

DISCRETIONARY FUND PHASE 2 FAQs

	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How will I know if I'm eligible for Discretionary Grant Fund Phase 2?	Full guidance can be found here: www.sunderland.gov.uk/discretionaryfund
2	What types of businesses are eligible for this grant funding?	<p>Business meeting all of the following criteria are eligible to apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All businesses must have their own Rateable Value (RV) assessment, and the RV for the property must be below £51,000 • All businesses must be able to demonstrate that they were trading on 11 March 2020 • Businesses who are eligible for any other Government business support grant funds, including the Small Business Grant Fund, the Retail, Hospitality & Leisure Fund and Phase 1 of the Discretionary Fund, are not eligible • Home-based businesses are not eligible • All businesses will be required to demonstrate loss of income related to Covid-19 • The Discretionary Fund scheme operates in relation to individual businesses (not properties) - an individual business cannot receive more than one grant if they have more than one property. • Priority during assessment will initially be given to manufacturing/engineering and software/technology companies as two key sectors for the city's economy.
3	If I am not eligible, should I still submit an application?	Only businesses that meet the eligibility criteria will be considered for a grant under this scheme.

	QUESTION	ANSWER
4	Can I apply for the Discretionary Fund Round 2 if I have received other Covid-19 grant support?	<p>If you are eligible or have received grant funding through any of the following schemes, you are ineligible for the Discretionary Grant Fund Phase 2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Business Grant Fund • Retail Hospitality and Leisure Grant • Sunderland City Council Local Support Fund • Round one of Sunderland City Council Discretionary Grant • The Fisheries Response Fund • Domestic Seafood Supply Scheme (DSSS) • The Zoos Support Fund • The Dairy Hardship Fund
5	If I am eligible for the scheme how do I apply?	<p>The application process is via an online form that can be found at: https://www.sunderland.gov.uk/DiscretionaryForm</p> <p>You will be required to provide a business bank statement (or personal statement in the case of Sole Traders if a business bank statement is not available) to evidence trading on the 11th March 2020. Applications cannot be processed without this.</p>
6	If I'm a home-based business do I qualify for this grant funding?	Home-based businesses are not eligible.
7	What is the timescale for receipt of funding?	<p>Sunderland City Council recognises the importance of providing the funding to eligible businesses as quickly as possible.</p> <p>However, due to the significant number of applications received, no payments will be made until the scheme has closed on 19th July.</p>
8	If I am an eligible business, how will I receive the grant payment?	Payment will be made to businesses automatically by bank transfer.
9	How much grant funding will I receive?	The amount of grant funding awarded will vary depending upon the size of the business. This is set out clearly in the guidance.

	QUESTION	ANSWER
10	How long is the application process open for?	The application period is open for 3 weeks from 29th June until midnight on Sunday 19 th July 2020.
11	If I am not eligible to apply for this Fund currently, will there be another opportunity to apply to the Discretionary Fund?	<p>As this is the second phase of the Discretionary Grant Fund in Sunderland, it is anticipated that the remaining funds will be allocated and there will be no additional phases launched.</p> <p>Information on other sources of support can be found here: https://www.sunderland.gov.uk/Covid-19Business</p>