



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
**DEPARTMENT of**  
**COMMERCE**

Job Retention Grant Program

August 2020

# Straight Facts on Job Retention Program

- Targeted at employers, both for-profit and non-profit
- Supported by federal Coronavirus Relief Funds sent to the state
- Authorized by General Assembly (S.L. 2020-80)
- Funded with \$15 million
- Designed as a noncompetitive grant not a loan
- Created to be a one-time deal

# Is My Business/Nonprofit Eligible?

1. **Are you an employer?** – can be private businesses and certain types of nonprofits, including PERHAPS 501c6 nonprofits
2. **Have you received some COVID-related aid already?** – not eligible if you've received (or anticipate receiving) Paycheck Protection Program benefits, OR a Main Street Lending Program loan, OR a state Rapid Recovery loan
3. **Have you kept your employees?** - you must have at least 90 percent of the full-time employees at the end of June 2020 as you did at the end of February 2020
4. **Has COVID affected your revenues?** – you must have seen a decline of at least 10 percent in sales/receipts from March-May 2019 to March-May 2020

# How Much May I Apply For?

- 125 percent of two months of your 2019 average payroll, using the same definition as federal PPP, which included:
  - Wages, Salaries, Bonuses for employees earning less than \$100,000
  - Wages, Salaries, Bonuses capped at \$100,000 for employees earning above that amount
  - Employer contributions to health insurance
  - Employer contributions to retirement plans
  - Employer taxes paid for unemployment insurance

NOTE: Maximum grant request is \$250,000 if the calculation above exceeds that amount

# How Do I Apply?

- The NC Department of Commerce will begin accepting web-based applications on the first week of August. The address is:

<https://www.nccommerce.com/grants-incentives/disaster-recovery/job-retention-grant-jrg>

- The deadline is September 1 and there will be NO EXTENSIONS

# What Do I Need To Apply?

- Your Secretary of State ID and EIN
- Documentation of your full-time equivalent employees on payroll at the end of February 2020 and the end of June 2020
- Documentation of sales/receipts during the period March-May 2019 and March-May 2020
- Documentation of average payroll expenses (as defined above) for 2019, including federal W-3 forms

# What Is The Fine Print?

- Your application is subject to the state Public Records law. It's likely that your company name and amount received may be disclosed subject to media requests.
- You must certify that you do not have overdue tax debts and that you have a conflict of interest policy that meets state requirements
- You will be considered a grantee of the state and have to complete a W-9 form and a contract. The Department may review your NCUI-101 forms.
- You must spend this money on legitimate business expenses by December 31, 2020 and complete all necessary federal and state reporting requirements.
- The Job Retention Grant is counted as taxable income for eligible employers

# What Is The Timeline For the Program?

- Job Recovery Grant (JRG) Program enacted into law on July 1, 2020
- Economic Investment Committee authorized Program on July 28, 2020
- **Applications Available Early August 2020**
- **HARD APPLICATION DEADLINE OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2020**
- Department Review and Verification of Applications – September 2020
- *Economic Investment Committee Grant Approval – by early October 2020*
- *Grant Awards and Contracts Signed – October 2020*
- *Grant Reports Due – TBD*
- *All JRG Grant Funds MUST Be Spent by December 2020*



# What Are My Odds of Getting A Grant?

Odds are as close to 100 percent as they can be of receiving some amount of grant if your business/nonprofit is eligible and you submit a completed application by the deadline

Odds of receiving the FULL amount requested depend on the total amount of eligible requests received by the deadline. If those requests exceed the \$15 million allocated for the program, then we will prorate the grants to fit within that \$15 million cap.

# Special Case of 501c6 Nonprofits

- 501c6 nonprofits were not eligible for the PPP, although they are significant employers
- The General Assembly intended to include 501c6 organizations in the program, but the necessary reference to include those organizations was inadvertently left out. The GA hopes to fix that oversight at its next opportunity.
- Applications will be accepted from 501c6 organizations, but it is understood that they cannot receive any support unless and until the law is changed.



Thank You For Your  
Interest:  
Questions?

For Further Information: Please email: [jrg.nccommerce.com](mailto:jrg.nccommerce.com)