

MICHIGAN STAGES SURVIVAL GRANT PROGRAM FAQ

The Michigan Stages Survival Grant program is awarding \$3.5 million in state funding to eligible Michigan live music and entertainment venues that have experienced a significant financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Where do venues apply?

Venues can apply at www.michiganbusiness.org/stages.

When will the application be available?

The application period will be 9:00 a.m. EST on Thursday, January 21 through 12:00 p.m. (noon) EST on Thursday, January 28, 2021.

Who will administer the grant?

Applications will be processed by, the Michigan Independent Venue and Promoter Association. MIVPA will complete an initial screening of all applications and supporting documentation and recommend applications to the MEDC for disbursement of the grants awarded.

Is the funding first come, first serve?

All completed applications received within the application period will be considered; funding is not first come, first serve.

What can grants be used for?

Grants may be used for payroll expenses, rent, mortgage payments, utility expenses, or costs related to reopening a business.

Who is eligible to apply?

Venues must meet all of the following eligibility requirements:

- Be located in the state of Michigan.
- Produce and/or present live, disciplined-based performance experiences.
- Demonstrate that at least 33% of 2019 gross revenues are from the sale of tickets for live music or entertainment events OR that they receive at least 70% of its earned revenue through cover charges or tickets sales, production fees or production reimbursements, nonprofit educational initiatives, or the sale of event beverages, food or merchandise.
- Demonstrate their second quarter revenues from April 1 - June 30, 2020 were not greater than 10% of second quarter revenue from April 1-June 30, 2019.
- Employ no more than 30 employees on a full time basis.
- Existed prior to February 29, 2020.
- Are not owned and operated in more than two states.
- Are not owned and operated with offices in more than one country.
- Are not listed on the national securities exchange as an issuer.

How much can businesses apply for?

The maximum eligible grant award is \$40,000 with no match requirement.

What is the timeline for receiving the grants?

- January 21 at 9:00 a.m. EST: application window opens.
- January 28 at 12:00 p.m. (noon) EST: application window closes.
- February 28: All grant recommendations from MIVPA will have made to the MEDC.
- The MEDC will disburse grants as they receive recommendations by MIVPA.

How will funds be issued?

Program grant funds will only be issued via EFT. At the time of application, the applicant will be required to have completed registered in the State of Michigan State Integrated Governmental Management Applications (SIGMA) Vendor Self-Service (VSS) website, Michigan.gov/SIGMAVSS, and the applicant will need to provide its registration number in the application. The applicant will also be required to affirm that it has also entered all required banking information and is registered to receive EFT payments.

If I am eligible for the Michigan Stages Survival Grant am I also eligible for the Michigan Small Business Survival grants?

A – No. Businesses and venues eligible for the Michigan Stages Survival Grant are not eligible to apply for the Michigan Small Business Survival grants. However, venues that may have received funding from previous MSF or MEDC relief programs are eligible to also apply for relief through the Michigan Stage Survival grants.

Will grant awards be made public?

Per the statute, the application process, program guidelines, reporting forms and the application itself will be available on michiganbusiness.org/stages. Additionally, each month a report must be provided to the Legislature that includes a listing of grants awarded in the previous month and the name of the recipient of each grant provided under the program. The MEDC will issue a press release(s) to announce grant awardees and overall impact of the grants, which would include number of grants issued. A full list of recipients will be posted on michiganbusiness.org/stages.

Additional information on eligibility as well as resources to assist in the application process are available at michiganbusiness.org/stages.



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