

## Frequently Asked Questions

**1. Are home-based businesses eligible?**

- a. Home-based businesses are not eligible. All businesses must have a separate business address, residential locations are not eligible.

**2. Are E-commerce businesses eligible?**

- a. Each business needs to have a physical office or store location.

**3. Can any ground floor retail business or storefront apply?**

- a. To qualify for this grant, the retail store would need to have an experiential component beyond a customer buying a product in a store.
- b. For example, a clothing store that has an AR dressing room or another experiential component would be eligible, but a clothing store without an experiential component would not be eligible.

**4. Can a store or restaurant making green technology upgrades qualify in the green innovation category?**

- a. The green technology category intends to support businesses that primarily innovate in the green industry. Eligible examples include a solar energy business, an innovative product that self-waters plants, or a business selling a product that reduces air-pollution.

**5. I received Great Streets Funding 6 years ago, can I apply to this grant?**

- a. Unfortunately, recipients of Great Streets Retail Small Business, Locally Made Manufacturing, Neighborhood Prosperity Fund and Small Medium Business Growth Fund are ineligible for this grant in order to prioritize businesses that have not received funding.

**6. My business has two locations. One of them received Great Streets Funding, can I apply for the other location?**

- a. If a business's parent company has received a Great Streets grant, that business would not be able to go after this fund under the same business license/EIN number.

**7. How early should I reach out to a technical assistance provider for assistance with my application?**

- a. We recommend businesses reach out early and up to a week before the deadline. Providers may not be able to support in the last week before the deadline.

**8. My business makes 14 million in annual revenue, would I qualify?**

- a. Yes, the max annual revenue is 15 million.

**9. Can I request less than 100,000 dollars for my project?**

- a. Yes, we encourage businesses to carefully determine the amount of funding its project will need and request that amount. 100,000 is the maximum amount a business can request for this grant program.

**10. My business operates within a business incubator, would I qualify under the Incubator category?**

- a. The incubator category supports incubators directly that support businesses within them. If a business operates within an incubator, it would not be eligible for the incubator category, but it may be eligible under another category.

**11. I have two businesses with separate business licenses and separate EIN numbers, can I apply for both?**

- a. Yes, both businesses could qualify for funding

**12. My business is a market that operates in ward 7, can I qualify?**

- a. If a business is a reoccurring fresh food market (not a storefront) operating in either ward 5, 7, or 8, it may qualify under the "markets" category.

**13. My business has an ABRA license, can I qualify?**

- a. If the primary source of revenue is not alcohol, then the business may qualify if is within one of the 6 industry categories listed

**14. If I received a grant from Great Streets Small Business Retail, DC Locally Made Manufacturing or Neighborhood Prosperity fund over 5 years ago, what grant opportunities should I apply for?**

- a. The business may be eligible to reapply for another grant in the next fiscal year. Our opportunities will be listed on [www.obviouslydc.com](http://www.obviouslydc.com)

**15. If I receive the grant funding, what can I spend the funding on?**

- a. The grant funding must be used towards innovative digital technology upgrades, large equipment purchases or improvements and capital improvements to existing property owned or leased by the grantee;

**16. If I apply and receive a denial, can I contest the decision or receive a scoring sheet?**

- a. All decisions are final and cannot be contested. We will not be providing any individual feedback or scoring sheets.

**17. I am a professional services company; can I use the funding towards hiring subcontractors if payroll is not allowed?**

- a. The only allowable expenses are legislated within these three categories: towards innovative digital technology upgrades, large equipment purchases or improvements and capital improvements to existing property owned or leased by the grantee.