



Dear neighbors,

I am writing from Albany where the last whirlwind week of the 2020-2021 legislative session ended very early this morning at 4:21AM. My staff and I are heading back to Ithaca and will be in touch next week with a full roundup of highlights of legislation we passed during the final weeks of session.

In the meantime, a quick reminder that the **New York COVID-19 Pandemic Small Business Recovery Grant Program** will begin accepting applications today. Grants are available for eligible small businesses and For-Profit Independent Arts and Cultural Organizations. The Small Business REcovery Program was established earlier this year as part of the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2021-2022 Budget, and is administered by the New York State Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC).

A graphic with a teal background. On the left is the circular seal of the Assembly of the State of New York, featuring a central figure and the text 'ASSEMBLY STATE OF NEW YORK'. To the right of the seal, the text 'COVID-19 RELIEF:' is in a large white font, and 'Small Business Assistance' is in a large, bold, italicized white font below it. Below this, a white rectangular box contains the following text: 'The COVID-19 Pandemic Small Business Recovery Grant Program, which was passed as part of this year's state budget, is now accepting applications.' followed by 'Eligible small businesses and small for-profit independent arts and cultural organizations can apply for grants to cover pandemic-related expenditures.' Below that, the text 'TO LEARN MORE VISIT:' is in a bold green font, and a green button with the text 'nysmallbusinessrecovery.com' in white is centered at the bottom.

Applications will be accepted beginning on June 10th. Those eligible to apply include small businesses, micro-businesses and for-profit independent arts and cultural organizations who began operation on or before March 1, 2019 and continue to be in operation as of the date of their application, even if they were shuttered due to COVID-19 restrictions. Eligible applicants will be required to show loss of gross receipts or other economic hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and compliance with COVID-19 health and safety protocols which resulted in business modifications, interruptions, or closures.

More information on the COVID-19 Pandemic Small Business Recovery Grant Program, applicant qualifications and where to apply can be found at <https://nysmallbusinessrecovery.com/>.

If you have any questions about these programs, please give my office a call and my staff will be happy to help.

In good health,



Anna Kelles, Ph.D.

Assemblymember, 125th A.D.

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