



Rural Development

March 19, 2020

Office of the
Administrator

Rural Business–Cooperative
Service
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Room 5803-S
Washington, D.C. 20250
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TO: State Directors
Rural Development

ATTN: National Office and Business Program Directors

FROM: Mark Brodziski /s/ *Mark Brodziski*
Acting Administrator
Rural Business -Cooperative Service

SUBJECT: Amendment to the Application Window for the Rural Business
Development Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2020.

PURPOSE:

The Rural-Business Cooperative Service published an Unnumbered Letter (UL) on January 16, 2020, to Rural Development State Directors entitled: “Rural Business Development Grant Program Application Window and Discretionary Points ” for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020. Due to current health and economic circumstances, this notice extends the application window closing date from no later than March 31, 2020, to April 15, 2020, to allow impacted applicants sufficient time to prepare application materials for the Rural Business Grant (RBDG) program.

APPLICATION WINDOW:

This notification provides that States are now authorized to solicit and accept RBDG applications in their office through 4:30pm local time on April 15, 2020.

The National Office application and funding deadlines for the competition of reserved RBDG funds for Native American, Persistent Poverty, Native American Persistent Poverty, and Strategic Economic and Community Development (SECD) projects remain unchanged. All unfunded eligible applications for RBDG program funding that are received by April 15, 2020, and that are not funded by the national competition of reserved funds or State allocations can be submitted to the National Office before July 31, 2020, to compete against grant applications from other States at a final national competition.

EXPIRATION DATE:
March 31, 2021

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:
Community/Business Programs

Decision Memo Blue Highway 4290.460 waiver

Announcements for the extension of the application deadline may be solicited through the State Rural Development website, e-newsletters, social media, blog, and dissemination by email. Questions may be directed to David Chestnut, Branch Chief, Intermediary Programs Branch, Program Management Division, at: (202) 692-5233, or by email at: david.chestnut@usda.gov.