$8.55 Million in COVID-19 Workplace Safety Grants will help employers protect workers

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With employers across the state working to keep their employees, customers and communities safe during the COVID-19 pandemic, the State of Michigan has launched **Michigan COVID-19 Safety Grant Program**. These grants will provide small businesses matching funds of – up to $10,000 – to decrease the risk of COVID-19 spread through safety and health-related equipment purchased and training in response to COVID-19.

The initial grant application window will be open from Monday, July 27 through Friday, August 7, 2020, with awards given shortly thereafter. Grants received after August 7, 2020 will be held pending a potential second phase, if funds remain available.

“Employers continue to do their part to ensure workers, customers and communities are safe from COVID-19,” Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said. “These grants will help make that job a bit easier, ensuring every Michigander returns home safe at the end of the day.”

Small businesses interested in applying must have fewer than 250 employees, provide a copy of their COVID-19 safety plan and description of how funds will help improve workplace safety for employees, customers and their communities. Additional information on grant funding can be found in the **program brochure**.

“These new grants support Michigan’s small businesses in efforts to protect Michiganders from coronavirus and keep our economy operating,” Michigan Labor and Economic Opportunity Director Jeff Donofrio said. “This is an extraordinary funding opportunity for Michigan employers to invest in measures that will help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in workplaces.”

Examples of how grant funding may be utilized:

- Purchasing engineering controls and other supplies/materials such as sneeze guards, physical barriers, face coverings and hand washing/hygiene stations.
- Purchasing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including gowns, gloves and eye protection.
- Training to educate employees about the spread and dangers of COVID-19.

To apply, businesses may complete the **Michigan COVID-19 Safety Grant application**.

Grants are provided through recent passage of SB 690 appropriation of federal CARES Act funding and will be awarded until grant funding is expended. This is a reimbursement program. Grant awards are limited to one per company.

Learn more about MIOSHA efforts to protect Michigan's workforce during the pandemic and for information on the latest workplace safety guidance at **Michigan.gov/COVIDWorkplaceSafety**.

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at **Michigan.gov/Coronavirus** and **CDC.gov/Coronavirus**.

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