



**AITKIN GROWTH INC.**  
 ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITY  
**GRANT APPLICATION**

Amount of Grant Requested \$				
Company Name (Legal Name)				
Business Address				
County		Website Address		
Business Phone		Business Email		
Federal Tax ID No.		State ID		
Business Structure	(Sole Proprietor, S-Corp, C-Corp, LLC, etc.)			
Date Business Established				
Number of Existing Employees	Full Time	#	Part Time	#

**Major principals/partners/proprietors: (Provide for each owning more than 20% of business. If additional space is needed, please attach to this application)**

Name(s)			
Address			
City/State/Zip			
Email			
Telephone			
Date of Birth			
% Ownership			

# BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

Describe the type of business the applicant is engaged in:

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Describe how the funds will be used:

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## Source and Use of Funds Summary

Purpose for Which Funds Are to be Used	Aitkin Growth	Bank(s)	Equity	Other (Specify)	Other (Specify)	Other (Specify)	Total
Property Acquisition							
Site Improvement							
Building Renovation							
New Construction							
Machinery & Equipment							
Working Capital							
Inventory							
Debt Refinancing							
Other (Specify)							
Other (Specify)							

## OTHER LENDERS AND ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS

I have not received any other assistance from a bank, or government agency in the last 90 days. Check box

Below are the

Participating Lender/Organization/ or Government Agency that has provided me with assistance

Name

Address

Phone

Contact Person

**Participating Lender**

Address

Phone

Contact Person

**Government Agency (Ex. SBA, City or County Government, DEED, IRRRB)**

Address

Phone

Contact Person

**name**

Address

Phone

Contact Person

**Name**

Address

Phone

Contact Person

**To be signed by applicant:**

I declare that the information provided on this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that Aitkin County Growth, Inc., has the right to verify this information and will be in contact with those individuals and institutions involved as part of the application process. I authorize Aitkin County Growth, Inc., to share information contained in this application with the grant donor of this loan.

**By**

Its

Date

## Make It in Minnesota Recovery Grant Program

Aitkin County Growth, Inc., exists to be a catalyst for economic growth of the greater Aitkin County and surrounding area. Aitkin County Growth is a nonprofit Economic Development Organization.

On March 16, 2020, in response to federal and state leaders pronouncing a state of emergency due to the fast moving COVID-19 outbreak, Minnesota Governor Walz signed Executive Order 20-04 to order temporary closure of Minnesota restaurants and bars to dine-in customers. Two days later, on March 18<sup>th</sup>, Governor Walz further ordered the closing of other places of public accommodation, including all salons, barbershops and other businesses in Executive Order 20-08. Other recommended measures include social distancing by individuals in all public places and limits on the number of people congregating in any gathering.

The safety measures implemented to protect people during the health emergency (pandemic) have significantly affected small businesses. Aitkin County Growth has decided it is in the best interest of businesses and the overall economy of the area to create an emergency assistance fund for businesses that have been forced to close or significantly reduce their operations. The Make It in Minnesota Recovery Fund was made available in April 2020. After providing assistance to over 60 area businesses we have been given the additional opportunity to assist into the Cromwell area and other parts of Aitkin County. Because of a generous donation, we are giving special preference to the Tamarack and Wright area of Aitkin County and into the Cromwell area. Because of the donations from area businesses, we are providing additional funds and accepting applications beginning June 1, 2020. We look forward to hearing from you!

You can send the application directly to Executive Director Barbara Carr at [barb@aitkingrowth.org](mailto:barb@aitkingrowth.org) or call 218-340-7674 for more information.

1. Goals and Objectives
  - **Provide emergency financing for businesses that are experiencing financial hardships due to the executive orders related to COVID-19 business restrictions.**
  - **Allocate Aitkin County Growth resources for one-time grants with match funds from area businesses and other organizations.**
  - **Facilitate business survival, especially for small businesses, during this pandemic.**
  - **Enhance, to the greatest extent possible, the retention of jobs throughout the County.**
  
2. Eligible Applicants
  - **All eligible applicants must have a physical, commercial location, whether owned or leased, that is located in Aitkin County or the Cromwell area.**
  - **All eligible applicants must be registered with the Minnesota Secretary of State and have been in business since December 1, 2019.**
  - **All eligible applicants must affirm they intend to remain open or to reopen in or near the impacted community surrounding Aitkin County.**
  
  - **Aitkin County Growth retains final authority to determine if a business is eligible or not, and whether to approve a grant or not.**
  
3. Eligible Grant Activities
  - **Operating capital to sustain the business until longer-term assistance programs are available.**
  - **Inventory or equipment needed to resume or re-structure operations of the business.**
  - **Other activities having sufficient merit as determined by Aitkin County Growth approval on a case-by-case basis.**
  
4. Other Considerations
  - **Compliance with all government regulations, including Minnesota Department of Health requirements.**
  - **Make It in Minnesota Recovery Grant fund will be available until the funds are distributed.**
  - **Aitkin County Growth reserves the right to limit the amount of funds available for this program at any time.**
  
5. Conflict of Interest
  - **Any Aitkin County Growth Board member that may indirectly or directly gain financially from loan transactions shall immediately inform Aitkin County Growth of any potential conflict of interest, and shall abstain from any related votes.**

- **If a potential conflict of interest exists, all necessary steps will be taken to ensure that the loan application is processed in full accordance with Aitkin County Growth policies, and local and State regulations.**

6. Grant Conditions

- **Between \$500 to \$1000 per applicant and determined by Aitkin County Growth.**

7. Application Requirements

- **The “Make it In Minnesota Recovery Fund” application must be completed in its entirety by the applicant and submitted to the Aitkin County Growth Office located 316 First Ave NW, Aitkin, MN; or submitted electronically to [barb@aitkingrowth.org](mailto:barb@aitkingrowth.org) in order to be considered.**
- **Applications will be considered and acted on by Aitkin County Growth.**
- **Financial references or evidence of ownership may be required. (Typically balance sheet or Profit and Loss report)**

8. Signature

- **Signature will be required from all owners or partners with 40% or more ownership.**

**Aitkin County Growth believes in an equal opportunity to apply for funds within Aitkin County. Any questions about the policy under this fund please contact [Barb@aitkingrowth.org](mailto:Barb@aitkingrowth.org) or 218-340-7674**