



## Media Release

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### **Medford City Council Approves Support Program for Small Businesses Impacted by COVID-19**

To mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on Medford small businesses and their employees, the City of Medford has committed up to \$125,000 in one-time funds to create a Small Business Assistance Grant Program.

The Medford City Council approved the use of marijuana tax revenue funds at Thursday's meeting.

The objective of this program is to offer immediate financial assistance to small businesses in the City of Medford to aid in maintaining their business and workforce. Awards will be made on a first come, first served basis. Applications will be accepted after 10 a.m. PST on Monday, May 11, 2020.

"Our local businesses have been forced to drastically alter their operations in response to this pandemic," Mayor Gary Wheeler said. "While the true impact of the coronavirus is largely unknown, it's imperative that we support our small businesses which employ our friends, family and neighbors."

The City plans on allocating financial resources as quickly as applications can be received and reviewed. Grant amounts are to be used to help Medford small businesses with the following:

- Rent or mortgage payments
- Utility payments

To qualify for assistance, a business must:

- **Complete the online application and include copy of W9**
- Have no more than 15 non-owner employees as of March 1, 2020
- Have a City business license
- Have no outstanding City related liens, fees or code enforcement cases

- Has not been a recipient of the Federal Paycheck Protection Program
- Franchise businesses are not eligible

Assistance Amount:

- A qualifying small business will receive \$1,500 minimum
- For every non-owner employee grantee receives an additional \$500
- Total maximum grant award - \$5,000

An [online application](#) will be made available on Monday, May 11 at 10 a.m. and more information is available online at [cityofmedford.org](http://cityofmedford.org) for interested business owners.

As we continue to respond to this rapidly evolving situation, the City recognizes the importance of quickly addressing a number of urgent needs and will continue to work closely with our local businesses and service organizations to reduce regulatory barriers and provide access to resources needed during this unprecedented time.

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