

RI Rebounds Small Business Grant Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Version 1.1: Updated 2/14/2022

- On 2/14/22, new questions were added: 31, 32, and 39. Updated question 50 with specific date.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

1. What is the RI Rebounds Small Business Grant Program?

The RI Rebounds Small Business Grant Program provides **either \$2,500 or \$5,000** in financial assistance in the form of a grant (direct payment) to Rhode Island small businesses (those with less than \$1 million in annual gross revenue) that suffered financially due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. What are the eligibility requirements?

To be eligible at this time, applicants must:

- Have a physical presence in Rhode Island.
- Be a for-profit business. This includes Sole Proprietorships, Partnerships (LPs and LLPs), C Corporations, S Corporations, B Corporations, Cooperatives, and Limited Liability Companies. (LLCs). Non-profits are not eligible at this time.
- For Sole Proprietors only: Have annual business revenue of at least 20% of total annual income.
- Have been an established business in the state of Rhode Island prior to October 1, 2021.
- Have lost revenue due to COVID. This may include revenue loss experienced during 2020 or at any time since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Have gross receipts or sales of less than \$1 million in 2020 or 2021, excluding any COVID-related financial assistance.
- Have a 2021 net financial need of \$2,500 or greater. Please see question 28 for more information about calculating net financial need.
- NOT be one of the following: government-owned entities/elected official offices, K-12 or higher education academic institutions, lobbying/political organizations, or real estate and/or landlord businesses. Child care businesses ARE eligible if they are licensed in Rhode Island; again, non-profit organizations are not eligible. All other industries are eligible.
- NOT have received funding from either the SBA's Shuttered Venue Grant Fund or the Restaurant Revitalization Fund.

- NOT be owned by a nationally or regionally owned franchise. While nationally owned chain businesses are not eligible to apply, a business that is part of a regional or national franchise that includes franchisees with locations outside of Rhode Island, may apply unless the business is owned by a regional or national franchisor or chain OR is owned by an entity that is not headquartered in Rhode Island.
- NOT be permanently closed (meaning it is either open or only temporarily closed--e.g., a seasonal business that is not yet open for 2022 would be eligible).
- NOT be engaged in any activity that is illegal under Federal, State, or Local law.
- NOT be on the federal do not pay list.
- NOT be in or considering federal bankruptcy or state receivership.

3. How much funding is available for this RI Rebounds Small Business Grant Program?

In total, \$12.5 million is available for grants (direct payments) to small businesses.

4. What is the source of funding for this grant program and these direct payments?

The source of funding is the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery (SLFR) Fund monies allocated to the State of Rhode Island pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2.

This program is part of the Rhode Island Rebounds initiative to invest in its children, families, workers, housing, and small business owners. This investment includes funds to assist small businesses as well as hard-hit tourism, hospitality, and event industries impacted by COVID-19. Rhode Island Rebounds is made possible thanks to Governor Dan McKee's proposal and unanimous approval by the Rhode Island House and Senate.

Awardees of this funding will be beneficiaries of the RI Rebounds Small Business Grant Program.

5. Do these grants/direct payments need to be paid back?

No, these grants/direct payments do not need to be paid back.

6. Are the grants/direct payments taxable?

The IRS has [published information](#) indicating that "Some SLFR Fund recipients may have to report certain payments as income and may owe tax depending on the purpose of the payment." As such, RI Commerce Corporation anticipates issuing 1099s in most instances. Please consult your accountant or tax professional to understand more about your particular tax situation and how this guidance applies.

Additional IRS guidance for the Coronavirus State and Local Recovery Fund can be found here: [Frequently asked questions for states and local governments on taxability and reporting of payments from Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#).

7. Who can apply?

While a third party like a CPA or Technical Assistance partner can assist a business on an application, there are application attestations that will require the business owner or an authorized representative (e.g., an officer of the business) to sign. Therefore, only those with fiduciary responsibility (like a restaurant owner, not service staff) for the business should apply.

8. How do I apply for the RI Rebounds Small Business Grant Program?

The application will be made available online through a RI Commerce Corporation's landing page on February 1, 2022 at 3:30PM and will utilize the application platform Core Relief. This landing page will provide applicants with contact information for technical assistance along with other resources such as user guides and videos to utilize during the application process. The landing page can be found at CommerceRI.com/RIRebounds.

9. When can I apply?

Applications will be accepted [online](#) beginning on February 1, 2022 at 3:30 PM. The portal will remain open for an initial two-week period, closing Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 3:30 PM. If needed after that initial two-week application period, the program may reopen if funds remain.

10. What happens if the RI Rebounds Small Business Grant Program is oversubscribed at the end of the initial application period?

If the program receives more eligible applications than it can accommodate based on the available funding at the end of the initial application submission period, applications will be prioritized based on factors including whether an applicant is one or more of the following: a first-time recipient of COVID-19 assistance from the State of Rhode Island, a very small business, and/or a Minority or Women Business Enterprise (MBE/WBE).

11. I don't have internet access and/or a computer. Can I submit a paper application?

No, this application is only available to be submitted online. However, you can reach out to one of RI Commerce Corporation's Technical Assistance (TA) partners, who can help you with the application using one of their tablets. Information about those TA resources can be found in question 26.

12. If I have a general question about the grant program that is not answered in this FAQ document, how can I get further help?

Please complete this online form for assistance [Your Business Advisor - Rhode Island Commerce \(commerceri.com\)](https://www.commerceri.com).

13. Who is administering this program?

The RI Rebounds Small Business Grant Program is administered by the RI Commerce Corporation with assistance from its partner, Witt O'Brien's, LLC. The program is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number SLFRFP0136 awarded to the State of Rhode Island by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

SPECIFIC PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

14. What is the definition of a small business for the purposes of the RI Rebounds Small Business Grant Program?

For purposes of this grant program, the State of Rhode Island has limited this grant program to small businesses with under \$1 million in revenue. This is a more stringent requirement than the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Final Rule governing the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, which states a Small business means a business concern or other organization that:

- Has no more than 500 employees or, if applicable, the size standard in number of employees established by the Administrator of the Small Business Administration for the industry in which the business concern or organization operates, and
- Is a small business concern as defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632)."

15. Can Sole Proprietors apply for this funding?

Yes. For the purposes of this grant program sole proprietors who file a Schedule C are eligible as long as your business revenue makes up at least 20% of your total annual income. A Sole Proprietor may calculate this by dividing the applicant's gross business income (e.g., line 7 on IRS 1040 schedule C for sole proprietors) by the owner's total income (e.g., line 7b on IRS 1040). However, if you file a joint return, you may exclude income from a spouse or dependent from this calculation. Applicants may use 2020 or 2021 income for purposes of this calculation.

16. Can non-profit organizations apply for this funding?

No, non-profit organizations are not eligible for this grant program at this time.

17. Are landlords, real estate businesses, or real estate agents eligible?

No, landlord and real estate businesses are ineligible for this grant program. Ineligible real estate/landlord businesses include residential real estate agents, real estate brokers, and realtors as well as those businesses that are passive or speculative.

Examples include:

- Passive businesses owned by developers and landlords.
- Businesses primarily engaged in subdividing real property into lots and developing it for resale on its own account or selling lots.
- Businesses that are primarily engaged in owning or purchasing real estate and leasing it for any purpose. For example, shopping centers and similar business models that generate income by renting space to accommodate independent businesses that provide services directly to the public, residential facilities, apartment buildings/complexes and mobile home parks.
- Businesses whose primary purpose is to lease land for the installation of a cell phone tower, solar panels, billboards, or wind turbines.
- Businesses that have entered into a management agreement with a third party that gives the management company sole discretion to manage the operations of the business, including control over the employees, the finances and the bank accounts of the business, with no involvement by the owner(s) of the Applicant business, Speculative real estate businesses which include, among others:
 - Building homes for future sales; and
 - House flipping or similar business models related to the purchase, rehabilitation and resale of real estate.

This does not include general contractors, construction companies, and similar businesses involved in the construction or manufacturing of infrastructure or buildings on property that are not primarily engaged in speculative real estate businesses.

18. Are seasonal businesses eligible?

Yes. Seasonal businesses are eligible.

19. If my business is part of a regional or national franchise, am I eligible?

In order to be eligible, the applicant business must not be owned by the national or regional franchisor or chain OR be owned by an entity that is not headquartered in Rhode Island.

- Ex. of Eligible Business: A restaurant is a franchisee of a national chain, but the owner is a Rhode Island business entity not the national franchisor.
- Ex. of Ineligible Business: A gym is part of a regional franchise and is owned by a business entity headquartered outside of Rhode Island.

20. Can a new business apply?

Yes, if the business was established in the State of Rhode Island prior to October 1, 2021 and it meets all of the other eligibility requirements. Through the SAM.gov registration, you will provide your established date and through its entity validation process that will be confirmed. See FAQ for more information on SAM.gov registration.

21. If a business has more than one location, can it receive more than one grant?

No, not at this time.

22. Am I eligible to apply twice if I own two businesses?

Yes. If you own two business entities, you can apply separately for each entity.

23. Do I have to be an American citizen for my business to be eligible?

No; however, the applicant that will receive the grant/direct payment must have a valid federal taxpayer identification number (TIN).

24. Am I eligible to apply if I received prior COVID-19 relief funding for my business?

If you received funding from the SBA's Restaurant Revitalization Fund or Shuttered Venue Operators Grant Fund you are **ineligible** to apply.

You are still eligible if you have received any other COVID-19 Relief funding (as long as you meet all other requirements, including having a 2021 Net Financial Need).

However, **if you received funding from the State of Rhode Island, you may be deprioritized if the program is oversubscribed.** Examples of funding from the State of Rhode Island includes Restore RI Grant; RI Small Business Relief Grant; Hotel, Arts & Tourism Engagement, Service, and Resiliency Grants (HArT ESR); Hotel, Arts & Tourism Direct Support grants; Business Adaptation; Take It Outside; RI Child Care Stabilization Fund, or ARPA ReInvigorate Child Care Stabilization Grant Program.

APPLICATION

25. Reserved

26. Will there be technical assistance resources that I can utilize during the application submission process?

Yes, technical assistance will be available for this program. RI Commerce Corporation has partnered with the following entities to provide direct application support for businesses, including support for obtaining a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and registering SAM.gov:

- Center for Southeast Asians. Contact: Channavy Chhay - Channavy.chhay@cseari.org
 - Language supports in: Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Hmong, Tagalog, Khmer, Laotian, Spanish
- Center for Women and Enterprise. Contact: info@cwerhodeisland.org or 401-277-0800
 - Language supports in Spanish: para las citas en Español clic aqui o llame al 401-427-6535 o email info.rhodeisland@cweonline.org
- RI Black Business Association. Contact: Lisa Ranglin and Angel Lopez - smallbizhelp@ri-bba.org
 - Language supports in: Spanish
- RI Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Contact: Martha Perez-Barton - martha@rihispanicchamber.org
 - Language supports in: Spanish
- RI Small Business Development Center (SBDC). Schedule an appointment [here](#) or call 401-874-7232.
- RI SCORE. [Schedule a mentor request](#).
- RI Society of Certified Public Accountants. Contact: Melissa Travis and Amanda Iovini - info@riscpa.org
- Roads Consulting Group. Contact: Andrea Perez - info@roadscg.com
 - Language supports in: French, Spanish, Portuguese, Korean

27. Will technical assistance be available in languages other than English?

Yes. Technical assistance and application support is available in Spanish, French, Portuguese, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, Hmong, Laotian, Khmer, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.

28. How do I calculate my 2021 COVID related net financial need?

RI Commerce Corporation provides a calculator to support businesses in determining their 2021 net financial need. Businesses will calculate net financial need using one of three formulas depending on the year the business was established. The net financial need calculation will show whether you have a \$2,500 or greater unmet need for 2021. For the purposes of this program, business with between \$2,500 and \$5,000 of 2021 unmet financial need will be eligible for grants of \$2,500. Businesses with net financial need greater than \$5,000 will be eligible for a \$5,000 grant award.

To calculate your COVID-related net financial need click [here](#). This will be calculated by subtracting the total amount of COVID related grants or financial assistance received for 2021 from the total drop in gross receipts from 2019 to 2021. Businesses that do not meet the \$2,500 requirement (or the \$5,000 threshold) may also add COVID-related increased costs or expenses.

For businesses that began operating before January 1, 2019, here’s how to calculate this:

- 2019 Gross Receipts or Sales: _____ (A)
- 2021 Gross Receipts or Sales: _____ (B)
- 2021 COVID Assistance: _____ (C)
- Net Financial Need: _____ Subtract A minus B minus C

If your net financial need exceeds \$2,500, you meet the eligibility requirement as follows:

- A business with a calculated need of more than \$2,500 but less than \$5,000 is potentially eligible for a \$2,500 grant if the applicant meets all other program eligibility requirements.
- A business with a calculated need of more than \$5,000 is potentially eligible for a \$5,000 grant if the applicant meets all other program eligibility requirements.

If your net financial need is less than the maximum award threshold of \$5,000, you may also add your COVID-related expenses or increased costs. Please do not complete this section if you have already met the maximum net financial need requirement.

- 2021 COVID-related Costs: _____ (D)
- Net Financial Need: _____ A minus B minus C plus D

For businesses that began operating between January 1, 2019, and December 31, 2019, here's how to calculate this:

- Months in Operation in 2019: _____ (A)
- 2019 Gross Receipts or Sales: _____ (B)
- Annualized 2019 Gross Receipts or Sales: _____ (C = B divided by A times 12)
- 2021 Gross Receipts or Sales: _____ (D)
- 2021 COVID Assistance: _____ (E)
- Net Financial Need: _____ Subtract C minus D minus E

If your net financial need exceeds \$2,500, you meet the eligibility requirement, and your award amount is calculated as follow:

- A business with a calculated need of more than \$2,500 but less than \$5,000 is potentially eligible for a \$2,500 grant if the applicant meets all other program eligibility requirements.
- A business with a calculated need of more than \$5,000 is potentially eligible for a \$5,000 grant if the applicant meets all other program eligibility requirements.

If your net financial need is less than the maximum award threshold of \$5,000, you may also add your COVID-related increased costs or expenses. Please do not complete this section if you have already met the net financial need requirement.

- 2021 COVID-related Costs: _____ (F)
- Net Financial Need: _____ Subtract C minus D minus E plus F

For businesses that began operating on or after January 1, 2020, here's how to calculate this:

- 2021 Operating Expenses: _____ (A)
- 2021 Gross Receipts or Sales: _____ (B)
- 2021 COVID Assistance: _____ (C)
- Net Financial Need: _____ Subtract A minus B minus C

If your net financial need exceeds \$2,500, you meet the eligibility requirement, and your award amount is calculated as follows:

- A business with a calculated need of more than \$2,500 but less than \$5,000 is potentially eligible for a \$2,500 grant if the applicant meets all other program eligibility requirements.
- A business with a calculated need of more than \$5,000 is potentially eligible for a \$5,000 grant if the applicant meets all other program eligibility requirements.

29. How does RI Commerce Corporation define 2021 operating expenses for businesses that begin on or after 1/1/20 only?

RI Commerce Corporation defines 2021 operating expenses to include any operating business expenses incurred in 2021 except for those listed as ineligible. Ineligible uses of funds are described below, question 30.

30. What are eligible expenses for this program?

Grant funds may be used flexibly to pay for costs incurred between issuance of grant and December 31, 2022 which consist of:

- Wages and/or salaries of employees to avoid furloughs or layoffs;
- Operational costs incurred to enable the business to remain open; and/or
- Facilitating the reopening of the business and/or particular lines of business if normal business operations have been negatively impacted due to the pandemic.

Funds may not be used:

- To pay a distribution to a shareholder, member, partner or any other class of equity holder;
- To pay non-business expenses;
- To pay taxes or other amounts owed to government entities;
- For political purposes, including lobbying activities, donating to a political party, candidate, political action committee or to support or oppose any cause;
- To pay expenses for which the applicant has or will receive reimbursement from another source including other government grant or loan programs (state and/or federal), unemployment or insurance coverage; and/or
- To pay for renovations (unless the expenses are necessary to comply with COVID guidelines).

31. If my business entity type changed (e.g., Sole Proprietorship to an LLC) during the period of 2019 to 2021, which business entity type should I select in the application? (ADDED 2/14/22)

You should select your current business legal entity type. This should match the way you file taxes with the IRS and the State of Rhode Island.

32. If I changed my business’s legal structure between 2019 and 2021, how would I complete my net financial need? (ADDED 2/14/22)

You should calculate your Net Financial Need as if you have been in continual operations for the entire time you have operated your business. For example, if you were a Sole Proprietor in 2019 but are now an S Corp, you can complete the Net Financial Need calculator as if you were a business in continual operations from 2019 to present. If you have questions specific to your business's situation, please reach out for assistance.

33. Do I need to provide documentation as part of my application?

No, an applicant will not be required to upload any documentation initially to the application portal. However, upon review of applications, it might be necessary for an applicant to provide additional information to validate and confirm application information entered. Therefore, the RI Commerce Corporation reserves the right to request additional documentation to demonstrate that a business meets eligibility criteria and other program requirements.

34. What documentation will I need to apply?

Although the RI Rebounds Small Business Grant Program does not require any documentation as part of the official application, a percentage of applicants will be asked to provide documentation to verify the information provided in their applications. If contacted, you must provide documentation that supports the information in the application. Please keep the following (although this list may not be exhaustive) on file in case you are asked for it before or after you receive the grant:

- A record of your 2021 net financial need calculation. This can be generated from the grant calculator by clicking “Generate PDF for Your Records” button at the end of the [grant calculator](#).
- Information about any COVID-related assistance you’ve received.
- Documentation of “gross receipts or sales.” For most, this will be done by collecting tax returns for 2019 and 2021. If you have not yet filed your 2021 taxes, this may include: a point-of-sale (POS) system export or screenshot; or a general ledger or accounting software report (e.g., a profit and loss statement from an accounting software like QuickBooks, FreshBooks, Xero) that shows annual revenue. If you haven’t filed your taxes and do not have a point-of-sale, general ledger, or accounting system, please work with your tax professional or a Technical Assistance provider (see list in Question 26) to discuss documentation options.
- The list and supporting documentation of COVID-related increased costs or expenses (if used for calculating 2021 net financial need). Documentation may include receipts, invoices, bank statements, etc.

We ask that you retain this information for a minimum of 5 years, the federally required period of time, as discussed in question 43 (Post-Award section).

35. What do I do if I received an ineligibility notice, but believe that I made a mistake on my application?

If you have questions about eligibility, please review the eligibility criteria in this document. After reviewing the FAQs and your submission, if you believe you have incorrectly answered a question that you would like to correct you may start a new application.

To perform this action:

- Return to the Home screen by clicking the “Rhode Island Commerce” icon at the top left of the screen; and
- Click "Add New Application."

This is the recommended option.

36. What should I expect if I completed the amendment process?

All amendment submissions will be reviewed and responded to by a RI Rebounds Team member within seven (7) days from amendment submission. Responses may include a request to submit a new application.

NOTE: It is preferred that applicants submit new applications if they believe that an application answer(s) was submitted incorrectly. To perform this action:

- Return to the Home screen by clicking the “Rhode Island Commerce” icon at the top left of the screen; and
- Click "Add New Application."

DATA UNIVERSAL NUMBERING SYSTEM (DUNS) and SYSTEM OF AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM)

37. What is a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number?

A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit identifier for businesses issued by Dun & Bradstreet Company. This number is referenced by the System of Award Management (SAM) and is a required prerequisite for completing your SAM registration. There is no cost to obtain a DUNS number.

38. How long will it take an applicant to acquire a DUNS number?

Typical processing time by Duns & Bradstreet Company is 1-2 days after an applicant submits a complete request.

39. Why is System for Award Management (SAM or SAM.gov) registration required for this program? (ADDED 2/14/22)

The US Department of the Treasury’s Interim Final Rule to implement the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) established under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) expressly provides that the Uniform Guidance applies to SLFRF:

“[P]ayments from the Fiscal Recovery Funds as a general matter will be subject to the provisions of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR part 200) (the Uniform Guidance).”

2 CFR parts 25.100 and 25.105 of the Uniform Guidance, in turn, establish that the System for Award Management (SAM) is the repository for standard information about applicants and recipients and provides that such part applies to “grants, cooperative agreements, loans, and other types of federal financial assistance.”

Further, paragraph C.4 of the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Compliance and Reporting Guidelines ([SLFRF Compliance and Reporting Guidance Update 2.1 final \(treasury.gov\)](#)) provides that, “in administering a program...[the Corporation] will need to maintain procedures for obtaining information evidencing a given beneficiary, subrecipient, or contractor’s eligibility including a valid SAM.gov registration.”

40. What is the System for Award Management (SAM)?

The SAM is an official website of the U.S. Government. Typically, SAM is referred to as SAM.gov. There is no cost to register with SAM.

You can use SAM to:

- Register to do business with the U.S. Government.
- Update, renew, or check the status of your entity registration.
- Search for entity registration and exclusion records.
- Search for assistance listings (formerly CFDA.gov), wage determinations (formerly WDOL.gov), contract opportunities (formerly FBO.gov), and contract data reports (formerly part of FPDS.gov).
- View and submit BioPreferred and Service Contract Reports.
- Access publicly available award data via data extracts and system accounts.

41. Is it required to obtain a DUNS number and be registered with SAM in order to receive funding?

Yes, under the American Rescue Plan Act, Interim Final Rule, all eligible payees are required to have an active registration with the System of Award Management (SAM or SAM.gov) (<https://www.sam.gov>) as well as a DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) number issued by Dun & Bradstreet Company (<https://dnb.com>). **You do not need to have a DUNS number or SAM.gov registration before beginning or submitting an application. However, it will be required in order to receive your payment.**

42. How long will it take an applicant to complete the DUNS and SAM registration process?

The request for a DUNS number must be completed first and should take approximately 30 minutes to complete. Once a complete request has been submitted, it normally takes 1-2 days to process and for an applicant to receive a DUNS number via email.

It should take about an hour to register through SAM.gov once you have all paperwork in order. A SAM.gov registration will take on average 7-10 days to process but may take longer given your unique business' situation and the General Services Administration (GSA) processing time.

43. Can I check on the status of my SAM.gov registration?

Yes. From the SAM.gov home page, click on "Check Registration Status" and follow the instructions. The SAM.gov system will also email you regarding your status throughout the registration validation process.

44. How much does it cost to acquire a SAM.gov registration and DUNS number?

Both the SAM.gov registration and DUNS registration are **free**. If you receive any solicitation or navigate to any website requesting a fee to register for SAM.gov or DUNS, be cautious. These services are not affiliated with this grant program or SAM.gov. **It is free to register, and free assistance is available** through the technical assistance partners listed in Q26.

AWARD AND PAYMENT DISBURSEMENT

45. Will I need to complete any paperwork like a grant agreement in order to receive the grant/funding?

Yes. Once your application has been reviewed and approved, you will be asked to complete a grant agreement and IRS W-9 form.

46. Once my grant is approved, how long until I receive the money?

After applications are prioritized at the end of the initial application period, we expect most applicants will have their checks mailed within approximately 2 weeks. **As a reminder, applicants must obtain a DUNS number, register with SAM.gov, complete a**

IRS W-9 form, and execute the grant agreement before receiving funds. If there are delays in completing these steps, the payment process will also be delayed.

47. How will grant awards be delivered?

Grant awards will be sent by mail. Please make sure the mailing address used to apply is accurate to ensure timely delivery of payment.

48. If my business or organization receives an award, will my business or organization name, address, and award amount be made public?

Yes. The federal funding used for these grant awards (direct payments) requires the public disclosure of business names, addresses, and award amounts. If a business does not want this information to be made public, it should not submit the grant application.

49. Can I check the status of my grant application? If so, how?

Yes, you may log in to the application portal at [Core Relief | Login](#) to check the status of your application. Additionally, applicants will receive automatic emails throughout the process as their application is processed or action is taken.

POST-AWARD

50. How long does an approved and awarded applicant need to keep any and all documents related to this funding? (UPDATED 2/14/22)

Per the U.S. Department of the Treasury guidance:

- **Financial records and supporting documents related to the award must be retained for a period of five years** (December 31, 2031) after all funds have been expended or returned to Treasury, whichever is later. This includes those which demonstrate the award funds were used for eligible purposes in accordance with the ARPA, Treasury's regulations implementing those sections, and Treasury's guidance on eligible uses of funds.

51. Are there any other post-award requirements that an applicant should be aware of?

Yes, approved and awarded businesses will be asked to participate in a post-award survey to collect certain metrics as part of the Rhode Island Rebounds Initiative. By accepting this funding, awarded businesses agree to participate fully in this survey and any others that may be sent to them.