



HARRISBURG REGIONAL
CHAMBER & CREDC™

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MEDIA RELEASE

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CREDC Selected by Dauphin, Perry County Commissioners to Administer COVID-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program

CHIRP grant application window opens March 15

Counties and CREDC to host informational webinar March 11

Harrisburg, Pa. (February 25, 2021) – The Capital Region Economic Development Organization, the economic development arm of the Harrisburg Regional Chamber known as CREDC, along with the Dauphin County and Perry County commissioners, today announced that CREDC has been selected by Dauphin and Perry counties to administer Pennsylvania’s COVID-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program (CHIRP) in the counties. The program will provide relief to eligible hospitality businesses suffering because of the pandemic. Grant applications will be accepted beginning March 15.

As administrator, CREDC will process and underwrite eligible applications, prioritize requests in accordance with program legislation and present applications to the counties for consideration. Once grants are awarded, CREDC will contract with grantees and process grant disbursements.

“Businesses within the Harrisburg region’s hospitality and tourism sector have been severely and disproportionately impacted by the pandemic,” said Melissa Stone, vice president of economic development at the Harrisburg Regional Chamber and CREDC. “The CHIRP grants will provide crucial support to help these businesses endure the financial strain, get back to full operation and ultimately strengthen our region’s economic recovery.”

Grant awards will be based on a company’s amount of eligible costs incurred between March 1, 2020 and the date of application minus any other Covid-19 relief assistance received for those same costs. The maximum grant award is \$50,000 and grants will be awarded in \$5,000 increments.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be located within the county in which they are applying
- Be for-profit and not publicly traded
- Be open for business and have been open for business on or before Feb. 15, 2020
- Remain in operation as of the date of application and not intend to permanently cease operations within one year of applying
- Have primary business activities aligned with [NAICS codes](#) 721 or 722 as of Feb. 15, 2020
- Have fewer than 300 full-time equivalent employees across all locations as of Feb. 15, 2020
- Have a maximum tangible net worth of not more than \$15 million as of Feb. 15, 2020
- Must demonstrate an adverse economic impact from the COVID-19 pandemic in the form of a 25% reduction in gross receipts calculated according to legislative definitions

“There are so many Dauphin County businesses that have endured closures, capacity crunches, and staff lay-offs during this unprecedented pandemic,” Dauphin County Commissioner Chair Jeff Haste said. “These funds will serve as much-needed lifelines.”

Perry County Commissioner [fill-in] said, “. ”

CREDC is a Certified Economic Development Organization (CEDO) approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to provide and service business financing in Dauphin, Perry and Cumberland counties. Under Act 1 of 2021, which created CHIRP, county governments were empowered to select CEDOs or Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) to administer the program in their counties.

For more information, businesses should visit the Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC’s website:

- Dauphin County businesses: harrisburgregionalchamber.org/chirp/dauphin
- Perry County businesses: harrisburgregionalchamber.org/chirp/perry/

CREDC will host a free webinar with representatives from Dauphin and Perry counties on March 11, 2021 from 9-10 a.m., to provide additional information about the program, provide guidance on how to apply and answer questions. To register, visit harrisburgregionalchamber.org/CHIRPwebinar.

Cumberland County businesses must apply through the Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation (CAEDC). For more information, Cumberland County businesses should visit [CAEDC](https://caedc.org).

ABOUT HARRISBURG REGIONAL CHAMBER & CREDC

[Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC](https://harrisburgregionalchamber.org) serves as a catalyst for promoting growth and quality of life in Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry Counties through bold leadership, visionary members and powerful results. The organization provides a unique blend of business, community/economic development and advocacy services under one roof to boost economic vitality and livability across the region. The Chamber & CREDC is five-star accredited by the United States Chamber of Commerce, a distinction achieved by less than 2 percent of chambers across the nation.

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