

Your Business is Our Business

Talking UP

Economic Development
UPdates

University Place
WASHINGTON



December 2020

Apply Now for Additional COVID Grant Funds

Unfortunately, COVID-19 is not done with us yet. As the country awaits distribution of the vaccines, the State of Washington and Pierce County are continuing to offer grant programs to support small businesses until the pandemic breaks.

Please note that some of these programs have application deadlines for tomorrow, Dec. 11.



Working Washington
Small Business Grants
Round 3

This week Gov. Jay Inslee announced an additional \$50 million (for a total of \$100 million) for Round 3 of the Working Washington Small Business grants. Small businesses struggling to survive the impact of COVID-19 can apply now for up to \$20,000. This additional aid will double the number of Washington small businesses that will receive aid. Economic sectors that have been impacted by the most recent shut down orders, such as restaurants and fitness centers, as well as businesses that have been hit hard throughout the pandemic, like music and event venues, have been prioritized.

Questions can be directed to bizgrants@commerce.wa.gov or call 360.725.5003.

Applications submitted by 5 p.m. on Dec. 11 will be given top priority. Apply now.

Pierce County \$10,000 Business Rollback Relief Grant



These grants of up to \$10,000 are designed to help businesses impacted by the newest COVID restrictions. Eligible business types are:

- In-store retail
- Arts and culture establishments such as theaters, museums and entertainment venues
- Fitness facilities, gyms and bowling centers
- Caterers, restaurants, taprooms and similar eating and drinking establishments that do not have a drive-through and did not participate in the full-service restaurant support program "Restaurant Rally."

These grants are subject to available funds and eligibility requirements. The application deadline is Friday, Dec. 11 at 5 p.m. Get more information and apply now. Direct questions to PC10KBizGrant@piercecounitywa.gov.

Free PPE for Businesses Still Available

Pierce County's distribution of free disposable masks and thermometers to businesses occurs every Friday from 9 a.m. to noon (except on Christmas and New Year's Day). The distribution locations are provided when you sign up.

This free PPE equipment has been made available through federal CARES Act funds. Direct questions to PCBizPPE@piercecounitywa.gov.

Enjoy a Holiday Cheer UP!

Don't forget to support our local Village at Chambers Bay and Green Firs Towne Center businesses tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 11 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. for the Holiday CheerUP.



There will be special holiday displays in front of the businesses that people can enjoy as they drive by while staying safe in their own cars. Santa and his elves will be on hand, as will some favorite Disney and Marvel

characters as well. Some businesses may also offer goodie bags to share safely with those who attend.

Encourage your friends and neighbors to participate and consider getting in on the cheer by adding some holiday decorations to your vehicle. You can also share in the holiday spirit by bringing a toy (or toys) for drop off in the collection boxes for the annual Toys for Tots campaign.

Thanks to Dawn Morris, owner of Bishops Cut and Color, and Theresa Fouquette, owner of Bliss Ice Cream, who organized the event and to all the businesses who have been eager to contribute and participate.

Holiday Hours and Seasons Greetings

City of University Place offices will close at noon on Thursday, Dec. 24 and will be closed on Christmas Day. Offices will reopen at 8 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 28. They will close at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 31 and reopen at 8 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 4, 2021.



As we wrap up what has been an extremely difficult year for our country and our community, we offer our very best wishes for good health and renewed prosperity in 2021.

Mariza Craig and Becky Metcalf

