

## Regional small businesses assistance and grants now available

Washington Retail is pleased to share several new assistance and grants that target that a disproportionately impacted by COVID businesses.

Washington State Department of Commerce (Commerce) received a [\\$15 million grant](#) from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to support collaboration among public, private and philanthropic organizations to support small businesses.

[Press release](#) from Commerce specified that this grant will support Safe Start projects and partnerships aimed at help small business restart, rebuild and become more resilient. Grant money will benefit various regional economic development partnerships. For example, the Thurston County Economic Development Council received \$182,000 to operate a one year program through their Center for Business & Innovation to support entrepreneurs, business growth and excellence.

To reach ethnic businesses, Commerce offered funding to over 20 organizations to offer [technical assistance](#) aimed at reaching culturally and linguistically challenged business owner and organizations.

### Other regional grants with imminent deadlines:

- [Thurston Strong Restaurant & Retail Grant Fund](#) is open for applications till October 31 or until funds are depleted.
- [Thurston Strong COVID-19 Economic Recovery Initiative – Information for Workers and Employers](#)
- [Pierce County CARES Business Relief Programs](#) applications are due by October 20. Pierce programs consist of
  - [Commercial Rent & Mortgage Assistance – Get Three Months Paid Forgivable Loans](#) - Working Capital to Help You Stay in Business and Retain Employees
  - [Offset Costs](#) for COVID-19 Safety Related Business Expenses
  - [Free PPE](#) to Protect Employees and Customers
- [Tacoma SMALL BUSINESS RESILIENCY GRANT APPLICATION](#) due by 5pm Friday, October 23, 2020.
- [Lakewood COVID-19 business grant](#) with applications in multi-languages.
- [King County Coaching and Technical assistance for small business](#) in unincorporated area.
- [Clark County SB Protective Retrofit Grant](#)
- [City of Shelton small business grant du by Oct 30](#)

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