 or grant will be forfeited

III. Business Eligibility:

- Business must be open to serve customers OR if not yet re-opened, business must provide date for re-opening and be open by July 31. Purchase reimbursement grant will be issued once business is confirmed re-opened. Business not required to be open if applying for City utility bill assistance.
- Must have a brick and mortar store
- Located in North Augusta city limits
- Must be current on the following items:
 - City business license
 - City Property taxes (if the business owns its building)
 - City Utility charges – unless requesting assistance with City utility charges
- Business must have been open for six months prior to March 13, 2020
- Current number of employees: Minimum – 2; maximum – 25
- The following types of businesses are eligible for a grant, with the following preference rank criteria:
 1. Restaurants
 2. Close-contact service providers: (a) Barber shops (b) Hair salons (c) Waxing salons (d) Threading salons (e) Nail salons and spas (f) Body-art facilities and tattoo services (g) Tanning salons (h) Massage-therapy establishments (must be local, no chain stores)
 3. Recreational and athletic facilities: (a) Fitness and exercise centers and commercial gyms (b) Spas (c) Group exercise facilities, to include yoga, barre, and spin studios or facilities
 4. Retail stores and entertainment as follows: (a) Furniture and home-furnishings stores (b) Clothing, shoe, and clothing-accessory stores (c) Jewelry, luggage, and leather goods stores (d) Department stores, with the exception of hardware and home-improvement stores (e) Sporting goods stores (f) Book, craft, and music stores (g) Florists and flower stores (h) Bowling alley
- Expenditure Priority (bonus points):
 1. Reimbursements for purchases made from North Augusta-based businesses
 2. Grants which satisfy City utility bills in arrears since March 13
- Ineligible businesses:
 1. All “essential services” businesses as defined by the governor that were allowed to remain open for duration of state of emergency, with exception of restaurants
 2. All other types of businesses not listed as eligible above.
 3. All chain stores – includes all types such as restaurant, retail, etc.