

**Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
Hotel Relief Program
Notice of Funding Opportunity
May 5, 2023**

DISCLAIMER

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (“NOFO”) is intended to be a guide to the application process for perspective applicants applying for consideration of funding through the Georgia Capital Projects Grant Program (“HOTEL RELIEF PROGRAM Grant Program”). This guidance is not exhaustive, binding, or final.

I. OVERVIEW

Through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recover Funds, the Hotel Relief Grant Program will provide direct aid to hotels who can demonstrate a negative economic impact of COVID-19. A total of \$150 million will be allocated for the establishment of an economic recovery fund for hotels impacted by COVID-19.

II. APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

During the grant application window, only staff designated by OPB as primary grant contacts can be contacted for assistance. The primary grant contacts for the HOTEL RELIEF PROGRAM Grant Program are Max Levy (max.levy@opb.georgia.gov).

III. FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR AWARD

OPB anticipates that approximately \$150 million may be available under this NOFO, which may be increased or decreased at OPB’s discretion. OPB reserves the right to fund, in whole or in part, any, all, or none of the applications submitted in response to this NOFO.

IV. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Owners of hotels or bed-and-breakfasts operating during 2020 who meet the eligibility criteria outlined with the NOFO.

V. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

You are eligible for grant funds if you meet the following criteria:

- You are a hotel or bed-and-breakfast with NAICS Code 721110 or 721191 that is not owned or operated by a state or local government.
- You are in good standing with the state of Georgia’s Secretary of State’s Office.
- You are located within the state of Georgia.
- You are subject to the accommodations tax.
- You were established and operating prior to April 2019
- You can demonstrate negative impact of COVID-19 by providing federal income tax return showing 15% or greater reduction in revenue adjusted for COVID-19 costs in 2020 over 2019. (You can provide FEIN, W9, and a federal and state return from calendar year 2019 and 2020 as well as your Sales and Use tax returns from 2019 and 2020)
- You do not owe any outstanding state taxes.

VI. GRANTEE TYPE

Awardees under the hotel relief program will be designated as beneficiaries. Treasury Final Rule provides that if the recipient is providing funds to the individual or entity for the purpose of directly benefitting the

individual or entity as a result of experiencing a public health impact or negative economic impact of the pandemic, the individual or entity is acting as a beneficiary. Acting as a beneficiary, the individual or entity is not subject to subrecipient monitoring and reporting requirements.

VII. ELIGIBLE USE OF FUNDS

Funds will be awarded for operational costs associated with maintaining and running a property based on the demonstrated loss incurred by the hotel or bed-and-breakfast. Examples of operational costs include but are not limited to rent, insurance, wages, utility costs, sales and accounting, marketing, and travel agent commissions.

Unallowable uses:

- Property and other taxes
- Lobbying
- Debt service
- To replenish financial reserves
- To satisfy any obligation resulting from a judgment or settlement

VIII. GRANT PROGRAM TIMELINE

May 5, 2023: NOFO Released

May 12, 2023: Virtual Applicant Workshop at 9:00 AM EST

May 15: Application Window Opens

May 15, 2023: Application Review on Rolling Basis

IX. APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

All applications will be reviewed for eligibility and completeness. Awards will be made on a rolling basis for eligible applications.

X. APPLICATION AWARD AND NOTIFICATION

All applications will be reviewed and evaluated according to the eligibility criteria. All awardees will be notified of the award.

XI. GRANT AGREEMENT AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS

An applicants selected for funding through the Hotel Relief Grant Program that wish to accept this award must execute the Hotel Relief Program Grant Program Terms and Conditions within 60 days of award announcements. The State will not accept proposed changes or amendments to the Terms and Conditions. Failure or refusal to comply with this requirement will result in award funds being rescinded.