

**Criteria for a Benton County Business Assistance Grant Program
(Administered by the Benton Economic Partnership, Inc.)**

1. For-profit business may apply, excluding any adult-oriented businesses or establishments whose primary trade is in gambling, tobacco or tobacco-related product sales
2. Business must have its primary physical location in Benton County
3. Business in operation since September 1, 2019 or earlier
4. Employ 50 or fewer people
5. Registered with the MN Secretary of State
6. Have no delinquent property taxes prior to the first half payable 2020 due date
7. Chain-type businesses must be owned by corporations, partnerships or individuals located in Benton County
8. Be in “good standing” with the State of MN and City or Township in which the business is located
9. Can demonstrate an adverse economic impact directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic and able to provide documentation of such impact
10. Grants may not be used to pay rent, mortgages, payroll costs or other costs when such costs were reimbursed by federal Paycheck Protection Program Loan funds
11. Funding granted will not duplicate funding received from a City, Township or other sources for pandemic relief (but receiving funding from a City or Township will not necessarily exclude the applicant from receiving County CARES funds)
12. Grant recipients will agree to allow an inspection and copying of business records requested by the BEP and County to satisfy subrecipient monitoring requirements
13. Grant recipients acknowledge that if any funding is later deemed ineligible, the recipient business shall be responsible for any collection costs associated with recovering CARES funds.

August 18, 2020