

New Round of COVID-19 Help

Assistance geared to small businesses, nonprofits

Prosper Portland has announced a new round of financial help to small businesses and community nonprofits that are struggling during the coronavirus pandemic. The application period opened on Monday and closes on Friday, Sept. 25 at 5 p.m.

The Portland City Council



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approved a plan last July to distribute \$114 million in federal CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security) relief to the community. The City Council allocated \$15 million to Prosper Portland to distribute to small business via the Small Business Relief Fund and block grants to community nonprofits.

Up to \$12 million will be disbursed as grants of up to \$25,000 through selected Community Development Financial Institutions partners. An additional \$3 million will be allocated as block grants to community partners that can reach culturally specific populations to provide access to these funds.

Distribution is guided by the city's Equity Toolkit and the

knowledge that Black people, Indigenous people and all people of color have experienced the greatest impacts from the pandemic and need the most support..

Details about eligibility, requirements, selection priorities and frequently asked questions are all posted at prosperportland.us/relief. The distribution of grants will begin in mid-October, officials said.

Arts and performance venues are encouraged to apply for the PDXCares Venue Support program, which allocates a separate \$2.5 million recovery fund for businesses and non-profit organizations defined as "venues" to cover losses, payroll, or operational gaps due to the pandemic. Learn more at racc.org/apply.

Diverse Blood Supply Needed

All races and ethnicities urged to donate

The American Red Cross in Portland is sending out word it needs people of all races and ethnicities to give blood to help ensure a blood supply as diverse as the patients who depend on it.

For a small percentage of the population, finding someone else with the same blood type can be difficult. While the vast majority of people have types A, B, O or AB blood, some blood types are unique to certain racial and eth-

nic groups, so a diverse blood supply is important to meeting the medical needs of a diverse patient population.

Patients who require frequent blood transfusions as part of their treatment, like those with sickle cell disease or other lifelong blood disorders, often need close blood type matches to prevent complications from their transfusion therapy.

You can make an appointment to donate by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). You can also visit RedCrossBlood.org/HostADrive.



People come in all different shapes, sizes and blood types. The American Red Cross needs people of all races and ethnicities to give blood to help ensure a blood supply as diverse as the patients who depend on it. (Red Cross photo)

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out hunger

OregonFoodBank.org/HungerActionMonth

Act Now.