

1 layoffs, furloughs, reduced hours, or due to being employed in an industry that
2 has been severely affected.

3 (A) The funds awarded pursuant to this subdivision (16) are to:

4 (i) offer courses and workshops to upskill affected Vermonters in
5 their current industry or reskill Vermonters who desire a change in their career
6 path for more economic stability, which may include training for Vermonters
7 to transition to the child care sector and business technical assistance for small
8 businesses; and

9 (ii) provide for necessary school supplies, wrap-around services,
10 marketing of the program, and support staff.

11 (B) Any funds provided in this subdivision (16) that remain
12 unencumbered as of November 15, 2020 shall revert to the Agency of
13 Commerce and Community Development for grants pursuant to 2020 Acts and
14 Resolves No. 137, Sec. 6.

15 Sec. B.1102. 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 137, Sec. 6 is amended to read:

16 Sec. 6 COVID-19; ECONOMIC SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES AND
17 INDIVIDUALS

18 (a) Appropriations; grants. The following amounts are appropriated from
19 the Coronavirus Relief Fund to the named recipients to provide grants to
20 businesses that have suffered economic harm due to the COVID-19 public
21 health emergency and economic crisis.

1 from March 1, 2020 to September 1, 2020 as compared to the same period in
2 2019 subdivision (4) of this subsection:

3 (A) The business is a private, for-profit or nonprofit organization that
4 is domiciled or has its primary place of business in Vermont.

5 (B) The business is either open at the time of application or is closed
6 due to the COVID-19 public health emergency but has a good-faith plan for
7 reopening.

8 (C) The business demonstrates need based on economic loss due to
9 the COVID-19 public health emergency from March 1, 2020 to December 1,
10 2020.

11 (2)(A) The Agency shall establish standards for determining the amount
12 of grant awards, considering the amount of need demonstrated in subdivision
13 (1)(C) of this subsection, provided that a business may not receive more than
14 \$300,000.00 in grant awards pursuant to 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 115 and
15 this act.

16 (B) Notwithstanding subdivision (2)(A) of this subsection, upon the
17 Agency's request and demonstration of need, the Joint Fiscal Committee may
18 approve additional grant funding to a business in excess of the maximum grant
19 amount.

1 (3) The Agency shall consider whether and by set standards for how
2 much grant awards should be adjusted based on whether an applicant has
3 received financial assistance from other sources.

4 (4) The Agency may coordinate with local, regional, and State economic
5 development partners to administer grants pursuant to this section.

6 (5) The Agency shall:

7 (A) adopt a process, procedures, and guidelines for the
8 implementation of this section, including internal controls, an internal audit
9 process, and an internal performance review process;

10 (B) submit information concerning the processes, procedures, and
11 guidelines implementing this section not later than five days before the
12 guidelines take effect to the House Committees on Commerce and Economic
13 Development and on Appropriations and to the Senate Committees on
14 Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and on Appropriations;

15 (C) publish information concerning the guidelines and procedures,
16 conduct marketing and outreach to communities that historically have not had
17 equal access to financial or government services, and provide technical
18 assistance to potential grant recipients;

19 (D) provide and maintain current, Internet-based information
20 available to the public concerning the recipients and amounts of grants
21 awarded; and

1 (a) The amount of \$17,000,000.00 is appropriated from the Coronavirus
2 Relief Fund to the Department of Tourism and Marketing for a consumer and
3 business stimulus program to maximize the consumer spending power of
4 Vermonters and to support Vermont businesses suffering economic harm due
5 to continued capacity and travel restrictions imposed in response to COVID-
6 19.

7 (b) Under the program, the Department shall provide direct incentive
8 payments to businesses selected by participating Vermonters, who may redeem
9 the incentives at the businesses selected. **The Department may give priority**
10 **to the hospitality industry or other sectors that it determines have critical**
11 **need for support through the Program.**

12 (c) Participation in the stimulus program is open to Vermonters who
13 received unemployment insurance benefits pursuant to 21 V.S.A. chapter 17 or
14 Pandemic Unemployment Assistance pursuant to pursuant to the Coronavirus
15 Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116–136, § 2102, for one
16 or more weekly benefit periods beginning on or after September 27, 2020.

17 (d) Subject to any applicable requirements or restrictions provided pursuant
18 to federal law, the Department of Labor shall provide the Agency with the
19 contact information for eligible participants pursuant to 21 VSA 1314(e)(1).

20 (e) Any funds provided to businesses that remain unclaimed by a Program
21 participant as of November 15, 2020 shall revert to the Agency of Commerce

1 and Community Development for grants pursuant to 2020 Acts and Resolves
2 No. 137, Sec. 6.

3 **** Option 2: Additional Unemployment Support ****

4 **Sec. B.1103. ADDITIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT SUPPORT**

5 (a) The amount of \$17,000,000.00 is appropriated from the Coronavirus
6 Relief Fund to the Department of Labor to provide direct grants, subject to
7 available funding, of not more than \$100.00 per week for not more than
8 five weeks to Vermonters who received unemployment insurance benefits
9 pursuant to 21 V.S.A. chapter 17 or Pandemic Unemployment Assistance
10 pursuant to pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security
11 Act, Pub. L. No. 116–136, § 2102, for one or more weekly benefit periods
12 beginning on or after September 27, 2020.

13 (b) Any funds appropriated in this section that remain unencumbered as of
14 November 15, 2020 shall revert to the Agency of Commerce and Community
15 Development for grants pursuant to 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 137, Sec. 6.