

Take It Outside Barrington

Overview and Guidelines



The Town of Barrington is making certain items available free of charge to businesses and other eligible entities through the Take It Outside Initiative to be utilized in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency to help sustain operations. Grant funds awarded to the Town will allow the Town to acquire outdoor heaters, outdoor lighting, and other eligible items associated with utilizing outdoor spaces to provide additional seating, serving and sales areas. In order to begin the grant process, carefully read the program overview including eligible activities and complete the online form linked at the bottom of Page 2 of this document.

Who Can Apply

Barrington-based “brick and mortar” businesses, non-profits and other eligible entities that have been approved or successfully apply to the Town to provide outdoor activities to be utilized in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency to sustain operations.

Available Items

This grant opportunity was established to assist businesses, non-profits and other eligible organizations with unbudgeted or unanticipated costs necessary to effectively and safely operate outdoor service, seating, and sales as of Thursday, October 15th.

Priority items include:

- Patio heaters (gas or electric)
- Outdoor lighting

The Town also will consider requests for:

- Outdoor furniture/tables/chairs/equipment
- Electrical service required for outdoor activity
- Umbrellas/awnings
- Purchasing an event tent / covering a portion of tent rental fees
- Fleece blankets

It's the responsibility of the applicant to ensure all projects and/or improvements comply with local, state, and federal codes, regulations, and laws. Only projects in compliance with and receiving applicable approvals through the Town's Viewpoint e-permitting system will be funded.

Please contact Debra Page-Trim, Economic Development Officer, at 247-1900 x365 or dpagetrtrim@barrington.ri.gov, for additional information regarding applying for Town approval of an outdoor activity (restaurant/retail/outdoor gatherings, etc.).

Application + Grant Process

Eligible entities can apply to receive items to assist with expanding outdoor business operations. The application linked below must be completed to include an itemized list of requested items. The application must be completed and submitted through [Viewpoint](#) for consideration. Applications will be reviewed within three business days. Once an application has been approved, applicants will receive notice with additional information, including items approved and instructions for pick-up.

The **Application Period starts at noon Thursday, October 15 and closes at noon Thursday, October 29, 2020**. The Town will make every effort to fill eligible applicants' requests; however, there is limited funding available. The average estimated value of items distributed to each applicant is expected to average \$2,000 to \$3,000 in value. This amount could be higher or lower, depending on the number of requests received and if additional grant funds become available.

The Town will contact all approved applicants about the requested items prior to proceeding to purchase.

If the Town is successful in securing additional grant funding, the Town will announce a new application period during which new / previously unfunded requests will be considered. Eligible entities that did not receive support this round will be given priority for assistance in any future rounds, as applicable.

Eligibility Requirements + Acknowledgements

The following acknowledgements are also required to complete an application:

- Applicants must have permission from property owner (if someone other than applicant) to implement project and must apply to the Town for an outdoor COVID permit, as well as comply with other applicable laws and regulations. If an expansion of a previously approved outdoor activity is proposed, submission of a revised plan is required.
- Applicant must certify that the items received are to be utilized in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency to sustain operations.
- Applicants will be provided a "Take It Outside Barrington" sticker to be placed in a location that is visible to the public (main door, storefront window, etc.)

Follow-Up/Evaluation

Applicants who have received items through Take It Outside will be contacted by the Town seeking responses to the following questions:

1. How did the approved items enable the outside activity?
2. Did you have to purchase additional items (tables, tent, etc.)? If so, please specify.
3. How many people (customers/clients/members of the organization, etc.) utilized the outdoor space? (Number of people or percentage of capacity)

4. How often was the outdoor space utilized on those days when it was available?
5. Based on your experience with the Take It Outside Initiative, what additional actions could the Town or State government do to increase outdoor activity for businesses or other entities?
6. Is there interest in continuing the Take It Outside Initiative in spring 2021?

Please email dpagetrim@barrington.ri.gov for an application form. She also can be reached at 247-1900 x365

The Take It Outside Barrington program is fully funded by federal Coronavirus Relief Funds made available through RI Commerce.