

Welcome to our monthly newsletter. In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, *Teamwork* is only being distributed electronically. Our print edition will resume when appropriate.

Apply now! Millions in grants available for small businesses

COVID-19 relief resources are not going on holiday

Working Washington Small Business Grant Round 3: Apply [HERE](#)

An additional \$50 million in CARES grant funding is available statewide to help small businesses hardest hit by the pandemic and government restrictions, such as restaurants, fitness centers and music/event venues. **Working Washington Small Business Grants** up to \$20,000 are available.

Businesses are encouraged to apply for the grant by Dec. 11. The grants are funded by CARES Act dollars and must be distributed by the state before Dec. 30. All applications received by Dec. 11 will be prioritized.

“Small businesses are the heart and soul of our communities, and what make our neighborhoods unique,” said Department of Commerce Director Lisa Brown. “We intend to distribute these funds as quickly as possible to the businesses that need it most.”

To qualify, businesses must make less than \$5 million in annual revenue. When applying, they must provide NAICS codes and UBI numbers. Commerce will use the NAICS codes to find priority businesses (i.e., restaurants, gyms, venues).

For more information and to apply for this third round of Working Washington Business Grants, visit the Commerce website at commerce.wa.gov/bizgrants.

Additional recovery aid is coming soon. Commerce will offer \$30 million for business recovery loans through a new revolving loan fund program, set to launch the first quarter of 2021. This longer-term financial tool will be designed to provide small businesses a bridge to recovery. More information will be shared when it becomes available.

Pierce County Business Rollback Grant: Apply [HERE](#)

Last month, **Pierce County Council** passed another round of emergency legislation intended to get more funds in the hands of Pierce County small businesses. Subject to available funds, the **Business Rollback Grant** offers up to \$10,000 to main street retail, arts and culture establishments and other qualifying businesses impacted by recently modified COVID-19 restrictions.

The deadline to apply for the Business Rollback Grant is 5 p.m. Dec. 11.

To be eligible, businesses must fall into one of the following categories:

- In-store retail.

BRIEFS

Free PPE for your workplace

Need help complying with COVID-19 worksite-specific safety practices? While supplies last, **Pierce County** continues to offer free personal protective equipment (PPE) to businesses physically located in Pierce County.

Available PPE includes disposable, non-surgical masks and no-touch infrared forehead thermometers.

For more information and to access the PPE request form, visit the Pierce County Economic Development website.

Pacific Northwest Aerospace Alliance Conference February 8-11, 2021

Join the **Pacific Northwest Aerospace Alliance** and the global aerospace community at **ADVANCE 2021**, the PNAA's 20th Annual Aerospace Conference, February 8-11, 2021. The event will be held at the Lynnwood Convention Center and virtually.

For more information and to register, visit the PNAA website.

Mark your calendar! EDB Annual Meeting March 11, 2021

The **2021 EDB Annual Meeting** is currently slated to be held at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, March 11, 2021.

Stay tuned for more details!

- Arts and culture establishments such as theaters, museums and entertainment venues.
- Fitness facilities, gyms, and bowling centers.
- Caterers, restaurants, taprooms, and similar eating and drinking establishments that do not have a drive-through and did not participate in the Restaurant Rally program.

Businesses must also:

- Be physically located in Pierce County.
- Have 20 or fewer full-time equivalent employees.
- Be in operation for one or more years (businesses that have had a change in ownership in the past 12 months may be eligible).
- Demonstrate at least a 25% reduction in revenues attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Be an independent business (not a corporate chain or corporate franchise).
- Operate consistent with current state and local COVID-19 guidance.

Learn more and apply on the [Pierce County website](#).

EDB Vitality Grant funds signed, sealed and delivered

Last month, we reported that a total of \$580,250 in [Economic Development Board for Tacoma-Pierce County Vitality Grant](#) awards were given to 98 businesses and 14 community organizations in Pierce County. Funds are now in the hands of all grant recipients.

Grant awardees truly mirror Pierce County's diverse and vibrant community. You can find the full list on the [EDB website](#).

Shop, support and celebrate local

It's holiday season—2020 style. With events on hold and new restrictions on businesses to stop the spread of COVID-19, shopping local is more important than ever.

Pierce County cities and organizations are finding creative ways to promote local businesses, keep shoppers safe and make it easy to tick through holiday gift lists. Check it out:

- In November, **City of Tacoma's Economic and Community Development Department** launched [Celebrate Tacoma](#). The searchable database highlights local restaurants, retailers and service businesses especially hard hit by COVID-19.
- On the hunt for mountain pint glasses, Tacoma swag or some wearable or hangable art? **Downtown Tacoma Partnership** created the [Shop Downtown Tacoma](#) program, an online marketplace that spotlights the city's unique downtown shops, restaurants and destinations. Check out the [12 Days of Haul Crawl](#) (Dec. 1-12) for daily deals.
- The **Puyallup/Sumner Chamber of Commerce** conceived the [Mingle Jingle Marketplace](#) pop-up store (Dec. 8-9) and online shop (through Dec. 15) to boost their main street shops. For shoppers who purchase items virtually, Chamber "elves" deliver locally or arrange for socially distanced pickup at the Chamber office.
- The **City of Lakewood's** annual **Holiday Arts and Pottery Sale** may have been shelved this year, but you can still find one-of-a-kind gifts at the [Heritage Lakewood](#) museum store and online via select artists' websites. Visit the city's [website](#) for more information.
- Supporting black-owned businesses helps the community thrive. The [Tacoma Urban League Black Business Directory](#) is a great way to get connected, during the holidays and beyond.
- **SiteCrafting** nailed it this season with [The Gift Guide for](#)



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[the Year of Physical Distancing](#), a guide to local shops, goods, bites and brews. From Campfire Coffee to cuddle blankets, you'll find everything you need to make the holidays a little brighter.

- Through Dec. 13, the **Gig Harbor Downtown Alliance** presents [Passport to the Holidays](#), a month-long shopping and dining promotion along the city's historic waterfront. A total of 40 businesses are participating.
- The [Buy Local Auburn](#) search tool is a handy way to explore restaurants offering delivery and curbside delivery, essential businesses and shopping.

Welcome, new EDB board members

The EDB is pleased to welcome three new members to its [Board of Directors](#), filling vacancies created by the departure of other board members: Katie Condit, new CEO of [WorkForce Central](#); Mary Ragsdale, vice president of operations and COO of [St. Anthony Hospital – CHI Franciscan](#) in Gig Harbor; and Stephanie Pedersen, editor and president of [The News Tribune](#).

The EDB will announce additional new board members, soon. Teamwork will take a deeper dive into the EDB's new additions, including innovate ways their organizations have pivoted in response to COVID-19.

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Teamwork is a service of the EDB, a non-profit corporation focused on recruitment and retention of primary businesses in Tacoma and Pierce County. Telephone: 253-383-4726. Website: edbtacomapierce.org