

New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Development Board

Rapid Response Lay-off Aversion Funds





General Guidance

Designed to mitigate or minimize potential job losses, the most important aspect of a proposed layoff aversion project is that it is intentional. That is, it includes a deliberate, planned strategy with expected outcomes.

Since funds are limited, priority must be given to layoff aversion projects that :

- Support a local area's targeted sectors, and, where possible,
- Make use of other funding sources and leveraged resources.





General Guidance continued....

Examples of layoff aversion projects that use innovative strategies to address COVID-19-related effects on small businesses (250 or fewer employees) and workers include:

- A small business needs their employees to be at work, on site, but cannot afford frequent deep cleaning to help prevent potential exposure to COVID-19. Layoff aversion funds could be used to pay for a cleaning/sanitization service.
- A small business whose employees use specific software or computer applications asks their employees to work from home/remotely in order to support social distancing and limit potential exposure to COVID-19. Layoff aversion funding could be used to purchase the software/programs that the employee would need to use from home to support their work.





Requirements

- These funds are for small businesses (250 employees and less)*
- Business must have approval and a signed "contract/agreement" with the local WDB prior to purchases.
- Funds cannot be used for the purchase of "equipment" (the purchase of a \$600 computer with \$1,000 of software is not equipment, they are using the IRS definition of \$5,000 and more).
- Funds cannot be used the pay wages.
- Funds are only available as "reimbursement" only.



^{*} if a company's local size is 250 and less, but their "enterprise" size is greater, the locality can request assistance, if this company/industry is important to that locality.



Local Process

- Identify the company you feel could use these funds (quickly)
- Contact Marty Holliday (<u>marty.holliday@vcwnrmr.com</u>) and Kimber Simmons (<u>Kimber.simmons@vcwnrmr.com</u> or 540-357-1651).
- Kimber will work with you and/or the company on the agreement (ensuring all Federal and State requirements are met)
- Marty will sign approval and process for payment.





Local Notes

- The region only has \$61,260 to serve 13 localities.
- Maximum request is \$4,700 (we will serve more companies if the request are less)
- Marty will ensure that each locality can serve at least one business

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE!!!!!





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