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Due to Overwhelming Demand from Local Small Businesses, Downtown Alliance Closes Application Period for *Back to Business Small Grant Program*

New York, NY (December 12, 2012) – Following the launch of the [Lower Manhattan: Back to Business Small Business Grant Program](#), the Downtown Alliance has now closed the period for local businesses to submit grant applications. Currently, over 130 businesses impacted by Hurricane Sandy have applied for the nearly \$1.5 million in grants being awarded by the Downtown Alliance. Applications received after the closure of the filing period will be held but not processed unless more funds become available.

The Downtown Alliance contributed the first \$1 million to the *Back to Business Small Business Grant Program*, under which grants will soon be awarded to qualifying small businesses located within [Flood Zone A](#) below Chambers Street. Other contributors to the program include Goldman Sachs, Trinity Church, Citibank, The Durst Organization, The Howard Hughes Corporation, AT&T New York and Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation, CB Richard Ellis, the FiDi Association, Platinum Properties as well as individual donors.

Lower Manhattan: Back to Business Small Business Grants will offer support of up to \$20,000 to small businesses meeting the eligibility requirements detailed in the [program guidelines](#). Completed [applications](#) are currently being processed on a first-come, first-served appointment basis. Additional small business recovery resources can be found at <http://www.downtownny.com/businessrecovery>.

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The mission of the Alliance for Downtown New York is to provide service, advocacy, research and information to advance Lower Manhattan as a global model of a 21st century Central Business District for businesses, residents and visitors.

