

Launch Lewis County Grant Opportunity

Short Form Application



CONTACT:

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Grant Program
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LEWIS
LEWIS COUNTY, NY

Section 1: Applicant Information

Applicant Name (Business Owner): _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Section 2: Business Information

New Business (open less than six months) Existing Business

Business Name: _____

Business Location: _____

Location is: Secured Anticipated

Do you need assistance finding a location? Yes No

Type of Business (check all that apply):

Food & Beverage Tourism Small-Scale Manufacturing Construction Trades

Other: _____

Number of Employees: _____

Is this business your only source of income? Yes No

If no, please explain: _____

List ALL business owners and their percentage of ownership:

Name: _____ Percentage: _____

Name: _____ Percentage: _____

Name: _____ Percentage: _____

Section 3: Grant Qualification & Proof of Income

In order to qualify for this grant, the business owner must be considered “low-to-moderate income” based on household income, OR you must create a new full-time job. Low to moderate income eligibility as determined by the HUD Individual State Income Limits Section 8. Income is the sum of all household/family adjusted gross income (line 11 on IRS-1040).

FY 2023 Income Limits - Eligibility Guidelines								
Household Size	1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
Income Limit (\$)	45,500	52,000	58,500	64,950	70,150	75,350	80,550	85,750

How do you qualify for the grant program? (Check all that apply)

- I am low-to-moderate income based on the income eligibility chart listed above.
- I will be creating a new, full-time job.

All applicants are required to submit Proof of Income.

- Attach to your application the most recent, one (1) year, business Federal and personal Federal income tax returns for ALL business owners.

Section 4: Application Questions

Answer each of the following questions, typed, on a separate page and attach to this application. Do not submit business plans at this time. Finalists for this program will receive assistance in preparing and finalizing a business plan at a later time.

- Tell us about yourself as an existing or prospective business owner. What is your background and experience, and what enticed you to get into business?
- Tell us about your project plan, and your motivation to execute the plan.
- Please describe how this project fits within the targeted industries for this program. Targeted industries include:
 - Food & beverage, including value-added processing, such as dairy, maple, craft beer and other agricultural products.
 - Small scale manufacturers and construction trades businesses with a focus on scaling their idea and/or service offerings.
 - Tourism-based businesses that complement Lewis County's strengths in outdoor recreation and align with the North Country Regional Economic Development strategy to increase the number of visitors to the North Country region.
- Why is Lewis County the best place for you to do business and execute this project?
- How will this project enhance resident or tourism experiences in Lewis County?
- What makes your project unique? How do you anticipate it will create opportunities for a new or increased customer base?

Section 5: Total Project Cost

Please describe what the grant funds will be used for (be as specific as possible), including what types of equipment, machinery, furniture, or inventory you will be purchasing.

Launch Lewis County Award	Total Project Cost (Min.)	Applicant Contribution (Min.)
\$30,000	\$34,000	\$4,000
\$20,000	\$23,000	\$3,000
\$10,000	\$12,000	\$2,000

Grant funds can only be used to purchase equipment, machinery, furniture and inventory. Absolutely NO construction or renovations can be included in the project, including but not limited to new construction, building alterations, structural renovations, infrastructure improvements, painting, windows, and doors. Items permanently affixed to the building's structure (non-movable) are considered construction-related and are therefore ineligible. Movable furniture or equipment that has no permanent connection to the structure of a building or utilities that can be taken or removed if the business was to liquidate are considered eligible.

Applicant must show, at a minimum, 10% match, and must meet the above total project cost minimums.

Please provide your total project cost in the table below:

	Cost Estimate
Equipment/Machinery	
Furniture	
Inventory	

Launch LC Funding Request: _____

Applicant Contribution: _____

Section 6: Certification

Please initial in the space provided next to each statement below:

- _____ 1. I, the undersigned, certify that the facts provided in this application and on supporting documents are accurate and truthful. I acknowledge that the Lewis County Development Corporation (LCDC) reserves the right to disclose the location, brief description of the business provided as part of the application, names of all applicants, and any photographs taken during the competition for the purpose of publicizing the Launch LC Business competition.
- _____ 2. I understand and agree that participation in this competition does not guarantee any awards or potential future funding. Furthermore, I recognize that the organizers of the competition, including LCDC, are not liable for any direct or indirect damages, including any loss of revenue, that may or may not be related to business advice received in conjunction with the competition.
- _____ 3. By entering this competition, I, without limitation, release and hold harmless Lewis County Development Corporation, and their respective directors, officers, employees, and agents from any and all liability for any injuries, loss, or damage of any kind in connection with the Launch LC Business competition.
- _____ 4. I agree to complete the Entrepreneurial Training Course as prescribed by the Launch LC program.
- _____ 5. I commit to submitting a full business plan as part of the program requirements.
- _____ 6. I will actively engage with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) as a resource for guidance and support throughout the program.
- _____ 7. I acknowledge and agree to contribute at least 10% owner equity to the project, as outlined in the program guidelines.
- _____ 8. I acknowledge that construction or renovations cannot be part of the project.
- _____ 9. I acknowledge and agree that any equipment, machinery, furniture, or inventory cannot be permanent fixtures connected to the structure of the building and/or utilities.
- _____ 10. I acknowledge and agree that Naturally Lewis may obtain photos throughout the program for promotional and public relations purposes.
- _____ 11. By entering this competition, I further agree to waive any right to claim ambiguity or error in these official rules or in the competition itself.

In witness thereof,

the undersigned applicant has executed and delivered the application as of / / 2024

APPLICANT:

Sign: _____

Print: _____