

Q: Can this next round of BTAP funding be allocated for clients that already received BTAP-funded Technical Assistance?

A: Yes, businesses and entrepreneurs can receive up to 50 hours per contract. So, their hours would reset with a new contract period.

Q: What type of outreach activities would be funded?

A: The primary way that we would fund outreach is in-person, store-to-store type visits to let businesses know that BTAP services exist, but we're open to other strategies for business outreach.

Q: Can BTAP funding support small businesses in applying for loans and grants?

A: Yes, if you're helping get paperwork together to help businesses apply for loans and grants, that would be an eligible use.

Q: Are businesses eligible if the business owner lives somewhere else?

A: Yes, as long as their business is based in Minneapolis, or providing a majority of their services within Minneapolis.

Q: Are businesses eligible if the business owner lives in Minneapolis and their business is located elsewhere?

A: No, the business itself must be located within Minneapolis.

Q: Do group trainings (such as workshops) need to specifically address business issues caused by Operation Metro Surge, rather than covering general small business skill-building topics?

A: Yes, the workshop/training must address issues caused or exasperated by Operation Metro Surge and help with business recovery.

Q: Do I need to complete Section E in the application if I am only applying for 1-on-1 technical assistance?

A: No, you only need to complete Section E if you are submitting a proposal for group trainings or outreach.

Q: How will you determine if a business has been negatively affected by Operation Metro Surge?

A: That will need to be a part of the provider's intake process. You will need to provide a brief description in the technical assistance report. For example, loss of employees, business closed for a period of time, loss of revenue, etc.

Q: Can you explain the difference between the general small business support vs. business recovery in the application?

A: Yes, if you are applying to offer 1-on-1 technical assistance, you will need to decide how much of your contract you would like for general business support activities (example - new businesses or help for businesses not associated with Operation Metro Surge) and business recovery activities (example - marketing to increase sales, hiring support, help with applying for financing or grants).

Q: In the application it says you are looking at organizational capacity, can you give an explanation of what you are looking for?

A: We will fund contracts with single consultants, small, medium and large organizations. We are looking to see if your proposal, and your funding-ask, matches the actual capacity of your organization.

Q: For trainings and workshops, does there need to be a minimum number of attendees?

A: No, we are open to training groups of all sizes. Smaller cohorts or larger virtual meetings would all be eligible. We will be funding trainings based on the proposal, not on the number of participants.

Q: Is there a time limit for when I need to provide services?

A: Services can take place any time during the contract period, which will be late May, 2026 – December, 2027. Businesses can receive up to 50 hours of technical assistance during that period.

Q: Do the business owners have to apply to the city or do we just make reimbursement requests for qualified businesses we serve?

A: No, we do not do an intake process. It is up to the provider to do an intake process and choose the clients they are billing to BTAP.