

BEYOND OPEN

SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS

FOUNDATION FOR THE CAROLINAS

SUPPORTED BY WELLS FARGO'S OPEN FOR BUSINESS FUND



INFORMATION

ROUND 2



GRANTS & USES

Grants CAN be used for:

Round 2 Beyond Open grants from \$10k – \$150k can be used to purchase capital assets. Examples of capital assets include, but are not limited to:

- Computers, printers and other small office equipment
- Cell phones and other communications equipment
- Software licenses (up to one year)
- Build-out of a company website, an e-commerce website, sales system or digital commerce platform
- Hand tools or small appliances
- Minor store or space renovations or improvements
- Small office furnishings, display or showroom equipment
- Storefront beautification or new signage
- Store fixtures (display racks, built-in seating and counters, lighting)
- Business site improvements, HVAC equipment, windows, roofing replacement
- Safety, security and surveillance equipment
- Parking lot resurfacing
- Leading-edge technology
- Purchase of a warehouse or other commercial property (up to 20% of purchase price)
- Lease of a new commercial property (up to one year)
- Large inventory purchases
- Major equipment
- New vehicles (car, truck, van, food service, delivery) or vehicle upfits
- Specialty or industrial equipment
- Renewable energy sources via equipment or technology
- Other significant capital investments

Grants CANNOT be used for:

- Operating expenses
- Payroll
- Utilities
- Advertising/marketing
- Consulting
- Debt repayment
- Investment properties and investment property expenses
- Training, classes, certifications
- Insurance
- Consulting and professional services (legal, accounting, medical, marketing/advertising)
- Existing leases

Beyond Open is a competitive grant program that can help diverse (minority, woman, veteran, LGBTQ+, persons with disabilities) small business owners acquire capital assets such as equipment, technology, real estate (own or lease) and inventory. Beyond open grants do not need to be repaid.

Round 2 applications are accepted from August 1 to August 31.

Before applying, review all information and preparation steps at beyondopenclt.org.

Documents required

See the list of required documentation in the Prepare section on the next page.

Questions and support

You will find resources including application information sessions, application guide, and other tools to learn more and prepare for a Round 2 grant application at beyondopenclt.com. Support is available through ASPIRE Community Capital, Prospera, and Women's Business Center of Charlotte. E-mail info@beyondopenclt.com for general questions.

Future opportunities to apply

Beyond Open will award approximately \$5M in each of three rounds in the program. Applying for a Beyond Open does not guarantee a grant award. More than 150 grants will be awarded in Round 2. A third round will take place in 2024.



Beyond Open Small Business Grant Program (Beyond Open) is administered by FFTC Partners For Empowering Communities, a supporting organization of Foundation For The Carolinas, to help build economic mobility among diverse (minority, woman, veteran, LGBTQ+, persons with disabilities) small business owners in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. The program is made possible by support from the Wells Fargo Open for Business Fund.

Learn more and prepare at beyondopenclt.com



ELIGIBILITY

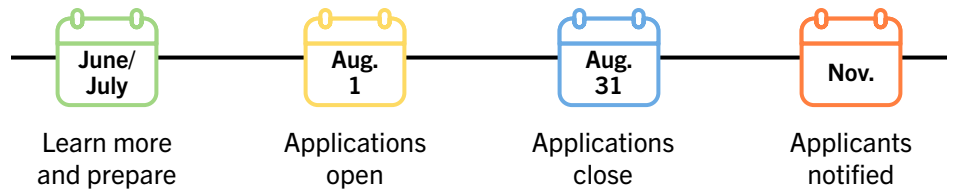
- The program is focused on diverse (minority, woman, veteran, LGBTQ+, persons with disabilities) business owners.
- Must be located within a Corridor of Opportunity as identified by the City of Charlotte.*
- 1 - 200 employees (owner counts as one employee).
- In business for at least one year (Since August 1, 2022).
- Minimum \$30k in annual revenue. Maximum \$5M in annual revenue.
- If a franchise, must be independent and locally owned.
- Nonprofits ineligible in Round 2.

* Visit the Learn page at beyondopenclt.com to verify business locations within a Corridor of Opportunity.



LEARN

Round 2 Timeline



PREPARE

Check your eligibility, review grant requirements, and FAQ's to prepare for your application at beyondopenclt.com.

Assemble information about your business, capital investment needs, and growth goals.

Gather required business documents and financial records according to grant amount requested.

Required Company/Financial Documents	\$10k-\$20k	\$20k+-\$100k	\$100k+-\$150k
Proof of Business Location/Address	●	●	●
Proof of Business Start Date	●	●	●
Registration with NC Secretary of State (must be incorporated)		●	●
Most recent bank statement		●	●
Cost Estimates (only for individual assets over \$20k)		●	●
Business tax returns for the previous year	●	●	●
Profit and Loss Statement for 2022 tax year		●	●
Balance Sheet for 2022 tax year		●	●
Statement of Cash Flows for 2022 tax year			●
Profit and Loss Statement for year-to-date 2023		●	●
Balance Sheet for year-to-date 2023		●	●
Statement of Cash Flows for year-to-date 2023			●
Three-year business plan			●
For Real Estate Leases only			
Copy of executed lease agreement	●	●	●
Brochure with details on commercial space	●	●	●
For Real Estate Purchases only			
Copy of executed purchase agreement or contract	●	●	●
Brochure with details on commercial space	●	●	●
Lender pre-approval letter	●	●	●
Purchase Budget/proof of funds	●	●	●

● Mandatory