

# **CATTARAUGUS COUNTY MICROENTERPRISE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

## **INFORMATION SHEET**

Cattaraugus County, through the Cattaraugus County Economic Sustainability and Growth Corporation (CCESGC), is sponsoring a Microenterprise Assistance Program (MAP) which will provide grants to eligible businesses located within Cattaraugus County. The MAP is intended to assist in the creation and expansion of small businesses and the creation of employment opportunities for low-or-moderate income individuals within Cattaraugus County. CCESGC will implement the program with the assistance of its consultants, The Harrison Studio.

**Applications may be submitted starting August 1, 2025 and ending October 31, 2025.**

### **What Assistance is Available?**

- CCESGC will provide grants in a minimum amount of \$5,000 and up to a maximum amount of \$35,000
- Grants can be used to fund machinery, equipment, furnishings, fixtures, and inventory and for operating costs and other working capital expenses
- Grants MAY NOT be used for construction, renovations, leasehold improvements, or demolition
- A ten percent (10%) equity contribution by the business is required

### **Who Can Apply?**

- The business must have **five or fewer** employees (total people not full-time equivalents), one or more of whom own the business.
- The business can be a sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, limited liability company or other legal form of business
- Nonprofit organizations are NOT eligible to participate
- Participation by start-up businesses is encouraged
- The business must either be owned by a low-or-moderate income person OR must, as a result of the grant, create one or more full-time equivalent job that is made available to low-or-moderate income persons

### **Other Program Requirements**

- The business activity to be assisted must be located in Cattaraugus County
- Before receiving a grant, the business owner must complete an entrepreneurship training course offered by the Small Business Development Center
- Grant applicants must submit an acceptable business plan, including appropriate financial information (historical statements, if available, and financial projections for the business)

**For more information contact:**

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