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PRESS RELEASE

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AK-ARPA Business Relief Application Period to Open Friday

Wednesday, September 15, 2021 (Juneau, AK) - The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED) has announced the AK-ARPA Business Relief Program's month-long application period will open at 8:00 am on Friday, September 17, 2021.

Unlike the AK CARES business grant program funded with federal CARES funds, the AK-ARPA program is not a first come first-served grant opportunity. Applications will be funded based on scale of impact after the application period closes on October 19, 2021.

DCCED has created application instructions and a preliminary screening tool so businesses can quickly identify if they are eligible for the program and gather necessary documentation before they begin the application. Both are linked on the AK-ARPA Business Relief webpage: https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/AK-ARPABusinessReliefProgram.aspx.

The AK-ARPA application will be available through the MyAlaska system at https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/comm/businessrelief/secure.

The Juneau Economic Development Council (JEDC) will administer the program and process applications once the application period has closed. JEDC's AK-ARPA help line (907-917-3720 or ARPAGrant@jedc.org) is in operation to provide assistance to businesses that cannot find answers to their questions on the AK-ARPA Business Relief webpage or application instructions.

The AK-ARPA Business Relief Program is the result of the Alaska State Legislature's appropriation of \$90 million from the State's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Covid State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) toward a tourism and business relief grant program to be administered by DCCED.

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