

Governor Announces Get Nebraska Growing Initiative

The CARES Act, passed by Congress and signed into law by the President, allocated \$1.83 billion to the State of Nebraska. On June 12, 2020, Governor Ricketts laid out plans on how the first initial tranche of \$387 million would be spent, dubbing the program the Get Nebraska Growing initiative.

Grants to Small Business and Livestock Producers

The Nebraska Small Business Stabilization Grant is allocated \$330 million to help cover operating expenses for Nebraska small businesses and livestock producers. Eligible businesses are those Nebraska-owned businesses with 5 to 49 employees as of March 13, 2020 that have closed or sustained a loss of revenue or employment since March 13, 2020.

Businesses in the following industries are not eligible:

- Mining (NAICS 21)
- Utilities (NAICS 22)
- Finance and Insurance (NAICS 52)
- Management of Companies & Enterprises (NAICS 55)
- Educational Services (NAICS 61)
- Public Administration (NAICS 92)
- Lobbyist and Political Organizations

The application must be made online (see Application Guideline [available here](#)). Livestock Producers need only have 1-10 employees, and meet certain other requirements for minimum animal units.

Applications will be accepted from June 15, 2020, through June 26, 2020. Awards will be issued to qualifying applicants until funds are exhausted.

You can read more about the Nebraska Small Business Stabilization Grant [here](#).

Workforce Retraining Initiative

The Department of Economic Development will administer the \$16 million allocated to the Workforce Retraining Initiative. The program will be ran through Nebraska community colleges; individuals who have lost employment as a result of COVID-19 will be invited to apply to the community colleges for financial aid.

You can read more about the Workforce Retraining Initiative [here](#).

Rural Broadband

The Governor also announced a \$40 million rural broadband grant which will provide connectivity to unserved and underserved communities in Nebraska. Broadband service providers are eligible to apply in communities in which the majority of residents do not have access to or the ability to subscribe to broadband service with a minimum of 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload. The grant is to be used to provide service to eligible community meeting certain standards. The project must be completed by December 30, 2020. The application period opens June 22, 2020 and ends July 2, 2020.

You can read more about the Rural Broadband Grant [here](#).

Gallup Business Leadership Training Grant

Nebraska businesses with 500 or fewer employees in industries eligible for the Nebraska Advantage Act are eligible to participate in a 30-week online course to learn management and leadership techniques. This grant is allocated \$1 million. The application opens June 22, 2020, and ends July 2, 2020.

You can read more about the Gallup Leadership Training Grant [here](#).

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