



Town of Center
294 S Worth St.
Center, CO 81125
Keith Brockhurst
719 - 754 - 3497
keith@centerco.gov

Western SLV Rural Roadmaps Team
WSLV Small Business Micro Grant
Guidelines and Process

GRANT PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

The WSLV Small Business Micro Grant program is designed to provide financial assistance to eligible businesses and entrepreneurs in the areas of Center, Saguache, Del Norte, and La Jara. This fund provides small grants to support local small businesses and entrepreneurs with innovative and impactful projects to help them grow their businesses, build capital, and retain and/or create jobs. The funds are made available through the Rural Technical Assistance Program from the Department of Local Affairs with Federal Funding. Respondents are encouraged to apply with specific projects that are predicted to enhance their business, increase jobs and retention, gain business capital (equipment, software systems, etc...), and positively impact our local community.

FUNDING CRITERIA:

The recommended request range for any application is \$500 to \$2,000. Grant award requests towards the lower end of the range may be more competitive. Please note that applicants may be awarded grants at a lower level than what they applied for based on fund availability.

POSSIBLE PROJECTS:

Some examples of eligible projects include, **but are not limited to:**

- Purchasing a display cooler to allow a restaurant or food store to sell packaged, prepared, or refrigerated goods.
- Developing a website to enable a business to sell goods or services online.
- Implementing business services software to streamline business processes and support business growth.
- Piloting a new part-time staff position in a new part of your business to enable expanded operations.
- Enhancing the energy efficiency of your business, reducing costs and allowing the business to direct money to expansion and staff members.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- The business must be located in the town limits of Center
- The Business must have been in operation for at least 6 months (since Sep. 1st, 2023)
- Employ 25 people or less.
- Must be in good standing with the Colorado Secretary of State.
- Must have a current (2024) Town of Center Business license.

TIMELINE:

Feb. 29th at 5:00 PM MST: Application Due **(No late entries accepted)**

Mar. 14th by 5:00 PM MST: Grant Awards Announced

May 15th by 5:00 PM MST: Grant Awards Spent and Reporting Document is Submitted **(All proof of expenses submitted to the Town of Center by this date)**

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Application may be submitted through:

1. Email – please email the application form and attachments to Keith Brockhurst, Economic Development Coordinator of the Town of Center, at keith@centerco.gov
2. Hard Copies can be dropped off at Town Hall at 294 S Worth St. Center, CO 81125 or mailed to Town of Center at PO Box 400, Center, CO 81125

If you have any questions or would like assistance preparing your application, please reach out to Keith Brockhurst, Economic Development Coordinator of the Town of Center, at 719 - 754 - 3497 or by email at keith@centerco.gov

FINAL NOTE:

We encourage your businesses to be creative and think about how these funds can help expand your business and its impact. **Grant requests to pay for traditional operating costs, such as rent, utilities, etc..., need extended descriptions as these may not be as competitive** to receive grant funds as those that go beyond existing costs. Priority will be given to projects that are proposed to significantly support business growth, capital formation (investments in equipment, physical space improvements, software systems, etc...), job creation/retention, or positively impact the community.