



# Coalition to Back Black Businesses 2023

## Grant Terms and Conditions

### Eligibility

To be eligible to receive a \$5,000 grant (a “Grant Award”) from the Coalition to Back Black Businesses (the “Grant Program,” “CBBB”), an applicant (or their business) (an “Applicant”) must meet all of the eligibility criteria:

- Be a business that employs between three (3) and 20 individuals, including the owner, full, or part time, or those working for the business under a 1099 agreement. Business exclusively means a:
  - Sole proprietorship
  - General Partnership (GP)
  - Limited Partnership (LP)
  - Limited Liability Company (LLC)
  - C-Corporation
  - S-Corporation
- Have at least one physical or online business location within the United States or its territories (Puerto Rico, Guam, Northern Marianas, US Virgin Islands, America Samoa)
- Not be part of a franchise brand with more than twenty-five (25) corporate-owned stores, or more than two hundred and fifty (250) stores in total
- Have its principal physical location in a community in danger of deterioration (“Distressed Community”), defined as any zip code not in the top 20% of zip codes in the current iteration of the Economic Innovation Groups’ Distressed Communities Index (“DCI”)
- Each company must have a valid employee identification number (EIN)
- Not be in an Ineligible Business Category (as defined below)
- Each company by EIN can only receive one \$5,000 grant, and each business owner can only submit for a single company. Former recipients of a \$5,000 CBBB grant are not eligible.



# U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation

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- Agree to all Grant Program Rules

## Ineligible Business Categories:

- Any government agency, public administration, political organization, non-profit of any type, or any businesses engaged in any illegal activity
- Gas stations, or any business located on the same premises as a gas station
- Shopping property management companies
- Direct sellers
- Any business that is primarily in the business of manufacturing, promoting or selling diet aids, cannabis, gambling, tobacco (including tobacco-related equipment, such as e-cigarettes), firearms or other weapons
- Private clubs and businesses which limit the number of memberships for reasons other than capacity
- Businesses principally engaged in teaching, instructing, counseling, or indoctrinating religion or religious beliefs, whether in a religious or secular setting
- Businesses which derive directly or indirectly more than de minimis gross revenue through the sale of products or services, or the presentation of any depictions or displays, of a sexual nature
- Businesses owned by employees, officers, or directors of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation (Chamber Foundation), American Express, any other funder (collectively, the “Program Funders”), or the National Partners (National Black Chamber of Commerce, National Business League, Walker’s Legacy, U.S. Black Chambers Inc.), or any affiliated entities, and their respective immediate families (parents, spouse, children, siblings) or individuals residing in their household (whether or not related) are not eligible to receive grants
- Entities listed on the U.S. Department of State’s Sanctions List



## Application Procedure

Applicants that were waitlisted in the 2022-2023 application process will be invited to apply. The Applicant pool may be supplemented with other CBBB registrants from the 2022-2023 program.

Applicants will complete a grant application on a rolling basis until all funds are exhausted. Women-owned businesses will make up at least 25% of the awarded grants.

The Applicant grant application will ask them to do the following, and take approximately 20-30 minutes:

- Applicants must affirm, based on their zip code, that their primary physical location is within a Distressed Community
- Applicants must attest that they have between three and 20 employees (including Owner, Full- Time, Part-Time, and consultants or contractors under a 1099 or similar agreement)
- Applicants must agree to these Terms and Conditions

Applicants must then answer questions about their business within the application, which requests:

- The full name(s) of the business owner(s)
- Name of business (must match exactly the name associated with the Employee Identification Number “EIN,” and must match what is submitted in the Registration)
- EIN
- Website and social media
- Email address (This must match what is submitted in the registration)
- Agree to the Coalition to Back Black Businesses Terms and Conditions
- Phone number
- Business address (Street/Zip/City/State)
- Gender Identity
- Industry
- Number of employees, including owner, full-time, part-time, and consultants or contractors under a 1099 agreement

Any answers given above that do not match the registration information may disqualify the application. Then, applicants will be asked narrative questions about their business, including but not limited to:

- What sources of funding have you used to support your business in the past 12 months?
- How is your business engaged in the community/what is the proof of positive impact?
- How do you anticipate using the grant?
- What is your business’s mission statement and goal?
- Which National Partner are you a member of (if any)?
- Other questions about your business



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Applicants must also certify the following:

- That your responses to the questions are truthful to the best of your knowledge and that you are prepared to provide supporting documents.
- That you will not use the Grant funds to engage in lobbying or political activities

Required application documents: IRS W-9 form

After CBBB staff process the grant applications, those that meet the eligibility requirements and are selected for grants will be forwarded to CBBB's check disbursement partners. Payment processing will occur on a rolling basis, to be finalized in November. Those awarded grants will receive educational resources related to the Program.



## General Rules

All grant applications must be submitted online through the OpenWater platform and completed within 10 days of receipt of the grant application solicitation email. Only those applications submitted through that platform will be accepted. Applications received by any other means will not be considered. Neither the Chamber Foundation, Program Funders, the National Partners nor its parents, affiliated entities or agents, are responsible for any illegible, lost, stolen, late, damaged, incomplete, mutilated or misdirected applications or other documents. Applicants are responsible for ensuring proper contact information has been submitted and is maintained throughout the Grant Program process to allow communications about the Grant Program. Erroneous or false information provided in the application will result in immediate disqualification of the Applicant. The Chamber Foundation otherwise retains the right to disqualify any Applicant in its sole discretion.

If, for any reason, Chamber Foundation deems in its sole discretion that the Grant Program is not capable of running as planned, operation of the Grant Program is deemed by Chamber Foundation to be violative of the law or deemed not to be in the best interests of the Chamber Foundation, the Chamber Foundation reserves the right in to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the Grant Program at any time. By submitting an application, or by being an Applicant, you understand that there is no joint venture, partnership, employment or agency relationship between you and the Chamber Foundation, Program Funders, or the National Partners arising from any application or Grant Award. Once notified about having an application approved and receiving a Grant Award, each recipient (an "Award Recipient") will receive an email with an e-check and instructions on how to cash the e-check from the payment vendor. Forfeiture of the Award will occur if Award Recipients do not cash their e-check within 10 days of disbursement of the e-check as based on the disbursement records of the payment vendor. .

All applicants grant permission to the Chamber Foundation, Program Funders, and its National Partners to use anonymized data pertaining to location, industry, and other application information (except for anything that would be identifying to the applicant) to prepare public-facing impact reports.

Award Recipients grant permission to the Chamber Foundation, Program Funders, and its National Partners to use the business name, logo, statements, including city and state of primary physical location, and the submitted application information in perpetuity, worldwide, royalty-free in any and all media now known or which may be developed in the future to promote the Grant Program and the objectives the Grant Program seeks to further.

The decisions of the Grant Program are final, and Applicants specifically agree that the decision of the Grant Program and any decision of the Chamber Foundation is not subject to review or appeal in any forum whatsoever, including courts of law. NO WARRANTY OF ANY TYPE IS PROVIDED FOR ANY AWARD. NO AWARD MAY BE TRANSFERRED TO ANY PARTY. Any information provided as part of this Grant Program is provided according to the website Terms of Use and Privacy Policy, as they may be amended from time to time, and as otherwise provided for in these Rules. By submitting your email address and/or an application, you consent to our processing of the included personal data in order to take action on the application and to contact you about other programs you may be interested in.

By completing an application or being an Applicant, you agree on behalf of yourself and each of your respective heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, agents, successors and assigns ("Releasing Party") to the Grant Program Rules and the decisions of the Grant Program, as applicable, and any affiliated entities or persons, and by completing an application or being an Applicant, you release, defend, and hold harmless the Chamber Foundation, Program Funders, the National Partners, and their affiliates, advisors, agents, licensees, and any social or other media used for the Grant Program, and any of their respective officers, directors, or employees as applicable ("Released Parties"), from any and all causes of action, suits, debts, dues, sums of money, accounts, reckonings, bonds, bills, covenants, contracts, controversies, promises, lost profits, indirect or direct damages, consequential damage, incidental damages, punitive or exemplary damages, judgments, claims and demands whatsoever, in law, or equity, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, which any Releasing Party has or may ever had, now or hereafter, arising from or related to the Grant Program, these Official Rules, any application materials, including but not limited to any use or non-use of any application materials, delivery, mis-delivery, acceptance, possession, attendance at, travel related to, misuse, and/or use of or inability to use, any Grant Award, or technical or other failures of any kind.