

Pennsylvania Releases Hazard Pay Grant Application

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With the unemployment expansion resulting in some laid-off individuals earning more than essential workers, many groups of employees have been pushing for government-funded "hazard" pay for essential workers that never stopped working during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pennsylvania listened, and the state has now made CARES Act funding available to life-sustaining businesses to provide hazard pay to employees during the 10-week period from August 16 to October 24. Eligible life-sustaining businesses include all businesses and nonprofits that were legally able to stay open during Gov. Tom Wolf's business closure order in March.

To receive hazard pay under the grant, employees must earn less than \$20 per hour, excluding fringe benefits and overtime. Businesses must use the funds to reimburse themselves for paying these employees an extra \$3 per hour hazard pay over the regular pay rate during the 10-week period. Employers may seek a grant for up to 500 eligible full-time equivalent employees per location (\$600,000 maximum), and up to a business-wide maximum of \$3 million.

[Click here to find the application](#), which is available only until July 31.

If you have any questions on whether your business is eligible for the grant or have any questions about the application process, please contact me.

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