

Adams County News and Information
**County Establishes Small Business Stabilization Program
to Provide Grants for Job Retention**

As part of its [COVID-19 emergency response and recovery strategy](#), Adams County, through its Community & Economic Development Department, is establishing the Small Business Stabilization Program to provide local businesses with grants up to \$35,000, dependent on business needs, to retain jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The grants for the Small Business Stabilization Program are paid for by the [Community Development Block Grant \(CDBG\) program](#), which is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to improve the physical, economic, and social conditions for low- to moderate-income populations.

“Small businesses are the lifeblood of our community,” said Commissioner Mary Hodge, champion of the Business Support Response & Recovery Team. “This program can help small business owners financially in their time of need, and those owners can then provide support to their employees until our economy is stabilized.”

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, HUD provided CDBG grantees, including Adams County, guidance on infectious disease response and how to minimize community impact. County staff are working to reduce the negative impacts of the outbreak, and the Small Business Stabilization Program is the first plan to be realized.

According to HUD’s guidance, CDBG funds can be used to assist for-profit businesses to avoid job loss caused by closures related to social distancing. Funding can provide short-term working capital assistance to small businesses to enable retention of jobs and provide organizational stability.

[Local businesses can apply](#) for a small business grant beginning Monday, May 4, at noon. Applications will be open until 50 applications are received and will reopen if more funds are available. Applicants may call 720.523.6200 or email CommDev@adcogov.org for more information.

Businesses must meet the following criteria:

- The business must have 1-25 full-time employees (FTEs) and been operating as of Feb. 12, 2019.
- The business must have a physical establishment and address within unincorporated Adams County; the cities of Northglenn, Brighton, or Federal Heights; or the Town of Bennett.
- Businesses with more than one physical location may apply for the grant program for one location only.

- The business must have experienced a loss of revenue due to Public Health Orders enacted for COVID-19.
- The business owner must demonstrate how the grant will retain jobs – at least one full-time equivalent job (1,750 hours annually) or two permanent part-time jobs (at least 875 hours each annually) for individuals whose households earn 80% of the Area Median Income or less, as specified on the [Small Business Stabilization Program website](#).
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate they were unable to obtain federal Small Business Administration assistance or did not receive enough assistance.
- Awards will be made on a first-come, first-served basis and in proportion to the contribution made from the contributing jurisdiction.
- The award amount will be determined based on the demonstrated need, up to \$35,000.

The Board of County Commissioners voted to amend the 2019 Annual Action Plan to establish the Small Business Stabilization Program at public hearing on Tuesday, April 21.

About Adams County

With rich traditions and history, Adams County offers the best of suburban and rural life – vibrant cities, quiet towns, and miles of recreation. Located in the Denver metro area, Adams County is the state’s 5th largest county serving a population of over 500,000 residents. Adams County is home to the cities of Brighton, Commerce City, Federal Heights, Northglenn, and Thornton; portions of Arvada, Aurora, and Westminster: the town of Bennett; and a portion of the town of Lochbuie. Unincorporated communities include Henderson, Strasburg, and Watkins. Stay up to date on the latest county news and information on [adcogov.org](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Nextdoor](#), and [Instagram](#).