COVID-19 — IOWA SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF PROGRAM UPDATE — MAY 27, 2020

Iowa Small Business Relief Program. The Iowa Small Business Relief Program provides financial assistance to small businesses that have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Program offers eligible small businesses grants ranging from $5,000 to $25,000 and permits the deferral of sales and use or withholding taxes and the waiver of penalty and interest.

Grants. The Iowa Small Business Relief Grants will assist eligible businesses in maintaining operations or reopening business following the COVID-19 pandemic. The grants cannot be used to pay debts incurred prior to March 17, 2020. The grant amount will be determined by the level of impact, including the loss of sales revenue and employees.

Eligibility. To be eligible for a grant, a business must satisfy the following requirements:

- Be experiencing business disruption due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Have employed between 2 and 25 people prior to March 17, 2020.

The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) initially received nearly 14,000 applications from businesses for a total of more than $148.0 million. The Program is not first-come, first-served. The IEDA anticipates using the following three funding sources totaling $124.5 million:

- $17.0 million from Iowa’s Economic Emergency Fund.
- $7.5 million from recapture and repayments from the old Iowa Values Fund.
- $100.0 million from federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding.

As reported by the IEDA, approximately $78.3 million has already been awarded to 4,162 businesses.
Iowa Small Business Relief Grants

The table above reflects the awards made and not the awards issued. The cash balance of the Fund, as of May 27, 2020, is approximately $18.6 million.

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