

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) For the Cannabis Equity GO-BIZ #5 Grant

Last Updated June 20, 2024

Q: What are eligible uses of the Go-Biz 5 Grant?

A: Business start-up or ongoing costs.

Q: How far back in time can Go-Biz 5 Grant expenses cover?

A: The City has confirmed with Go-Biz that Go-Biz 5 grant expenses can cover expenses incurred on or after June 11, 2024, the date the City released its Go-Biz 5 grant application.

Q: Who is eligible to apply for a Go-Biz 5 Grant?

A: Oakland cannabis equity applicants that EITHER (i) have two or more years of City of Oakland business tax certificates OR (ii) manage or utilize a shared-use manufacturing facility. If a Go-Biz 5 Grant applicant has previously received a grant or loan from the City of Oakland, the applicants must also provide receipts (if the applicant has not already done so) documenting how they spent at least fifty percent (50%) of the most recent grant or loan they received.

Q: Can I convert a portion of the balance of the loan I have with the City of Oakland to a grant and then qualify for the full amount of the Go-Biz 5 Grant minus the amount of loan converted to a grant?

A: No, you cannot convert only a portion of your loan balance. Our office has conferred with the Finance Department and it is not administratively feasible to convert just a portion of a loan balance to a grant.

Q: Do I need a cannabis permit to qualify for the Go-Biz 5 Grant?

A: No, you do not need to have obtained a cannabis permit, but in order to operate you will need a state license and either a cannabis permit or have entered into a compliance plan and be in compliance with the compliance plan as you obtain all approvals needed to obtain a cannabis permit.

Q: Do I need a business location to qualify for the Go-Biz 5 Grant?

A: Yes.

Q: If I have more than one location or more than one business can I receive more than \$50,000?

A: No. The maximum amount of funding available per equity applicant is \$50,000, regardless of how many locations or permits one equity applicant may have.