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West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

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

EVENTS & FUNDING

NOVEMBER 2020

NEW BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAM

Economic Development Administration (EDA) CARES Act Recovery Assistance Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) has awarded the West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC) \$500,000 to capitalize a new EDA CARES Act Recovery Assistance Revolving Loan Fund.

Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are diminished. Any business in the seven county region (Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Polk, and St. Croix) meeting the below eligibility requirements will be eligible to apply (City of Eau Claire included). Highlights of the new program are:

- Loans will be limited to small businesses with 10 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees or less
- Loans will be limited to certain industry sectors believed to be most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic:
 - Manufacturing (NAICS 31-33)
 - Retail Trade (NAICS 44-45)
 - Health Care and Social Assistance (NAICS 62)
 - Arts, entertainment and recreation (NAICS 71)

- Accommodation and food services (NAICS 72)
- Other services (NAICS 81)
- Use of loan funds is for working capital
- Minimum loan size of \$5,000 and maximum loan size of \$10,000
- Term of 7 years
- Option of 12-month payment deferral or interest-only period
- Interest rate will be 1% for the first two years, and then will increase to 2% in subsequent years
- No prepayment penalty
- Matching funds/other financing is not required
- Can be utilized in conjunction with any other loan or grant program.

Click [here](#) for more information.

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: November - December 2020

73rd Wisconsin Towns Association Convention - Distance Learning

October 5 through November 4, 2020 (various dates)

Wisconsin Counties Association Virtual Workshops

November 2, 2020 - Serving our Aging Population

November 9, 2020 - Preparing for the Emergency You Hope Never Happens: Media and Communications

Transportation Information Center Online Workshops

November 4-5, 2020 - Highway Safety (Focused on Urban Areas)

November 5-12, 2020 - Fundamentals of Local Government

November 10, 2020 - WisDOT Flagger Training

December 8-9, 2020 - Highway Safety

Building Community Capacity around Housing Webinar

November 5-6, 2020 - US Dept. of Agricultural and Regional Rural Development Centers

Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership Webinars

November 6, 2020 - Perspectives on Insuring Against Low Risk, High Cost Events (e.g. Pandemics)

November 20, 2020 - To Whom Should Wisconsinites Look to Advance Digital Privacy & Security?

Getting Familiar with the FY 2021 Farm to School Request for Applications

November 10, 2020 - US Dept. of Agriculture

Innovation, Recovery and Opportunity: Serving Wisconsin's Veteran Owned Small Businesses Webinar

November 10, 2020 - Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

Food Finance Institute (FFI) Scaler Services Online Workshops

November 10, 2020 - Financial & Accounting Processes

January 14, 2021 - Sales and Distribution Planning

February 4, 2021 - Marketing and Branding Planning

February 24, 2021 - Operations & Organization Planning

March 18, 2021 - Sources & Uses of Capital Finance Planning

April 15, 2021 - Food Safety & GFSI Planning

Farm to School Grant Application: Getting Your Grant Package Together

November 13, 2020 - US Dept. of Agriculture

Funding Opportunities: November 2020 - January 2021

Certified Local Government Historic Preservation Fund Subgrants

November 6, 2020 (application) – Wisconsin Historical Society

Community Change Grant

November 9, 2020 – America Walks

H-1B One Workforce Grant Program **JUST ADDED**

November 12, 2020 – US Dept. of Labor

H-1B Rural Healthcare Grant Program

November 13, 2020 – US Dept. of Labor

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program Grants to Friends Groups

November 15, 2020 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Small Business Development Centers **JUST ADDED**

November 16, 2020 – Small Business Administration

Rural Health Network Development Planning Program **JUST ADDED**

November 16, 2020 – US Dept. of Health & Human Services

Museums for America

November 16, 2020 – Institute of Museum & Library Services

Inspire! Grants for Small Museums **JUST ADDED**

November 16, 2020 – Institute of Museum & Library Services

Museums Empowered 2021 **JUST ADDED**

November 16, 2020 – Institute of Museum & Library Services

Industry Sectors Worker Training Grants JUST ADDED

November 30, 2020 – Wisconsin Dept. of Workforce Development

Climate Program Office FY2021

November 30, 2020 – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

VentureHome - Eau Claire Seed Accelerator JUST ADDED

November 30, 2020 – WiSys, UW-Eau Claire and CoLab

Community Interventions to Address the Consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic among Health Disparity and Vulnerable Populations JUST ADDED

December 1, 2020 – US Dept. of Health and Human Services

Broadband Expansion Grants FY 2021

December 1, 2020 – Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Meetings Mean Business! Grants Program

December 1, 2020 – Wisconsin Dept. of Tourism

Urban Wildlife Damage Abatement and Control

December 1, 2020 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

FY 2020 SPRINT Challenge

December 3, 2020 – US Dept. of Commerce

Wisconsin Humanities Council Major Grants

December 15, 2020

Community Connect Grant Program

December 23, 2020 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Go Outside Fund

December 31, 2020 – Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin

Solid Waste Management Grants

December 31, 2020 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Walmart Community Grant Program

December 31, 2020

2021 Wisconsin Land Information Program Grant Application

December 31, 2020 – Wisconsin Dept. of Administration

Ready, Set, Go! Grants

January 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Tourism

Tourist Information Center (TIC) Grant Program

January 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Tourism

Public Humanities Projects

January 6, 2021 – National Endowment for the Humanities

FY 2021 AmeriCorps State and National Grants

January 6, 2021 – Corporation for National & Community Service

FY 2021 Farm to School Grants

January 8, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Fabrication Laboratories (Fab Labs) Grant Program

January 8, 2021 – Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

AgrAbility - Assistive Technology Program for Farmers with Disabilities

January 13, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions

January 14, 2021 – National Endowment for the Humanities

Captain Planet Foundation Grants

January 15, 2021

Creative Communities Grants – Phase 1

January 21, 2021 – Wisconsin Arts Board

Women and Minorities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Fields Program

January 21, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

FY20 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities

January 29, 2021 – Federal Emergency Management Administration

FY20 Flood Mitigation Assistance

January 29, 2021 – Federal Emergency Management Administration

Boat Enforcement Patrol Grants

January 31, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

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

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

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:

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- **Mai Xiong-Thao**, Loan Processor