BUSINESS OREGON Commercial Rent Relief

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Background

The Oregon Legislative Emergency Board on January 8, 2021, allocated \$100 million to fund a new Commercial Rent Relief Program to provide financial assistance to small businesses and landlords adversely affected by economic conditions as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Program Overview

- Target tenant businesses with 100 or less employees who are in lease payment arrears due to COVID-19.
- Require property owner participation.
- Includes additional protections for tenants, such as noneviction clauses and a waiver of penalties and interest.
- Award grants through a random lottery process.



Who Can Apply

Landlords

- -Landlords must be current on federal, state, or local taxes as of December 31, 2019.
- -Cannot be a publicly-traded company.
- -Landlords with multiple properties and/or tenants may make multiple applications, one for each tenant business.



Tenant Eligibility

- In arrears for delinquent lease payments between March 1, 2020, and February 28, 2021, and the tenant and landlord agree to the amount of arrears.
- Is a for-profit business headquartered in Oregon.
- Leases property in the state of Oregon for its business use.
- Employs 100 or fewer employees per leased location as of February 28, 2021.
- Is actively registered to do business in the state of Oregon with the Secretary of State.
- Is compliant with all federal, state, and local laws.
- Is not a publicly traded company.
- Is open for business or intends to reopen for business when restrictions (if applicable) are lifted at the leased location.



Ineligible Tenants

- Non-profit organizations (501(c)).
- Tenants that previously received CARES Act Funding as authorized by the Oregon Legislature Emergency Board July 2020 for arts organizations, cultural and community venues, and community colleges.
- Tenants that are closed and do not intend to reopen.
- Tenants that were past due on lease payment prior to March 1, 2020.
- Tenants using the Property for any residential purpose.
- Governmental and municipal entities.



Who receives the funds?

• The Landlord, via a mailed check.



What will the grant pay for?

• Base rent as stated in the existing lease that are in arrears due to COVID-19 from March 1, 2020, to February 28, 2021. Includes any foregone or forgiven base rent amounts from that period that were negotiated by landlord and tenant.

 Grant will not pay for sales percentage provisions beyond base rent, triple net costs (taxes, insurance and maintenance), common area maintenance charges, penalties, and/or interest.



Grant Limits

- The maximum grant per lease is the cumulative amount past due rent or \$100,000, whichever is less.
- The maximum total grants that may be awarded to a landlord (at the amount of past due lease payments for all tenants) is \$3 million.



Geographic Distribution

- Central Region 15% (Crook, Deschutes, Hood, Jefferson, Sherman and Wasco)
- Coastal Region 15% (Clatsop, Coos, Columbia, Curry, Lincoln and Tillamook)
- Eastern Oregon Region 15% (Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, and Wheeler)
- Portland Metro Region 20% (Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington)
- Southern Oregon Region 15% (Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath and Lake)
- Valley Region 20% (Benton, Lane, Linn, Marion, Polk and Yamhill)



Timeline (subject to change)

Round 1

- -March 8-Application (Form 1) opened statewide
- -March 22-Application closed at midnight
- March 23—Lottery and requests for application (Forms 2 and 3) begins
- -April 7-Forms 2 and 3 response closes at Midnight
- -April 5-Form 2 and 3 reviews continue
- -April 9-Awards start to be announced
- -April 12-Disbursements start going out to awardees



Timeline continued

- Round 2
- Early April—Application open statewide (2 weeks)
- Mid April—Application closes
- Late April to Early May—Lottery and application review begins
- Early May—Award Announcement
- Mid to Late-May—Contracts start going out to awardees
- Late May—Disbursements start going out to awardees



We Listened

- Don't do first come first served
 - Lottery
- Make it easy to apply
 - New online application portal
- Provide program information & application in multiple languages
 - English, Korean, Russian, Simplified Chinese, Spanish and Vietnamese
- Provide technical assistance to tenants and landlords
 - Contracted with 10 TA providers



Marketing

- Ad Buys OregonLive, Google Search Network, Facebook
- Radio iHeartRadio
- Video YouTube
- Social Media Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn
- Press Releases
- Emails to agency listservs
- Staff and Partners



Application Turn Out

• Submissions – 3,087

• Request Amount - \$75,362,335





