

## Grants for small businesses in Volusia County, Florida

Volusia County offers various grants and funding resources to support small businesses, including those impacted by COVID-19 and hurricane recovery efforts. These resources are provided through several programs and organizations dedicated to fostering local business growth and stability. Here's an overview of some key grants and resources:

### 1. COVID-19 and hurricane relief

- **Relaunch Volusia: Small Business Reopening Grant Program**: This program provided emergency financial support, including grants of \$3,000 for businesses with up to 25 employees and \$5,000 for those with 26-50 employees, funded by the CARES Act federal stimulus package.
- **Home-based business grants**: A \$3 million grant program was approved to assist home-based businesses financially impacted by the pandemic, with qualifying businesses potentially receiving a \$1,500 grant.
- **Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) grants**: Businesses could apply for grants to acquire necessary PPE such as masks, shields, and gloves to operate safely.
- **Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program**: This state-level program offered short-term, interest-free working capital loans to businesses affected by COVID-19.
- **U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program**: This program provided working capital to small businesses suffering "substantial economic injury" due to the pandemic.
- **Hurricane recovery grants**: Small businesses potentially impacted by hurricanes could apply for grants up to \$5,000 through programs such as the Small Business Readiness for Resiliency Program, according to a Facebook post from the Volusia County Public Library in November 2024.

### 2. General Small Business Support

- **Funding Readiness Center (FRC)**: An online tool designed to help entrepreneurs and small businesses navigate commercial funding options and loan approval processes. It includes a "Readiness Checkup" to assess preparedness and provides financial training content.

- **Volusia Business Resources:** Offers a website with information and resources regarding grants and funding for small businesses in Volusia County, [according to Team Volusia](#).
- **Economic Development - Volusia County:** This department provides resources for startups, second-stage, and maturing businesses, including information on business resources, economic reports, and funding opportunities.
- **Local Incentives:** Volusia County and its municipalities offer various incentives and programs for businesses, including beautification and downtown improvements, brownfields programs, expedited permitting, and more.
- **Community Cultural Grant (CCG):** This program supports general operations and programming activity expenses for non-profit organizations. Organizations with operating budgets under \$40,000 may apply for 20% of their budget total with no minimum threshold.
- **Volusia ECHO Grants-in-Aid:** Offers funding for the acquisition and/or stabilization of historically designated sites. [Applications are accepted year-round](#).
- **Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG):** Volusia County's Community Assistance Division accepts applications from non-profit organizations to provide eligible ESG-funded programs. Applications for FY 2025/26 are due by August 11, 2025.

### 3. Other Potential Funding Options

- **Public and Private Grants:** While eligibility is often limited and competition high, grants may be available from economic development organizations, major corporations, and federal programs like SBIR/STTR for technology and innovation.
- **SBA Loan Programs:** These programs provide loans to small businesses for various needs, [according to Biz2Credit](#).
- **Other Grant Programs:** Explore opportunities from organizations like WomensNet, America's Seed Fund, Cisco Systems Foundation (Global Impact Cash Grants for nonprofits), and others listed in the search results.

#### Important notes

- **Eligibility criteria vary:** Each grant and funding program has specific eligibility requirements. It is crucial to review these carefully before applying.

- **Application deadlines:** Many grants have strict deadlines, so it's essential to apply promptly. Some programs, like the ESG, have an approaching deadline of August 11, 2025.
- **Contact information:** Reach out to relevant county departments or organizations for more detailed information and assistance. For example, for ESG applications, contact William Mollentze, Grants Coordinator, at (386)736-5955 ext. 12965 or [Wmollentze@volusia.org](mailto:Wmollentze@volusia.org).

For the most up-to-date information on available grants and their specific requirements, visit the official Volusia County Government website and other related resources mentioned in the search results.