

Dear Members,

This morning we are launching the **Richland County/Mansfield COVID-19 Small Business Emergency Relief Grant Fund** – yes, it's a long name. Here's what it means:

Small businesses (for-profit entities with 20 FTE's & less and \$1.5M or less in 2019 revenue) can apply for emergency relief grants. The maximum grant amounts are \$7,500 (for 2-20 FTE's) and \$2,500 (for less than 2 FTE's). There are other eligibility requirements and exclusions, please [read the full grant guidelines](#).

The application and full grant guidelines can be [found here on our website](#). Applications are open now through 11:59PM on Sunday, September 13, 2020.

This is being funded with dollars from the CARES Act being given by [Richland County](#) and the [City of Mansfield](#). You can read [the full press release here](#). We are in talks with additional entities so additional funds may be given and we'll keep you apprised of that.

We are holding 2 grant informational sessions via Zoom:

- Tomorrow, Thursday, September 3rd at 9:00am – [Register here](#)
- Friday, September 4th at Noon – [Register here](#)

This is not a first come, first served grant, all eligible applications will be scored. In the event of a tie in scoring, an earlier application would get a slight edge. So, you don't have to drop everything this morning to apply, but I would also recommend not waiting until the last minute if possible.

The grants will be announced on Monday, September 28th. It is important to note that we do expect to receive more applications than we can fund. If, however, additional money becomes available we will go to the next highest scoring group of businesses to award funding.

If you have questions about the grants, please use this email address: grants@richlandareachamber.com or call our office and we'll be happy to assist you.

In non-grant funding news - we are also hard at work on some new programming for the fall, and other ways that we can pivot and continue to provide you with valuable benefits. Check out our recently launched [new website](#) – we are excited for that.

Thanks for your continued support and helping us keep #RichlandCountySTRONG!

Onward,
Jodie

Jodie A. Perry, CCE, IOM, CCEO-AP
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