



West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Serving the counties of Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Polk, and St. Croix

EVENTS & FUNDING

JUNE 2021

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED JUNE 1 - WEST CENTRAL WISCONSIN MICROENTERPRISE GRANT PROGRAM

West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC) is administering a \$510,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Coronavirus (CV) award from the Wisconsin Department of Administration to establish a Microenterprise Grant Program.

The Program will provide up to \$5,000 in grant funding to eligible small businesses located in Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire (excluding the City of Eau Claire), Polk, and St. Croix counties to cover working capital needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

To be eligible a business must:

- be located in one of the aforementioned counties;
- employ five or fewer employees;
- have been established prior to February 5, 2020;
- be current on income and property taxes; and,
- be owned by a person(s) of qualifying income.

Ineligible businesses include those engaged in crop and animal production, lessors of real estate, and nonprofit organizations.

The Microenterprise Grant application acceptance period is scheduled to begin June 1 @ 12:00 p.m. (noon) and will run until June 15, 2021. Complete applications will be considered on a first-come, first served basis during that period.

Eligible, interested businesses should visit [our website](#) to download the program details, eligibility criteria, and application.

JOIN US FOR AN UPCOMING VIRTUAL BROWN BAG PRESENTATION ON ASSESSING LOCAL BROADBAND NEEDS!

The event is free, but you must register ahead of time.

The West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC) will be hosting a virtual brownbag luncheon to discuss assessing broadband needs, with a special focus on a broadband study taking place in Clark County. The session is free, but you are asked to register [here](#) by 12:00 noon on *Monday, June 14, 2021*.

COVID-19 Resources & Funding

Economic conditions are rapidly changing throughout our Region due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, our office and the Regional Business Fund, Inc. are continuing to develop a list of resources to assist communities and business respond to immediate and long-term challenges. The WCWRPC COVID-19 Resources webpage, available [here](#), provides a list of helpful resources, programs and agencies.

COVID-19 Federal Rural Resource Guide

US Dept. of Agriculture

Rising to Challenges: Navigating through COVID-19 in Wisconsin: Strategies and Resources for Small Businesses and Community Groups

Publication by Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Upcoming Events: June - July 2021

Institute for Business & Entrepreneurship Training Opportunities

Various Dates - Institute for Business & Entrepreneurship University of Wisconsin System

Wisconsin Entrepreneurs' Conference - Building Blocks for Young Companies

June 3, 2021 - Wisconsin Technology Council (Virtual Event)

Public Art in Your Downtown Regional Workshop Series - Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

June 2, 2021 - Osceola, WI

June 3, 2021 - Waupaca, WI

June 4, 2021 - Janesville, WI

Value Capture Strategies Webinars - U.S. Dept. of Transportation

June 9, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies and Project Delivery: Public-Private Partnerships

June 16, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Tax Increment Financing-The Primer

July 14, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Transportation Reinvestment Zones-The Primer

August 4, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Developer Impact Fees-The Primer

August 25, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Special Assessment Districts-The Primer

September 15, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Risk Assessment-The Primer

October 6, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Making the Business and Economic Case-A Primer

Bus Agency Safety Plan Implementation Workshops (Virtual) - Federal Transit Administration

June 10, 2021 - Large Bus Agencies

June 23, 2021 - Small and Large Bus Agencies

Public Participation in Land Use Decision Making Webinar

June 15, 2021 - UW Extension Local Government Center

Getting the Best R.O.I. on Your Local American Rescue Plan Act Funds (Online)

June 23, 2021 - Competitive Wisconsin, Inc.

2021 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference (in-person and virtually)

June 29-July 1, 2021 - National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization

Preparing and Adapting to Future Floods with Natural Flood Management Webinar

July 14, 2021 - UW Extension Local Government Education

Redistricting Workshop for Local Elected Officials Webinar

July 15, 2021 - UW Extension Local Government Education

Health Equity and Community Engagement Webinar

July 20, 2021 - UW Extension Local Government Education

Funding Opportunities: June - August 2021

Business and Industry (B&I) CARES Act Program

Funds available until expended – US Dept. of Agriculture

Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant Funding to Small Cities and Towns

Community Heart and Soul applications accepted on a continuous basis

FY 2021 University Center Economic Development Program

June 4, 2021 - US Economic Development Administration

Wisconsin Tomorrow Small Business Recovery Grants

June 7, 2021 - Wisconsin Economic Development Corp. and Wisconsin Dept. of Revenue

Notice of Discharge Grants

June 15, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning

June 21, 2021 – Federal Transit Administration

Farmers Market Promotion Program **JUST ADDED**

June 21, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Clean Diesel Grant Program JUST ADDED

June 23, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Rural Business Development Grants - Transportation Systems

June 30, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Quadratec Energize the Environment Grant-Fall Cycle

June 30, 2021 – Quadratec Cares

Acres for America

June 30, 2021 (Invited Full Application) – National Fish & Wildlife Foundation

Go Outside Fund

June 30, 2021 – Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin

Clean Water Fund Program

June 30, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Safe Drinking Water Loan Program

June 30, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Forest Fire Protection Grant

July 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Tourist Information Center (TIC) Grant Program

July 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Tourism

Grants for Arts Projects (Second Grants)

July 8, 2021 – National Endowment for the Arts

North American Wetlands Conservation Act U.S. Standard Grants (Cycle 2)

July 9, 2021 – US Fish and Wildlife Service

Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grants

July 12, 2021 – US Dept. of Transportation

People for Bikes Community Grants – Fall Cycle

July 23, 2021 (letter of interest due); October 15, 2021 (full applications) - People for Bikes

Partner with UniverCity Year

July 26, 2021 – UW Madison

Broadband Expansion Grants

July 27, 2021 – Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grants

August 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Access Fund Climbing Conservation Grant Program

August 1, 2021 - Access Fund

Joint Effort Marketing (JEM) Program

August 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Tourism

Meetings Mean Business! Grants Program

August 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Tourism

American Honda Foundation

August 1, 2021 (New Organizations) - American Honda Foundation

Wisconsin Humanities Council Grants - Wisconsin Humanities Council

August 1, 2021 (Mini Grants)

August 15, 2021 (Major Grants)

Snowmobile Trail Aids

August 1, 2021 (supplemental maintenance) – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Our Town Grants

August 5, 2021 – National Endowment for the Arts

Public Humanities Project

August 11, 2021 – National Endowment for the Humanities

Notice of Discharge Grants

August 15, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Broadband Infrastructure Program

August 17, 2021 - National Telecommunications & Information Administration

The following state or federal funding agencies have various programs and deadlines:

Community Development Block Grant Planning (PLNG) Program

Applications accepted on a continuous basis – Wisconsin Dept. of Administration

Community Development Investment Grant Program

No submission deadlines – Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

EDA Planning Program and Local Technical Assistance Program

Contact the WCWRPC if interested

Freight Railroad Infrastructure Improvement Program

Ongoing – Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation

EDA Public Works & Economic Adjustment Assistance Program

Contact the WCWRPC if interested

Community Development Block Grant-Emergency Assistance Program

Varies - Wisconsin Dept. of Administration

Emergency Watershed Protection Program

Contact local Natural Resources Conservation Service field office

Idle Sites Redevelopment Program

Continuous application process – Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

Ongoing – US Dept. of Agriculture

Strategic Economic and Community Development (SECD) Program

Open – US Dept. of Agriculture

Water & Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program

Ongoing – US Dept. of Agriculture



REGIONAL BUSINESS FUND, INC.

The Regional Business Fund, Inc. (RBF, Inc.) is a non-profit economic development corporation whose purpose is to promote business and economic development in west central Wisconsin. The RBF, Inc. offers low-interest loan funds to businesses that expand within the region, diversify the economy, add new technology, revitalize buildings in the region's downtowns, create or retain quality jobs, and increase capital investment in the region. The RBF, Inc. offers the following programs:

- **Revolving Loan Fund**
- **Growth Loan Fund**
- **Micro Loan Fund**
- **Downtown Facade Fund**
- **Technology Enterprise Fund**
- **EDA Fund**

For more information, visit our [website](#), or please contact:

- **Tobi LeMahieu**, Fund Manager
- **Heidi Biesterveld**, Lending Specialist
- **Mai Xiong-Thao**, Loan Processor

WCWRPC Staff:

**Lynn
Nelson**
Executive
Director



**Eric
Anderson**
Senior
Planner



**Susan
Badtke**
Senior
Planner



Heidi
Biesterveld

Lending
Specialist



Craig
Johnson

Associate
Planner



Tobi
LeMahieu

Fund
Manager



Landon
Profaizer

Associate
Planner



Edwin
Rothrock

Associate
Planner



Lisa
Ruth

Office
Manager



Chris
Straight

Senior
Planner



Mai
Xiong-
Thao

Loan
Processor



Kim
Zimmerman

Financial
Manager

