**RESTART VERMONT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**Program FAQ**

**What is the Restart Vermont Technical Assistance Program?**

The Vermont Legislature allocated $2.5 million of federal CARES Act funding for business technical support in Act 137. On September 18th, 2020, Governor Scott and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development announced that the regional development corporations (RDCs) of Vermont would be tasked with deploying $1.2 million in technical assistance funding across the state under the ReStart Vermont Technical Assistance Program (ReVTA).

The RDCs of Vermont will use this award to contract with hundreds of Vermont businesses and non-profit organizations that will, in turn, be compensated to provide technical assistance (TA) to Vermont businesses who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19.

The RDCs have created Recovery Navigator positions in each region of the state. The Navigators will engage one-on-one with businesses impacted by the pandemic to develop a recovery solution and identify an appropriate technical assistance provider from a network of for-profit and non-profit service providers. Once a recovery path has been determined, the Navigator will help connect the business with an appropriate TA provider, and together they will develop an agreement, or scope of work, for the work to be performed on the project.

Once the work is completed, the TA provider will be paid by the grant program. All activities within the scope of work agreement must be completed by December 4, 2020. The average TA award per project is expected to be approximately $3,000.

**What type of technical assistance can be provided?**

The TA provider must help the business recover from direct impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. TA includes, but is not limited to assistance for business operations, financial management, digital and marketing strategies, architecture and design, reconfiguring products or processes, updating safety measures, technology and software consulting, and legal or professional services.

**What businesses are eligible to receive technical assistance?**

Any Vermont-domiciled business impacted by COVID-19, with a recovery path that can be advanced through professional technical assistance, is eligible. Non-profit employers may apply under this program with requirements similar to for-profit applicants.

**How does a business participate in the program?**

Any for-profit, Vermont-domiciled business seeking a technical assistance solution to COVID-19 impacts may find more detail and register at [www.vermonteconomicdevelopment.com](http://www.vermonteconomicdevelopment.com). Completed registrations are distributed to a local Recovery Navigator who will follow up with the business. Businesses seeking recovery assistance can register starting Tuesday, September 22.

**How do technical assistance providers participate in the program?**

Technical assistance providers must register as vendors. Any for-profit or non-profit technical assistance provider seeking to participate may find more detail and register at [www.vermonteconomicdevelopment.com](http://www.vermonteconomicdevelopment.com). A complete vendor registry will be maintained and made available through this web site. TA providers can register starting Thursday, September 17.