



# Save Austin's Vital Economic Sectors (SAVES) Program Guidelines

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

**Veronica Briseño**  
Chief Economic Recovery Officer



# Agenda

- General Guidelines for All SAVES Fund Programs
- Austin Childcare Provider Relief Grant
- Austin Live Music Venue Preservation Fund
- Austin Legacy Business Relief Grant



# General Guidelines for All SAVES Fund Programs

- Each program will be structured as a grant program and will disburse between \$4.5 million and \$5 million to awarded program applicants.
  - The total amount each program disburses will depend on whether the City contracts with third party administrators and the third party administrators' fees.
- Applicants must be located within a City of Austin City Council District.
  - Applicants in the City's Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) are ineligible.
  - Applicants outside the City of Austin are ineligible.
- Applicants must agree to meet or exceed the City of Austin's COVID-19 safe operating guidelines.
  - Safety guidelines and Orders are available online at [AustinTexas.Gov/Covid19](https://austintexas.gov/covid19).
- Each program will use a random selection (lottery) to select fund recipients.



# Austin Childcare Provider Relief Grant

## Program Summary

- The Austin Childcare Provider Relief Grant will be structured as a grant program for eligible childcare providers located in a City of Austin Council District.
- The one-time grant awards will range between \$2,500 to \$60,000.
- Childcare providers can use these funds for eligible expenses incurred after March 1, 2020.



# Austin Childcare Provider Relief Grant

## Intended Beneficiaries and Community Benefits

- Intended beneficiaries are Austin-based childcare providers, with a focus on those that:
  - Provide full-day childcare care to children ages five and younger
  - Have a Texas Rising Star (TRS) accreditation, National Accreditation, or have a TRS assessment scheduled
  - Have been impacted by COVID-19 related disruptions
  - Have virus mitigation and protective equipment needs
- Community benefits to be achieved through this program include:
  - Job retention
  - Maintaining high-quality, affordable, and accessible childcare for Austin's workforce



# Austin Childcare Provider Relief Grant

## Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible for the program:
  - Have a physical address in a City of Austin Council District
  - Be classified as a licensed childcare center, or a licensed or registered family childcare home provider
  - Provide full-day childcare to children ages five and younger
  - Possess a TRS accreditation, National Accreditation, or have a TRS assessment scheduled
  - Experienced COVID-19 related disruptions
  - Incurred or plan to incur COVID-19 related expenses
  - Meet or exceed the City of Austin's recommended COVID-19 safety guidelines



# Austin Childcare Provider Relief Grant

## Eligibility Criteria

- Prior Austin Childcare Provider Relief Grant recipients may apply for this grant.
- Providers with multiple eligible locations may receive funds for each site.
  - Applicants will be able to list multiple sites on one application.
- Applicants who rent/lease their property must demonstrate a commitment from the property owner to enter into a more favorable rent/lease agreement for the applicant.
  - If a property owner is unwilling to enter into a more favorable rent/lease agreement, the applicant can submit documents demonstrating a good faith effort to work with their property owner to negotiate a more favorable agreement.
- Applicants must adhere to labor peace provisions and worker safety protections applicable to the facility and business operations.



# Austin Childcare Provider Relief Grant

## Eligible Expenses

- Childcare providers can use this grant for eligible expenses incurred after March 1, 2020, including the following:
  - Rent or mortgage for organization property
  - Operational costs
  - Payroll and employee retention
  - Technology and software
  - Sanitation/cleaning services or supplies
  - Personal protective equipment (PPE) purchases/rentals
  - COVID-19 compliance facility modifications
  - Business personal property
  - Business insurance
  - COVID-19 related staff training
  - Property taxes
  - Licensing fees or related expenses
  - TRS assessment fees or related expenses



# Austin Childcare Provider Relief Grant

Award Amount: \$2,500 to \$60,000

The one-time grant award will be determined by an award rubric.

Category	Description	Award Calculation	Eligible Award Amount
A. Base Award	Licensed childcare providers (centers or home-based) that apply for grant.	Center-based = \$10,000 Home-based= \$2,500	A
B. Served Essential Workers	Open consistently since March.	Yes: - Center-based = \$10,000 - Home-based = \$2,500 No = \$0	B
C. Equity Consideration	Have an owner or Executive Director of color?	Yes: - Center-based = \$3,000 - Home-based = \$1,500 No = \$0	C
D. Accepts Childcare Subsidies (CCS)	Center serves families with Childcare Subsidies.	Yes = \$3,000 No = \$0	D

# Austin Childcare Provider Relief Grant

Award Amount: \$2,500 to \$60,000

The one-time grant award will be determined by an award rubric.

Category	Description	Award Calculation	Eligible Award Amount
<b>E. CCS Enrollment</b> <i>Children 5 Years Old and Younger</i>	CCS enrollment as of March 1 or today (whichever is greater) for children ages 5 and younger (based on TRS/national rating).	National accreditation = \$500 per seat TRS 4 star = \$400 per seat TRS 3 star = \$300 per seat TRS 2 star = \$200 per seat TRS assessment scheduled = \$100 per seat	E
<b>F. Employees</b>	Number of employees as of March 1 or today (whichever is greater, including full and part time).	Full-time = \$300 per employee Part Time = \$150 per employee	F
<b>G. Hazard Pay</b>	<b>Open centers only</b> - Bonus to be paid directly to each current employee (full and part time).	Full-time = \$1,000 per employee Part-time = \$500 per employee	G
<b>Maximum Award Eligibility</b>	<b>The award ceiling is \$60,000.</b>		TOTAL = A + B + C + D + E + F + G

# Austin Childcare Provider Relief Grant

Award Amount: \$2,500 to \$60,000

- To address a lack of TRS-rated childcare centers in east Austin communities, the City will use following Funding Groups to implement this grant program equitably:

Funding Group	Description	Grant Funds Available*
Group A	Open centers with National Accreditation and/or TRS rating	\$3,000,000
Group B	Temporarily Closed centers with National Accreditation and/or TRS rating	\$500,000
Group C	Open centers who need Texas Rising Star Assessment	\$1,250,000

*\*Assuming a five percent third party administrative fee.*

- Applicants within each Funding Group will be awarded by random lottery.
- Remaining funds from a Funding Group will be reallocated into another group.



# Austin Live Music Venue Preservation Fund

## Program Summary

- The Austin Live Music Venue Preservation Fund will be structured as a grant program for eligible live music venues located in a City of Austin Council District.
- Applicants may apply for funding up to \$40,000 per month for six months.
- Each applicant's total grant award will not exceed \$160,000.
- Live music venue operators can use these funds for eligible expenses incurred after March 1, 2020.



# Austin Live Music Venue Preservation Fund

## Live Music Venue Definition

“Live Music Venue” is defined as an establishment where live music programming is the principal function of the business and/or the business is a live music destination, and where the venue clearly establishes the ability of an artist to receive payment for work by percentage of sales, guarantee or other mutually beneficial formal agreement for every performance. A live music venue is a destination for live music consumers, and/or its music programming and is the primary driver of its business as indicated by the presence of at least five of the following:

- Defined performance and audience space;
- Mixing desk, public address (PA) system, and lighting rig;
- Back line;
- At least two of the following: (i) sound engineer, (ii) booker, (iii) promoter, (iv) stage manager, or (v) security personnel;
- Charges cover charge to some music performance through ticketing or front door entrance fee;
- Markets specific acts through show listings in printed and electronic publications;
- Hours of operation coincide with performance times; or
- Programs live music at least five nights a week.



# Austin Live Music Venue Preservation Fund

## Intended Beneficiaries and Community Benefits

- Intended beneficiaries are Austin-based live music venues, with a focus on those that:
  - Have been closed or operated with significantly-reduced operations (operating below 75 percent of operational capacity compared to this time in 2019) since March 1, 2020
  - Were adversely impact by the cancellation of South by Southwest and subsequent events
  - Have been impacted by other COVID-19 related disruptions
  - Have virus mitigation and protective equipment needs
- Community benefits to be achieved through this program include:
  - Job creation and retention
  - Maintaining a strong tax base
  - Maintaining civic infrastructure
  - Preserving the City of Austin's unique culture, character, heritage and brand



# Austin Live Music Venue Preservation Fund

## Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible for the program:
  - Operate as a Live Music Venue
  - Have a physical address in a City of Austin City Council District
  - Be current on all local and state license requirements
  - Have no delinquent local, county, state, or federal tax obligations
  - Have incurred or plan to incur COVID-19 mitigation and protective equipment expenses
- Applicants who received a grant or loan funded by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act may apply for this program.
- Applicants with multiple locations may apply for each location.



# Austin Live Music Venue Preservation Fund

## Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants who rent/lease their property must demonstrate a commitment from the property owner to enter into a more favorable rent/lease agreement for the applicant.
  - If a property owner is unwilling to enter into a more favorable rent/lease agreement, the applicant can submit documents demonstrating a good faith effort to work with their property owner to negotiate a more favorable agreement.
- Applicants must adhere to labor peace provisions and worker safety protections applicable to the facility and business operations.



# Austin Live Music Venue Preservation Fund

## Equity Strategic Plans

- Applicants must submit a detailed “Live Music Venue Equity Strategic Plan” with the goal of undoing policies and practices that have led to historic and systemic inequities in this sector.
- Awardees will be required to participate in an Undoing Systemic Racism training.
- The City will provide concepts to help applicants create plans that are actionable and impactful.
  - Live Music Professional Development
  - Genre Diversity Development and Promotion
  - ATX Music Export and Exchange
  - Talent Buying, Co-Production and Co-Marketing Collaboration
  - Support Act Opening Slots
  - Destination Events
  - Co-Located “Music Hubs” and Venues



# Austin Live Music Venue Preservation Fund

## Eligible Expenses

- Eligible expenses that will be used to calculate an applicants' maximum grant award amount include:
  - Rent or mortgage for commercial property, including triple net leases
  - Utilities
  - Payroll, payroll taxes and employee benefit programs such as health and life insurance
  - Technology and software
  - Sanitation/cleaning services or supplies
  - Personal protective equipment (PPE) purchases/rentals
  - Business and commercial property insurance
  - Permits and regulatory fees
  - Maintenance and repair
  - Professional services other than legal fees (i.e.: accountant, real estate broker, etc.)
  - Property taxes



# Austin Live Music Preservation Fund

**Award Amount: \$40,000 per month for six months (not to exceed \$160,000)**

- Grant awards will be determined by applicants' eligible operating expenses, which will be calculated and verified by analyzing historical financial statements and tax returns.
- Operating costs listed on the previous slide will be included in this determination.
- The City of Austin or a third-party program administrator will make every effort to begin distributing funding within thirty (30) days after the application period closes and any necessary documentation from applicants is received.
- Grant awards will be paid to the awardee on a monthly basis for six months or when the \$160,000 limit is reached, whichever comes first.

# Austin Legacy Business Relief Grant

## Program Summary

- The Austin Legacy Business Relief Grant will be structured as a grant program for eligible businesses that have been established in the City of Austin for at least 20 years.
- The one-time grant awards will be either \$40,000 or \$60,000, depending on the business' tenure and number of employees.
- Legacy business owners can use these funds for business-related expenses incurred after March 1, 2020.



# Austin Legacy Business Relief Grant

## Intended Beneficiaries and Community Benefits

- Intended beneficiaries are Austin-based businesses that:
  - Have been established in the City of Austin for at least 20 years
  - Contribute to Austin's civic infrastructure and help define the City's character and brand
  - Demonstrate a substantial likelihood of closing permanently absent assistance
  - Have a low likelihood of a similar business reopening in the same or nearby location due to increased rents or other market factors
  - Experience challenges pivoting to alternative operating models for generating revenues sufficient for survival under extended COVID-19 public health orders
- Community benefits to be achieved through this program include:
  - Job creation and retention
  - Maintaining a strong tax base
  - Maintaining civic infrastructure
  - Preserving the City of Austin's unique culture, character, heritage and brand



# Austin Legacy Business Relief Grant

## Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible for the program:
  - Operate in one of the following industry sectors: art service organizations, arts venues, bars, childcare providers, live performance and music venues, restaurants, and studio spaces
  - Operate from a publicly-facing, physical building
  - Have 20 years of operations in an area that is currently in a City of Austin Council District
    - Business must have operated continuously with no more than a two (2) year break in operations
    - Business may have changed locations during its twenty (20) years but must have maintained a location and/or headquarters in an area that is currently part of a City of Austin Council District during all twenty (20) years
  - Have headquarters or first location in an area that is now in a City of Austin Council District
  - Contribute to Austin's civic infrastructure and helps to define the City's character and brand



# Austin Legacy Business Relief Grant

## Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must also meet the following criteria to be eligible for the program:
  - Demonstrate a substantial likelihood of closing permanently absent assistance
  - Demonstrate that there is a low likelihood of a similar business reopening in the same or nearby location due to increased rents or other market factors
  - Demonstrate challenges pivoting to alternative operating models for generating revenues sufficient for survival under extended COVID-19 public health orders
  - Demonstrate that assistance reasonably ensures the business will not fail
  - Commit to maintaining the physical features, traditions, and operations that define the business
  - Be current on all local and state license requirements
  - Have no delinquent local, county, state, or federal tax obligations



# Austin Legacy Business Relief Grant

## Eligibility Criteria

- Businesses that receive assistance through another SAVES Fund grant program will not be eligible for this program.
- Business owners with multiple eligible operations may only apply for assistance once.
- Applicants who rent/lease their property must demonstrate a commitment from the property owner to enter into a more favorable rent/lease agreement for the applicant.
  - If a property owner is unwilling to enter into a more favorable rent/lease agreement, the applicant can submit documents demonstrating a good faith effort to work with their property owner to negotiate a more favorable agreement.
- Applicants must adhere to labor peace provisions and worker safety protections applicable to the facility and business operations.



# Austin Legacy Business Relief Grant

Award Amount: \$40,000 or \$60,000

- The one-time grant award is determined by tenure and number of employees.
- Awards can be used for business-related expenses.

Grant Award \$40,000	Grant Award: \$60,000
<p>Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Businesses with less than 25 full-time equivalents (FTEs). For the purposes of this program, a full-time employee counts as 1 FTE. A part-time employee counts as .5 FTE if they work between 20 hours per week and 40 hours per week, and .25 FTE if they work less than 20 hours per week.</li><li>• Businesses who meet all eligibility criteria and have been in operation for more than 20 years.</li></ul>	<p>Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Businesses with more than 25 full-time equivalents (FTEs) and no more than 100 FTEs. For the purposes of this program, a full-time employee counts as 1 FTE. A part-time employee counts as .5 FTE if they work between 20 hours per week and 40 hours per week, and .25 FTE if they work less than 20 hours per week.</li></ul> <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Businesses who meet all eligibility criteria and have been in operation for more than 30 years.</li></ul>



# Summary of SAVES Fund Programs

	Childcare Provider Relief Fund	Live Music Preservation Fund	Legacy Business Relief Fund
<b>Intended Beneficiary</b>	Center-based and home-based childcare providers	Live music venues	Austin-based businesses operating 20+ years
<b>Award Type</b>	Grant	Grant	Grant
<b>Award Amount</b>	\$2,500 to \$60,000	Up to \$40,000 per month for six months; not to exceed \$160,000	\$40,000 or \$60,000
<b>Award Factors</b>	Scoring Rubric	Eligible Operating Expenses	Tenure and Employee Count
<b>Award Frequency</b>	One-Time Disbursement	Monthly Disbursement	One-Time Disbursement





# Save Austin's Vital Economic Sectors (SAVES) Program Guidelines

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

**Veronica Briseño**  
Chief Economic Recovery Officer

