



Department of Commerce

Division of Liquor Control

Sheryl Maxfield, Director

Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund Frequently Asked Questions

What is the last day I can apply for the Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund?

Permit holders are encouraged to apply early to ensure the funding request can be processed before the extended application deadline of Jan. 31, 2021.

For the Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund application, how should I enter my permit number?

Applicants should not use dashes or spaces when entering the permit number.

The website to create an OH|ID isn't working. When will it be available?

Due to great interest in the program, the OH|ID site was running slower than normal. We recommend using Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, and Safari browsers to view the OH|ID site. Some users may experience issues when they utilize Internet Explorer and Firefox.

When I sign on, it won't allow me to proceed with the application because it says "Single Sign on Error. Contact your Salesforce admin for help." Who is my Salesforce admin?

This issue is most prominent when the applicant is using Firefox. If applicants are using another browser and encounter this issue, they should clear their cache and browsing history to resolve.

What if I receive a message that the permit number does not correspond to the business federal tax ID?

The Department of Taxation can work with the applicant to correct FEIN/SSN and liquor permit mismatch errors. If the applicant is having this specific error with their application, they will need to review their Federal SS-4 letter from the IRS to make sure the correct FEIN/SSN is being used on the application. If it is correct, please contact the Department's liquor group with the complete fact pattern at liquorgroup@tax.state.oh.us.

Do I have to repay the grant?

No, the \$2,500 assistance payment does not need to be repaid. However, due to CARES Act requirements, businesses are required to use the funds on COVID-related expenses due to business interruptions caused by the pandemic.

I do not use a W-2 for myself in my business. In the grant application, it asks me to put in the number of my W-2 employees. Am I still eligible for assistance?

If the applicant is applying for assistance from the Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund, they do not need to report the number of W-2 employees. The applicant may mark zero in the application.

In order to be eligible for the Small Business Relief Grant, businesses must have at least one but no more than 25 W-2 employees.

Is the Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund available to businesses without employees?

Yes. Having employees is not a requirement for the \$2,500 assistance payment. Businesses must provide their permit number and FEIN number when applying for assistance. The application does capture this information, but applicants who enter zero are eligible to receive the funding.

Businesses must be an on-premise liquor permit holder to be eligible for the assistance. A list of eligible permits and more information about the fund can be found at businesshelp.ohio.gov.

If the applicant is applying for the Small Business Relief Grant, they will need to provide the number of employees and the required documentation.

I was kicked off the site and not able to submit my application. Was my progress saved?

If the applicant saves the application or advances to the next page, the progress will be saved. Please keep in mind that the application does time out after two hours.

How do I know my application has been received?

Once the application has been submitted, the applicant will receive an email confirming successful submission. This email will be sent to the email address the applicant used in the application. If the applicant does not receive an email, they are advised to check their spam folder. The text of the email is included below.

Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund

This email confirms successful submission of your Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund application. Your Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund application is currently being processed, and a check will be sent to the address identified in your application. In the meantime, if you have questions, please direct your inquiries to SmallBizRelief@development.ohio.gov.

Thank you for your interest in the Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund.

I applied for the Small Business Relief Grant and the Bar & Restaurant Assistance Fund. Will I get two confirmation emails?

If the applicant has applied for both the Small Business Relief Grant and the Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund, they will receive an email confirmation of submission of both applications. The applicant can always check the status of their application at <https://businesshelp.ohio.gov/> under "Review Your Application."

Is there another way to find out if my application was successfully submitted?

Yes, the applicant may log into <https://businesshelp.ohio.gov/> and choose "Review Your Application".

Will I have to pay taxes on the assistance money?

We encourage applicants to talk with their accountant or tax professional. Applicants can also review Internal Revenue Service guidance, which is [available here](#).