R4R Mitigation Grant

Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT IS THE R4R MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM?

The R4R Mitigation Grant Program is an initiative that links small business disaster preparedness training to financial support to mitigate risk from natural disasters.

Sponsored by Verizon and administered through the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Small Business Readiness for Resiliency (R4R) Program, the R4R Mitigation Grant Program rewards small businesses that complete a Disaster Resilience course on Verizon's Small Business Digital Ready platform by giving them an opportunity to compete for grants that fund disaster risk reduction.

WHAT BUSINESSES ARE ELIGIBLE?

Any small business (500 employees or less), with an Employee Identification Number (EIN) that meets the additional program criteria outlined in our Terms and Conditions is eligible to receive a grant from the Mitigation Grant Program. Please note that we do not fund nonprofit organizations of any type.

HOW MUCH IS THE GRANT?

Selected businesses receive $5,000 and must document how they anticipate that funds will be spent.

CAN I APPLY FOR THE GRANT WITHOUT COMPLETING AN ELIGIBLE COURSE ON VERIZON'S SMALL BUSINESS DIGITAL READY?

No, applicants must complete an eligible free Disaster Resilience course on Verizon's Small Business Digital Ready platform before applying for the grant. Eligible courses are:

1. Know Your Hazards
2. Build Your Business Continuity & Mitigation Plan

WHEN WILL MY BUSINESS BE ABLE TO APPLY FOR A GRANT?

The application period will run from Tuesday, September 29, 2026 through 11:59pm ET on Sunday, November 15, 2026.

DOES EVERY BUSINESS RECEIVE A GRANT?

No, only 25 $5,000 grants will be awarded.

WHAT INFORMATION WILL I NEED TO PROVIDE TO COMPLETE THE GRANT APPLICATION?

In your application, you will first be asked to identify the natural disaster that is most likely to negatively impact your business.

Then, you will create a mitigation project based on one of these project examples to help improve your business's disaster resilience. You'll need to cover the following elements in your response:

1. Show how your proposed project relates to the natural disaster risk that you identified for your business
2. Describe the project that you'll implement and how you'll implement it
3. Outline a timeline and estimated budget for your project
4. Detail the expected positive outcomes to your business for undertaking the project

WHAT DOCUMENTS WILL I NEED TO UPLOAD IN THE GRANT APPLICATION?

Beyond answering all of the questions in the grant application, you will need to upload the following details:

- A completed IRS W-9 Form
- A voided business check or banking documentation showing your business's bank account and routing numbers

IF I HAVE MULTIPLE BUSINESSES OR BUSINESS LOCATIONS, CAN I RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE GRANT?

No, an eligible business or owner can only apply for a grant on behalf of one (1) business (regardless of how many businesses they own) and only receive one $5,000 grant per calendar year.

IF MY BUSINESS IS SELECTED FOR A GRANT, HOW WILL I RECEIVE MY FUNDING?

Grant funding will be sent to businesses selected for a grant via ACH/direct deposit. Applicants will be required to provide their business's bank account information in the grant application.

WHAT CAN GRANT FUNDS BE USED FOR?

The funds must be used for the disaster mitigation project that you describe in your grant application. Additional information on ineligible uses of the grant can be found in our terms and conditions.

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO AFTER RECEIVING A GRANT?

The mitigation project proposed in your grant application must be fully executed and done by April 30, 2027.

You must also complete any post-grant impact reports asking you about the state of your business as part of your grant agreement. Mandatory impact reports will be sent to you to fill out until you state that you have finished your mitigation project.

Grantees that do not fulfill these requirements will not be eligible for potential media coverage related to the program and may not be eligible for future grant opportunities. In addition, the Foundation reserves the right to require repayment of the grant if a grant recipient does not fulfill these requirements.

DO I HAVE TO REGISTER SEPARATELY FOR YOUR R4R DISASTER RECOVERY GRANT PROGRAM?

If you have submitted a grant application for the R4R Mitigation Grant, you are automatically registered for our Small Business Readiness for Resiliency (R4R) Grant Program. If a qualifying disaster affects your community, we'll reach out with clear instructions on how to apply for the $5,000 relief funding.