



ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
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NEWS RELEASE *for Immediate Release*

No. 2020 – 103

June 8, 2020, 10:30 a.m.

**PHASE II CRITERIA FOR ST. MARY'S COUNTY COVID-19 SMALL
BUSINESS AND NONPROFIT RELIEF FUND STARTS TODAY**

LEONARDTOWN, MD - Beginning today, the criteria for St. Mary's County COVID-19 Small Business and nonprofit Relief Fund has been altered to allow more St. Mary's County businesses and nonprofits to meet the eligibility requirements. As of June 8, 2020, the relief program will expand to allow businesses and nonprofits that have experienced a drop in revenue of at least 30% to apply. Previously, a 50% drop in revenue was needed to qualify. In addition, businesses and nonprofits with annual revenues under \$3 million are eligible to apply; previously limited to entities with annual revenues under \$2 million. Locally owned franchises are now eligible to apply.

The initial round was reserved for those locally owned independent businesses that we hardest hit by the pandemic. This phased approach allows the County to ensure that those entities harmed the most would be considered first for these local grants.

The grant program has a budget of \$2 million. Small businesses and nonprofits with 15 or fewer employees are eligible for grants of \$5,000 and entities with 16 to 30 employees are eligible for grants of \$7,500 (grant amount not to exceed a yearly average of two months revenue). We anticipate that over 300 grants will be issued.

Grants may be used for working capital to support payroll expenses, rent, mortgage payments, utility expenses, or other similar expenses that occur in the ordinary course of business.

Eligible businesses and nonprofits can submit an online application at <https://www.yesstmarysmd.com/grants/>

If you have any questions, please contact Kellie Hinkle, Deputy Director
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