Governor Laura Kelly has established the **Hospitality Industry Relief Emergency Fund** to assist hospitality businesses seeking emergency loans in response to the economic impacts of COVID-19. The loan program, administered by the Kansas Department of Commerce and NetWork Kansas, offers loans up to $20,000 at 0% interest for a term of three years.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Businesses must meet all of the below requirements to be eligible to receive HIRE Funds.
- Existing for-profit business located in Kansas
- Registered as an LLC, sole proprietorship, S-Corp, C-Corp or limited partnership
- Must have 100 or fewer employees
- Must be a restaurant, bar, lodging facility (Airbnb excluded), conference center or event center
  - Related hospitality businesses not listed above may be approved on a case by case basis
  
  *Applicants must have no outstanding state tax obligations*

**ELIGIBLE USE OF FUNDS**

Working capital, including but not limited to:
- Commercial loan payments
- Commercial lease payments
- Payroll
- Utility bills
- Accounts payable
- Inventory

**TERMS**

- 36 months—0% interest
- No principal payments for first four months
- Maximum loan amount $20,000
- Personal guaranty from owner(s) required

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**GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS**

A total of $5 million is available to be distributed as stated below:

- $2 million will be allocated to businesses in the KC Metro area counties of Douglas, Johnson, Shawnee and Wyandotte
- $1 million will be allocated to businesses in Sedgwick County
- $2 million will be allocated to businesses in the rest of the state

**TIMELINE**

- Loan decisions will be made within 72 hours of application receipt
- Electronic Funds Transfer or check disbursement will occur within 48 hours (or on next business day)

For more information on the Hospitality Industry Relief Emergency Fund, visit [kansasccommerce.gov/HIREfund](http://kansasccommerce.gov/HIREfund), or contact the referral center at 1 (877) 521-8600 or info@networkkansas.com.