



## City of Binghamton Small Business Interim Assistance Grant Program Frequently Asked Questions

**Q** Why does my business need a DUNS number in order to receive a grant?

**A** A DUNS number is a required field for reporting CDBG program accomplishments in HUD's Integrated Disbursement Information System (IDIS) that is used to collect data for presentation to Congress. There is no charge to obtain a DUNS number and applications can be submitted online: <https://www.dnb.com/duns-number/get-a-duns.html>

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**Q** How long can I receive assistance with this grant?

**A** The grant will cover a period not to exceed three (3) consecutive months.

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**Q** Will payments be made directly to the business owner?

**A** Payments for mortgages, rents, and utilities (gas & electric) will be made directly to the entity that provides the service (e.g. mortgage holder, landlord, utility company).

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**Q** I owed money for rent and utilities prior to March 22, 2020. Can these arrears be covered with this grant?

**A** No. Grant funds can't be used to pay any amounts for rent, mortgage payments, or NYSEG bills that were owed prior to March 22, 2020.

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**Q** Can the grant funds be used to refinance existing debt?

**A** No.

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**Q** Is this grant taxable income for IRS & NYS income tax purposes?

**A** The City of Binghamton can't provide tax advice. Please contact a tax professional for guidance.

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**Q** Can grant funds be used to pay property taxes?

**A** Yes. Pro-rated property taxes, along with water/sewer bills, will be an allowable use of grant funds.