

Alexander County Economic Development Corporation Business and Workforce Support Grant Program

Alexander County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC) received a Duke Energy Foundation Grant with the intention of providing one-time Business and Workforce Support grants to businesses physically located in Alexander County. The grant program is intended to help businesses thrive, to encourage additional entrepreneur efforts, and to assist in the expansion of childcare centers to support employee retention throughout the county.

Purpose: Business and Workforce Support grant awards are project-based and intended to help Alexander County businesses and childcare centers. Eligible grant projects should focus on at least one of the following areas:

1. Modifying physical space.
2. Improving an e-commerce site for online sales or building e-commerce platforms.
3. Expanding capacity for delivering goods and services.
4. Purchase of business equipment.
5. Building accessibility and public health compliance.

Eligibility: The minimum requirements are as follows:

1. The applicant must own and operate a legal business located within Alexander County, NC. Home-based businesses are not eligible. Certified home-based childcare centers are eligible.
2. Applicant company must have 50 or fewer employees
3. Applicant company must have project investment equal to or exceeding grant award.
4. All projects must comply with the North Carolina Building Code.
5. Grants may not be used for the refinancing of existing debt.
6. Payroll, rent, and utilities are not eligible expenses.
7. Project eligibility period is September 1, 2024, through April 1, 2025.

Terms: The program offers matching grants subject to the following conditions:

1. Grants will be paid on a reimbursement basis.
2. Payments will be issued upon submission of contractor or vendor invoices AND proof of payment.
3. Projects must be completed, including submission of invoices and proof of payment before April 1, 2025.

Application Deadline: Applications must be received no later than noon on September 30, 2024.

Maximum Grant: The maximum amount granted to an individual small business or certified childcare center under this program shall be \$5,000. Maximum amounts are not guaranteed. The minimum grant amount shall be \$1,000. Final grant amounts will be based on the quality of the application and the number of applicants. The total amount awarded for all grants in this program shall not exceed \$50,000.

Awarding of Grants: All applications will be reviewed, approved, and/or denied by the Board of Directors of the Alexander County Economic Development Corporation. Awards will be announced in October 2024.

Alexander County Economic Development Corporation Business and Workforce Support Grant Application

Name of Childcare Center _____ License # _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Contact Name _____

Grant Amount Requested _____

Description of the business

Date business was founded _____

Description of project (attach copies of any required permits)

Amount of expected investment _____

Please attach detailed project cost estimates on contractor or vendor letterhead.

Signature

Print Name

Title

Date



Applications may be returned to Alexander County Economic Development Corporation, 621 Liledoun Road, Taylorsville, NC 28681. Applications may also be returned by email to:

ckincaid@alexandercountync.gov. Questions may be addressed to Connie Kincaid at 828-352-7757.