



Federal Cares Act Community Development Block Grant COVID-19 Business Assistance Loan Program

The Village of Oak Park has created a Business Assistance Loan Program using ~~\$300,000~~ \$550,000 in federal CARES Act Community Development Block Grant funding. The program is focused on helping small Oak Park businesses that have been negatively impacted by the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus.

Oak Park Business Assistance Loans up to \$5,000 each was first made available to registered local businesses with 10 or fewer employees for a period of 30 days. Now, the program is being made available to registered local businesses with ~~25~~ 30 or fewer full time equivalent (FTE) employees and an annual average gross business receipts of less than \$2,000,000. Additionally, beginning October 26, 2020, Oak Park Business Assistance Loans will be made available at up to \$10,000 for each qualified business applicant.

To be eligible, businesses must have experienced a 30 percent or more loss in revenue due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Funds can be used for operating expenses including payroll and rent. Funds cannot to be used for equipment purchases, construction or expansion-related costs. Businesses that are chains or franchises, with ~~multiple~~ five or more locations are not eligible.

The Oak Park Business Assistance Loan Program will have a three-year, interest-free term. A participating business that can prove retention of at least one low-or-moderate income employee, for every \$5,000 in loan request, for the first three months after receipt of the loan funds, will not be required to repay the loan. The loan repayment for any participating business unable to document the employee retention will be deferred for the first 12 months after the loan is approved. Businesses unable to provide documentation to qualify for loan forgiveness will begin monthly loan repayments on the 13th month after the loan is approved. After repayment begins, businesses will have two years to complete repayment of the loan.

Participation in the Oak Park Business Assistance Loan Program requires the completion of the entire application form. All applications must be complete with signed and dated documents. Information about the loan program, including the application form, can be found on the Village's website at [www.oak-park.us/ covid19businessloan](http://www.oak-park.us/covid19businessloan).

Loan applications may be submitted electronically to business@oak-park.us. Completed loan applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis.

This loan program and any specific loans are contingent upon the availability of funds. If at any time this funding source is depleted, this loan program and any commitments to fund specific loans may become null and void. Again, completed loan applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis.

Call 708.358.5412 or email at jprior@oak-park.us with any questions or comments.