

**NEWS RELEASE — FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Monday, Oct. 12, 2020

**Application process for two new SC CARES Act grant programs begin Oct. 19**

**Columbia, S.C.** — The South Carolina Department of Administration (Admin) announces two new SC CARES Act grant programs — the Minority and Small Business Relief Grant Program and the Nonprofit Relief Grant Program. These programs will award grant funds to small and minority businesses and nonprofit organizations to reimburse qualifying expenditures for providing services or for revenue loss due to COVID-19. Admin, working with Guidehouse, a professional grant management services provider, has been authorized to provide these grants from the Coronavirus Relief Fund pursuant to Act 154 of 2020.

Grant awards for the Minority and Small Business Grant Program will range from \$2,500 to \$25,000. To qualify for a grant from the Minority and Small Business Grant Program, a business must employ 25 or fewer employees, be physically located in South Carolina, be in operation from Oct. 13, 2019, to present, and have experienced a business impact due to COVID-19. To view more information on the Minority and Small Business Relief Grant Program, visit <https://accelerate.sc.gov/sites/default/files/Documents/SmallandMinorityBusinessGrantProgramOverview.pdf>

Grant awards for the Nonprofit Relief Grant Program will range from \$2,500 to \$50,000. To qualify for the Nonprofit Relief Grant Program, an organization must be designated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization by the IRS and registered as a public charity in S.C., be physically located in South Carolina, be in operation from Oct. 13, 2019, to present, and have experienced a business impact due to COVID-19. To view more information on the Nonprofit Relief Grant Program, visit <https://accelerate.sc.gov/sites/default/files/Documents/NonprofitGrantProgramOverview.pdf>

The online application process for both programs begins on Monday, Oct. 19, 2020. Applications must be received no later than Nov. 1, 2020. To access the online application, visit <https://accelerate.sc.gov/cares-act/applying-sc-cares-act-funds>.

During the application process, if a business or nonprofit organization needs assistance or has questions, please contact the SC CARES Call Center (803) 670-5170 or [SCCares@admin.sc.gov](mailto:SCCares@admin.sc.gov). The call center is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., beginning Oct. 13.

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