

RI Rebounds Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Grant Program

Get Ready to Apply Guide for Restaurants, Event Related Organizations, and Valet Service Providers

The RI Rebounds Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Grant Program provides grants for businesses and organizations that suffered significant negative impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Here are steps you can complete to get ready to apply:

Is your business eligible?

- Confirm you are one of the following:** Restaurants, bars, nightclubs, breweries, wineries, distilleries, caterers, food trucks, other food service providers, event professional, or valet service providers
- If you are an event professional, is at least 50% of total income event-related?**
- Was your business/organization operating in Rhode Island before January 27, 2020?**
- Did your business/organization experience a COVID-related revenue loss in 2021 of at least 25% relative to 2019?** If established from Jan. 1 to Jan. 26, 2020, use Jan. and Feb. 2021 “gross receipts or sales” for 2021 RI “gross receipts or sales” and Jan. and Feb. 2020 “gross receipts or sales” for 2019 RI “gross receipts or sales.” If established in 2019, you will be instructed to annualize your 2019 revenue.
 - 2019 gross receipts or sales: _____ (A)
 - 2021 gross receipts or sales: _____ (B)
 - Revenue loss 2021 vs. 2019: _____ (C: A minus B)
 - Percentage revenue loss 2021 vs. 2019: _____ (C divided by A)
- Confirm you meet other eligibility criteria.** A full list is available at commerceri.com/ri-rebounds.
 - Sole proprietors: annual business revenue makes up at least 20% of your total annual income.
 - Business is NOT owned by a nationally or regionally owned franchise.
 - Business did not receive funding from the Small Business Administration’s (SBA) Restaurant Revitalization Fund
 - Business is NOT permanently closed, NOT in or considering federal bankruptcy or state receivership, and NOT on the federal do not pay list.

Retain these documents for your records

Although this program does not require documentation to be submitted as part of the initial application, applicants may be asked to provide documentation to verify information provided. If contacted, you must provide documentation that supports the information in the application. Please keep the following on file in case you are asked for it before or after you receive the grant:

- 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; 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 contact Commerce RI or work with your tax professional or a technical assistance provider to discuss documentation options.

Begin federally required registration process

Applicants are required to have a Unique Entity ID (UEI) and be registered with SAM.gov in order to receive a grant. A UEI and SAM.gov registration are **NOT** required to begin or submit the application. However, we recommend you begin these early to avoid delays in receiving your grant.

- Request a UEI** if you do not already have one. For additional information, [click here](#).
- Confirm or create your SAM.gov registration.** For additional information, [click here](#). Please note you will need a UEI to complete your SAM.gov registration.

Need Help?

If you need assistance completing this application or would like translation or interpretation services, please visit <https://commerceri.com/ri-rebounds/hospitality-tourism-and-events-grant-program/> to connect to a partner who can help you complete the application.

Apply Online

Applications will be accepted online from Wednesday, March 16, 2022, to Wednesday, April 6, 2022. Please check <https://commerceri.com/ri-rebounds/hospitality-tourism-and-events-grant-program/> for more information.