



FORWARD

City of Milpitas

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FORWARD Platform

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Applications Now Accepted for Milpitas Microenterprise Assistance Program

Milpitas and FORWARD to administer \$50,000 to Milpitas microenterprises

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The application period for the City of the Milpitas Microenterprise Assistance Program (MEAP) is now open. This program is designed to provide economic assistance to microenterprises within Milpitas. [FORWARD](#), the trusted partner in program administration for local governments, has partnered with the City of Milpitas to administer the MEAP.

The City of Milpitas has allocated \$50,000 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for MEAP in order to provide up to 25 Milpitas microenterprises each with \$2,000 in grant funding. The awards will provide a financial cushion and help alleviate the economic challenges faced by microenterprises in Milpitas.

“The City is dedicated to investing in the Milpitas business sector through its Microenterprise Assistance Program and in providing an easy, safe, and quick application process,” said Mayor Carmen Montano. “Milpitas is proud to partner with FORWARD in helping to financially empower the Milpitas business community.”

To be eligible for the program, Milpitas microenterprises must:

- Operate within [Milpitas city limits](#);
- Not exceed five (5) employees (including W2 employees and sole proprietors);
- Operate as a for-profit enterprise;
- Have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) by *March 31, 2024* to receive funding; and
- At least 51% of staff must be at or below 80% [Area Median Income \(AMI\)](#) for Santa Clara County.

Eligible Uses of Grant Funding

- Rent/mortgage
- Operating expenses
- Payroll
- Utility payments

Additional eligibility criteria and eligible grant uses available at the [MEAP website](#).

The City of Milpitas approved FORWARD as the program administrator contractor to assist with

community outreach, application support, and screening for eligibility in a way that uses taxpayer dollars efficiently. Applicants can expect the following:

- Apply through FORWARD's online application portal, available in multiple languages
- Access to application support available in multiple languages via phone, text and email
- Meet geographic area requirements by operating within Milpitas city limits
- Submit proof of active Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
- A Business Tax Return from 2022 or a Personal Tax Return from 2022 (if business income is shown on personal return)
- Provide a W-9 form, and a government-issued photo ID

"At FORWARD, we're committed to creating an easy and secure application process for members of the microenterprise community," said Adnan Mahmud, CEO of FORWARD Platform. "Our team worked closely with the City of Milpitas to ensure that the application process is equitable, secure, and accessible for the Milpitas microenterprise community."

Milpitas microenterprises that meet eligibility requirements are encouraged to learn more and apply at: forwardplatform.com/city-of-milpitas-microenterprise-assistance-program.

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About the City of Milpitas

Located at the southern end of San Francisco Bay, Milpitas is a progressive community that is an integral part of Silicon Valley. A full-service city with water utility, sewer utility, police and fire services, Milpitas is a flourishing community with a very diverse and inclusive resident population of over 80,000. Often referred to as the Crossroads of Silicon Valley, the City is situated between major thoroughfares in the Bay Area and considered a highly desirable location for world-class technology companies seeking to build a central base of operations. With the addition of the new Milpitas Transit Center offering BART, light rail, and bus service, and multiple new mixed-use development projects, along with a host of new City Plans and Programs in support of an inspiring and sustainable future, the City is at the forefront of building the next generation economy. For more information, visit: www.milpitas.gov

About Forward Platform

FORWARD partners with governments and organizations to deliver resources and funding to communities using human-centered technology and customized solutions. Over 80% of the team members have worked in government and understand the unique challenges and what it takes to execute, enabling the team to operate with speed, precision, and competency. FORWARD automates complex program administration processes that increase back-office capacity, improve transparency, and trust with data, and break down silos to unlock coordination and service delivery quickly and securely — all while maintaining compliance. To learn more, visit: www.forwardplatform.com.

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