

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HĀGAN GUĀHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

Via Hand Delivery
and E-mail: speaker@guamlegislature.org

September 7, 2021

HONORABLE THERESE M. TERLAJE

Speaker

I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

36th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

RE: Executive Order No. 2021-22

Hafa Adai Madame Speaker:

Pursuant to Public Law 34-16, transmitted herewith is the following Executive Order:

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2021-22:
RELATIVE TO AUTHORIZING AND IMPLEMENTING NOVEL CORONAVIRUS
(COVID-19) ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

Thank you.

Senseyemente,

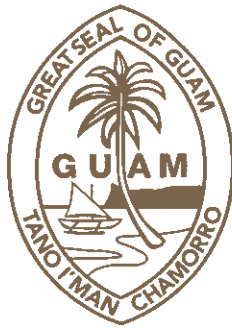
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Leslie A. Travis".

LESLIE A. TRAVIS
Legal Counsel

Enclosure: Executive Order No. 2021-22

cc via email: *Maga'hågan Guåhan*
Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan
Hon. F. Philip Carbullido, Chief Justice of Guam
Compiler of Law
Central Files
Cabinet Members

RICARDO J. BORDALLO GOVERNOR'S COMPLEX
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**ISLAND OF GUAM
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGÁTÑA, GUAM 96932
U.S.A.**

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2021-22

**RELATIVE TO AUTHORIZING AND IMPLEMENTING NOVEL
CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”) into law, which provides Guam with emergency federal funding to combat the public health and economic impacts of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, ARPA funding may be used to provide small businesses with loans or grants to mitigate financial hardship, such as declines in revenues or impacts of periods of business closure, for example, by supporting payroll and benefits costs, costs to retain employees, mortgage, rent, or utility costs, and other operating expenses; and

WHEREAS, programs such as these are instrumental in providing essential financial assistance to a broad spectrum of local businesses, which will help them continue operations and services to the community; and

WHEREAS, in order to promote general public health and safety, Guam remains in Pandemic Condition of Readiness Three (“PCOR 3”); and

WHEREAS, the Guam Economic Development Authority (“GEDA”) was appointed program processor for three previous small business grant assistance programs, namely the Guam Small Business Pandemic Assistance Program (Executive Order 2020-18), the Healthcare System Stabilization Grant Program (Executive Order 2020-35) and the Guam Small Business Rent Assistance Grant Program (Executive Order 2020-40, which were funded by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the continued need for small business assistance programs, I requested that GEDA develop programs to provide additional financial assistance to local small businesses and other industries that have been negatively impacted by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, GEDA developed a new small business pandemic assistance grant program, presented it to its Board of Directors, and received the Board’s endorsement for approval by the Governor of Guam; and



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WHEREAS, this new small business pandemic assistance grant program will provide critical direct financial assistance while the island continues its fight against COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, GEDA is also exploring the development of programs to assist local farmers, agriculture and fishing organizations, entrepreneurship, and the development of new small businesses, as well as economic recovery and support for these and other industries that have been negatively impacted by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, continued efforts must be undertaken to ensure that Guam's economic recovery efforts result in a prosperous and active economy that provides opportunities for the people of Guam.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO, I Maga'hågan Guåhan, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, and the laws of Guam, do order as follows:

1. There is hereby established the **GUAM SMALL BUSINESS PANDEMIC ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM 2021** (the "Program") to provide direct financial assistance to local small businesses to aid in economic recovery.
 - a. A total of Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000) is allocated from ARPA funding for this program.
 - b. GEDA is appointed to serve as the Program processor for Guam, subject to continued monitoring and oversight by the Office of the Governor. The Administrator of GEDA shall serve as the official responsible for overseeing GEDA's fulfillment of the Program, which includes the following items:
 - i. Implementing the Program, inclusive of drafting the application, standard operating procedures (SOP), and other relevant documentation. All SOPs, program information, and other relevant documentation is subject to approval by the Office of the Governor;
 - ii. Receiving and reviewing applications and submitting payment requests to the Department of Administration for disbursement to eligible small businesses; and
 - iii. Instituting a system of reporting and record retention to include auditable certification to ensure accountability.



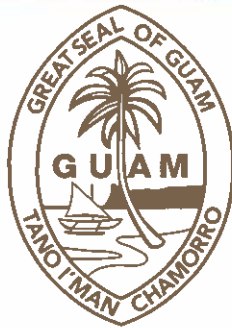
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- c. GEDA shall allow for a reasonable application period. Grants under the Program shall be awarded until such time that the budget allocated for the Program is exhausted, but no later than ninety (90) days after GEDA opens the application period.
 - d. The Department of Administration shall be responsible for issuing all grant award payments under this program and shall prepare regular status updates to the Office of the Governor, as requested, regarding the Program budget and finances.
2. A total of One Million, Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,800,000) is allocated from ARPA funding to provide grant awards for unfunded eligible grant applications under the Small Business Rent Assistance Grant (“RAG”) Program established pursuant to Executive Order 2020-40.
 - a. GEDA shall ensure that all grant recipients utilize funds in accordance with ARPA guidelines, including that all funds are utilized for eligible expenditures within the ARPA covered expenditure period; and
 - b. GEDA shall prepare a list of all eligible RAG applications pending funding and transmit such list with a payment request to the Department of Administration for disbursement.
3. A total of Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) is allocated from ARPA funding for the establishment of additional economic recovery programs and support. GEDA shall submit plans for the establishment of programs for the following economic recovery initiatives:
 - a. Programs to provide financial assistance to support the aquaculture, agriculture, and fishing industries of Guam, to include capital improvements activities, support for operational costs, as well as programs that provide direct financial assistance, training, and workforce development for existing local small businesses and entrepreneurs, and for programs that encourage the establishment of new local small business and entrepreneurs, to include, but not be limited to, programs that seek to spur new businesses growth through the use of business incubator programs; and

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- b. GEDA shall provide to the Office of the Governor proposed program parameters, SOPs, and all other relevant documentation and information for review and approval prior to program launch.
4. A total of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) is allocated to GEDA for costs excluded from regularly budgeted items associated with the implementation and administration of the programs above. GEDA shall maintain a schedule of costs incurred and paid for under this funding and shall comply with all federal and local requirements as to the usage of such funding.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 7th day of September, 2021.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Maga'hågan Guåhan
Governor of Guam

Attested by:

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan
Lieutenant Governor of Guam

