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| |  | | --- | | Good afternoon,  I wanted to be sure you know about the below opportunity that opens later today to apply for small business grants aimed at providing direct relief to local businesses financially impacted by the COVID-19 health crisis.  -Robert Bell  Director of Economic Inclusion  **Application Period for the Hamilton County Small Business Relief Program Starts This Afternoon**  Beginning this afternoon, small businesses in Hamilton County will be able to start the application process to enter the lottery for the Hamilton County Small Business Relief Program that awards $2,500, $5,000 and $10,000 grants to eligible businesses.  The application period is May 20 - May 27 at 5:00 p.m.  Hamilton County Commissioners are utilizing $5 Million in Federal CARES Act funds to help those small businesses with less than $1 Million in gross revenue that have not already received federal assistance.  *Please note:* the County's program is now open to small businesses with and without storefronts and with 50 or fewer employees.  The application will be available on [the County's website.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001cG8HrxcqhNb5jCzBdSci46t0yLnww6BkAiLUus8D-ps0_AOnZfowSUmK78h1ZldZDFRGUZwGDOSbsjVZjn4ujurytN3OGX6tNGtxsHekGDzuZKeNB87tEJTiXsfm0bWEgxaLhMN58JSVjPAIQSx7HGLd7HQz8qotsutNJv0ViwkJ_O1Ijduqy9D9Mpin3sV9EsQtTPRIaDGLDBeFtlOQJs3FuThu43OOLP6F56gulQurhXYbfg1URDCqpKQLiEu4wpVZbL5ot4Y=&c=6Y2vrOEe4B-0vavYr0q-or_-pWD_LN2BoQE8tj57ntjiAGMtsIvoCg==&ch=YJJ48q9srtRQxyQJGoyAm9_irI4MP0fVJo2NWM40ITAe1QAVP9UCyg==) at 5:00 p.m.  The initial application is designed to be simple so businesses do not have to scramble for paperwork to enter the lottery. However, if the business is randomly selected in the lottery, owners will then have seven days to upload verification documents, such as, tax returns and bank statements via a secure link for validation. The lottery will be split into two: one for small business with 0-10 employees and one for businesses with 11-50 employees.  For additional details about the program, please see the [refined eligibility requirements, eligible expenses and application process on our website.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001cG8HrxcqhNb5jCzBdSci46t0yLnww6BkAiLUus8D-ps0_AOnZfowSUmK78h1ZldZDFRGUZwGDOSbsjVZjn4ujurytN3OGX6tNGtxsHekGDzuZKeNB87tEJTiXsfm0bWEgxaLhMN58JSVjPAIQSx7HGLd7HQz8qotsutNJv0ViwkJ_O1Ijduqy9D9Mpin3sV9EsQtTPRIaDGLDBeFtlOQJs3FuThu43OOLP6F56gulQurhXYbfg1URDCqpKQLiEu4wpVZbL5ot4Y=&c=6Y2vrOEe4B-0vavYr0q-or_-pWD_LN2BoQE8tj57ntjiAGMtsIvoCg==&ch=YJJ48q9srtRQxyQJGoyAm9_irI4MP0fVJo2NWM40ITAe1QAVP9UCyg==)  Stay safe and healthy. | |