



**Division of Small Business
& Technology Development**

Raising the NYS Bar Restaurant Recovery Fund

A Grant program for NYS Restaurants Impacted by COVID-19

A Division of Empire State Development

1/11/2021

Raising the NYS Bar Restaurant Recovery Fund

In an effort to support small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic, the **Raising the NYS Bar Restaurant Recovery Fund**, a New York State Recovery Grant Program, **offers reimbursement grants for up to \$5,000 to eligible businesses**. The program is intended **to support full-service restaurants** – the industry hit hardest by the pandemic – during the winter months when outdoor dining is limited and as restaurants **adjust to New York State’s COVID-19 safety measures**.

The Raising the NYS Bar Restaurant Recovery Fund is a partnership between New York State, Diageo Wine & Spirits, Southern Glazer Wines & Spirits and The National Development Council (NDC).

Restaurants can apply to the Raising the NYS Bar Restaurant Recovery Fund starting Monday, January 11, 2021 at 12pm. The link for the online application will be posted to Empire State Development (ESD), Diageo , Southern Glazer and NDC webpages. The online grant portal will close temporarily should the number of applications exceed funding availability. If grant funding remains available due to the exclusion of ineligible applications, the online grant portal will be re-opened following an announcement by the Empire State Development. Any program announcements and/or updates will be posted to ESD Website.

The Diageo logo consists of the word "DIAGEO" in a bold, pink, sans-serif font.

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Eligible Businesses

- **Full-Service Restaurants (NAICS code 722511), or establishments engaged in providing food services and meals prepared on-premises to patrons who traditionally order and are served while seated (i.e., waiter/waitress service), including on-premises food and drinking establishments licensed through the State Liquor Authority (SLA). Establishments providing take out or grab and go food services due to COVID-19 restrictions are also eligible;**
- **Franchises are NOT eligible;**
- **No more than \$3 million in annual revenue;**
- **Located in New York State;**
- **Must have been in operation on or before March 1, 2019;**
- **Must certify and demonstrate that they have experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19;**
- **Maximum grant amount is \$5,000;**
- **Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBEs) are encouraged to apply;**
- **Must agree to comply with all applicable New York State and local reopening guidance and COVID-19 health and safety policies, including the [New York Forward](#) reopening guidance and [Cluster Action Initiative](#) guidance, as well as SLA and DOH regulations.**



Allowable uses of Grant Funds

- **Grants are supplied on a reimbursement basis.**
- **Improvements/equipment that will allow the business to comply with social distancing guidelines** and/or expand take-out/delivery operations (e.g., plexiglass barriers/partitions, signage promoting social distancing/hygiene protocols, heaters, heat lamps, weatherization upgrades, insulated delivery bags).
- **Improvements that will allow the business to continue operating through the winter months** (e.g., filtration system upgrades, food heaters to maintain temperature for to-go orders).
- **Purchase of PPE and sanitation supplies** and **COVID-19 related business improvements** like patio heaters or contactless technology.
- **Purchases and expenditures must be from September 1, 2020 onwards** to be eligible.
- **Per the [New York Forward](#) reopening guidance, an “outdoor space” is defined as an open-air space designated for the consumption of food and/or beverage, which may have a temporary or fixed cover (e.g., awning or roof) so long as such cover has at least two open sides for airflow. Within such outdoor space, all tables with seats must be at least six feet from any other table, seat, patron, or pedestrian thoroughfare or corridor; provided, however, if a bar or restaurant seeks to use contiguous public space (e.g. sidewalk) pursuant to Executive Order 202.38, the applicable local municipality, if allowing such usage, may determine alternative spacing of tables from pedestrian thoroughfares or corridors upon a consideration of the volume of pedestrian traffic on sidewalks, availability of sidewalk space, and avoidance of unnecessary congestion, or alternatively, the local municipality may require the bar or restaurant to erect a physical barrier of at least five feet in height if six feet of distance cannot be maintained between tables and a pedestrian thoroughfare or corridor. In accordance with the State's [Cluster Action Initiative](#), restaurants located in Yellow and Orange Zones are subject to additional restrictions, and restaurants located in Red Zones may offer only take-out and delivery.**



Required Documentation

- Current **Government-issued photo ID** for every owner of 20% or more;
- **2019 Federal Business Tax Returns**;
- **2020 Year to Date Income Statement**;
- Copy of **SLA License** (must be one of the following on-premise licenses from the NYS SLA in good standing: (a) Hotel, (b) Restaurant Wine, (c) Tavern Wine, (d) On-Premise, (e) Eating Place Beer, (f) Cabaret Liquor);
- **List of eligible reimbursable COVID-19 response expenses** incurred since September 1, 2020 (**with required receipts** - including equipment and/or construction);



For more information or to apply:

Program Updates can be found at:

[Raising the NYS Bar Restaurant Recovery Fund | Empire State Development](https://esd.ny.gov/raising-nys-bar-restaurant-recovery-fund)
<https://esd.ny.gov/raising-nys-bar-restaurant-recovery-fund>

Application Portal link (opens on January 11th, 2021 at 12pm):

[Raising the NYS Bar Restaurant Recovery Fund \(fluxx.io\)](https://nysrestaurantrecovery.fluxx.io/)
<https://nysrestaurantrecovery.fluxx.io/>



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Supporting Small Business opportunity in New York State!

