

# Safest Outside Restaurant Assistance Program (SORAP)

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Updated 12/10/2020

#### **Eligible Applicants:**

**1. Who is eligible to receive an award from the Safest Outside Restaurant Assistance Program?**

- Licensed bar or restaurant legally operating in Arizona and complying with all COVID-19 related executive orders. Must be open to the general public and in good standing with the Corporation Commission.
  - With fewer than 50 employees
- Must demonstrate a new extension of premises that has been approved by the local governing body and approved by the Arizona Department of Liquor Licensing and Control (if applicable). A new extension of premises is any outdoor expansion that increased the outdoor square footage of the restaurant premises that opened for service on or after October 1, 2020.

**2. Can I receive other assistance from another entity and still apply for the SORAP for the same expenditures?**

No, you must not have received other federal, state, or local monies explicitly for the same eligible expenditures

**3. \*Can I apply if I have a current patio that is not in use?**

Yes, the program is intended to fund businesses that have new/expanding premises or use an area that increases the business' square footage to serve customers.

**4. \*Can I apply if I have a current patio that is currently operational but is in need of additional furniture, heaters, tents, plexiglass barriers, etc?**

You may apply but priority will be given to restaurants/bars that are implementing new or expanding premises.

**5. \*Do bars need to serve food to be eligible?**

All applicants must follow Arizona Department of Health Service's guidelines. [LINK](#)

## **Eligible Expenses:**

### **6. What are the eligible expenses under SORAP?**

Eligible expenses include:

- Outdoor furniture, barriers, patio heaters, parklets, or other physical infrastructure used to create the extended premises.
- Eligible expenditures must occur after December 1, 2020
- Must not have received other federal, state, or local monies explicitly for the same eligible expenditures
- Must have approval and plan to extend the premises for a minimum of three months
- May include funding for multiple restaurant locations

## **Funding:**

### **7. Is there a cost share/match requirement associated with this grant program?**

No, there is no cost share (match) associated with the program.

### **8. Is the source of this funding Federal?**

No, this is **State** money from the Crisis Contingency and Safety Net Fund

### **9. Is this a loan, federal assistance, or something else?**

This is a grant governed by the Arizona grant procurement code and statutes.

### **10. How is the money allocated (award amounts determined)?**

Applicants may receive one grant for up to \$10,000. Grants are reviewed on a first come, first serve basis.

## **Online Application Portal Questions:**

### **11. Can we create multiple accounts using the same email address**

No, the profile is unique to the specific email address utilized.

### **12. \*Who do I contact if I am having technical issues?**

Please email: [ERMT@az.gov](mailto:ERMT@az.gov) first. If a staff member cannot assist, your issue will be escalated to the vendor's support team.

### **Application Questions:**

**13. Is the max award of \$10K per location or per applicant? Could one applicant get \$40K for 4 locations?**

The grant program has a \$10,000 cap per applicant. If the applicant has multiple restaurant locations, the company may use the funding at multiple locations but the award will not exceed \$10,000.

**14. What information is needed in the budget?**

Applicants should include the total amount of their request in the budget. The total amount can be added under the “equipment”, “supplies” or “other” category.

**15. What is the minimum information needed on the ACH form?**

Page 2 of the ACH form has the instructions to complete the form. All fields available for input must be completed

### **Grant Notification/Award Process:**

**16. How soon after application submission, will we be notified of our grant award?**

Applications will be reviewed and awarded on a first come, first serve basis. Applications are expected to be reviewed within 5-10 business days.

**17. How will potential applicants be notified the program has expended all the available funding?**

The Governor’s Office will post regular updates to the SORAP section on the website: <https://arizonatogether.org/grants>.