



## | Cape Collaborates Small Business Partner Program

### Program Overview

This program will encourage new small business start-ups, expansion of existing businesses and relocation of out-of-market businesses to the city by providing eligible small businesses with grant assistance.

### Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the Cape Collaborates Program, an Applicant's business shall contain the following criteria:

1. Be a for-profit, privately held business.
2. Be located in, or relocating to, the City of Cape Coral.
3. Employ less than 10 full-time employees.
4. Generate average annual gross revenues of \$1 million or less per year for the last two years

The following industries shall be **ineligible** to receive incentive assistance:

1. Industries that have retail as their main principal component of business.
2. Gas Stations.
3. Car Washes.
4. Storage Facilities

### Eligible Expenditures

Eligible expenditures to be paid from the Cape Collaborates Program include the following:

1. Capital improvements associated with new construction, renovation, or tenant improvements.
2. Payment of impact, permitting, and special assessment fees assessed by the City or other public entity.
3. Land improvement and development costs that include:
  - I. Onsite infrastructure design and construction.
  - II. Right-of-way improvements required by new construction or on-site improvement.
  - III. Landscaping and road beautification costs.
  - IV. Water and sewer connection costs.
  - V. Telecommunication connection fees and costs.
  - VI. Drainage facilities in conjunction with new construction or on-site improvements.
  - VII. Construction of new curbs.
  - VIII. Curb cuts, medians, shoulders, and sidewalks.
  - IX. Relocating utilities to accommodate new construction or on-site improvements.
  - X. Flood proofing.
  - XI. Fire walls or suppression systems.
  - XII. Other types of site, building, or fire development expenses that may be approved by the City.
  - XIII. Payment of impact, Contribution of Aid in Construction (CIAC), and special assessment fees assessed by the City.



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### **Ineligible Expenditures**

The following shall be ineligible expenditures from the Cape Collaborates Program

1. Inventory.
2. Payment of delinquent taxes or debts.
3. Payments to owners.
4. Purchase a part of a business and any other non-capital related expenditures.
5. Refinancing of existing debt.
6. Working capital.
7. Business Advertising.
8. Furniture & fixtures
9. Capital machinery and manufacturing equipment, furniture and fixtures.

### **Funding Limits**

The minimum funding for the Cape Collaborates Incentive Program shall be \$5000.00, and the maximum shall be \$50,000.00.

### **Projects must meet the following additional guidelines:**

1. Projects with a capital investment exceeding \$25,000
2. Twenty percent of capital costs not to exceed \$50,000
3. Program is reimbursement-based. Disbursement shall be distributed after the incentive recipient secures all permits and approval, including a certificate of occupancy or certificate of completion.

**To review full program details and requirements, refer to the City of Cape Coral Code of Ordinances / Chapter 29 – Economic Development and Business Incentive Programs.**

All incentive applications must be received and reviewed prior to project completion to be eligible for a grant award. Submission of an application or the determination of program eligibility does not guarantee an incentive award. Projects must receive formal approval from the City Manager, City Council, or the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) if located within the CRA district.