



PRESS RELEASE

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Application Window Open for Community Kitchen Pilot Project

Grand Island, Neb. — In early August, the National League of Cities' Advancing Economic Mobility Rapid Grant Program selected Grand Island as one of just 12 cities nationally as a grant recipient.

As a selected recipient, Grand Island now gets to put a grant for economic mobility advancement to work along with six months coaching from the NLC, and it is resulting in a Community Kitchen Pilot Project.

"We not only want to see the city grow, but we want to see our residents thrive while calling Grand Island home," Grand Island Mayor Roger Steele said at the time of the announcement.

The application window is now open for any local food and beverage-related business looking to grow their brand, community presence and ultimately their sales. Interested businesses can apply at <https://www.grandisland.org/activity/commercial-kitchen.html>, and the deadline to apply is Wednesday, October 2.

Businesses accepted into the program will then take part in four weekly classes hosted by the Central Community College Entrepreneurship Center. The classes will focus on building local business support, insurance, planning essentials, marketing and more! The grant recipients will then take part in monthly cohort meetings through January that will include 1-on-1 coaching and the ability to rent local commercial kitchen space.

"We know that the economic vitality of a municipality is directly linked to the economic stability of the people who live there," said NLC CEO and Executive Director Clarence Anthony.

For more information, please contact Communications Manager Spencer Schubert at spencers@grand-island.com.

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Grand Island Community Kitchen

PILOT PROJECT

FREE 4-month cohort to elevate your food/beverage business

Those selected will receive:

- Four weeks of evening meetings
- \$2,000 grant awarded to upscale your business, rent commercial space
- Networking with those in your local industry
- 1-on-1 coaching and training in business and marketing

APPLY HERE: <https://www.grandisland.org/activity/commercial-kitchen.html>

Application Deadline is Wednesday, October 2

Weekly Classes

October 10: Introductions, Local Business Support and Business Structures

October 17: Business Insurance and Planning Essentials

October 24: Marketing Your Business

November 7: Cottage Laws w/ Cindy Brison from UNL Extension

Monthly Cohort Meetings

Dates set for November 14, December 5 and January 16

Additional 1-on-1 Coaching and Training throughout program duration

Grant Completion

Complete full utilization of \$2,000 grant on commercial space, marketing, advertising and other business upgrades

Collaborating partners



Central Community College
Entrepreneurship
Center



Grant funding through

