

**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

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Mayor Joe Hogsett, Indy Chamber to Launch \$5 Million Fund to Help Small Businesses Safely Reopen

Reimbursement of PPE costs up to \$5,000 available for businesses with fewer than 150 employees

INDIANAPOLIS – Today, Mayor Joe Hogsett released additional information related to the RESTART Grant Program for small businesses that was announced on May 13. The program, administered in partnership with the Indy Chamber, will provide qualifying businesses with reimbursements for purchases of personal protective equipment (PPE) up to \$5,000.

“The public health policies we have adopted in response to COVID-19 are saving lives, but they have also created hardships for local businesses that will extend well beyond the end of our stay-at-home orders,” said Mayor Hogsett. “Through the RESTART Grant Program, we will lessen the burden on our small business community as they equip themselves to protect both their employees and their customers.”

“In our conversations with local business owners, keeping customers, clients, and employees safe is always cited as the number one priority,” said Indy Chamber President and CEO Michael Huber. “As COVID-19 restrictions begin to ease, the RESTART Grant Program will help small businesses plan for reopening with health and safety in mind. We’re honored to administer this program in partnership with Mayor Hogsett and the City of Indianapolis.”

Businesses can find more information and sign up to be notified when applications will begin to be processed at response.indychamber.com/restart.

Who can receive a grant?

In order to be eligible for a grant, an applicant must meet the following requirements with supporting documentation:

1. Be a private for-profit business located in Marion County with 150 employees or fewer.
2. The business occupies the Marion County address on their business registration.
3. Business start date prior to February 15, 2020.
4. Purchased personal protective equipment (PPE), professional cleaning and disinfection services, and/ or capital improvements as a result of the COVID-19



pandemic and to comply with State of Indiana and Marion County Public Health Department reopening [guidelines](#) between May 1 and June 8, 2020.

Which purchases are eligible for reimbursement?

Grants are intended to ensure the safety of employees and customers. Therefore, allowable reimbursable expenditures are purposefully broad and follow these general categories:

- Personal protective equipment including masks, faces shields, gloves, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant products.
- Capital improvements including but not limited to signage, air handling, partitioning for social distancing, improvements for safe queueing, and construction of health and safety improvements aimed at reducing the spread of infection and are consistent with the [State of Indiana](#) and [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) guidelines.

Businesses should begin gathering receipts for PPE and other health and safety-related items purchased between May 1 and June 8 now in anticipation of the opening of the program's application process in the coming weeks.

How do I learn more?

Businesses can visit response.indychamber.com/restart to connect with the Indy Chamber and learn more. Businesses must provide documentation showing that eligible purchases were made between May 1 and June 8, 2020. Applicants will be required to upload receipts showing the goods/services purchased, date of purchase, and vendor.

The maximum grant amount is \$5,000 per business. Businesses can submit only one application per business address. Multiple applications for a registered business will not be accepted.

When will I be reimbursed?

Completed applications with all supporting documents will be reviewed on a first-in-first-out basis.

Reimbursements will be distributed starting the week of June 8, pending final council authorization.

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Residents and affected workers impacted by COVID-19 restrictions should visit the city's resource guide, which can be viewed at <http://www.indy.gov/covid>. Spanish speaking residents can view the Resource Guide [here](#). Individuals who are unable to navigate the city's website can call 317-327-4MAC between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to talk to a customer service representative.

