GASTON COUNTY

Economic Development Commission
North Carolina

Gaston County

and

Local Incentives

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LOCAL INVESTMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Availability

The following investment grant program is available in Gaston County, Gastonia, Bessemer City, Belmont, Cherryville, Dallas, Lowell, Mount Holly, Stanley, Cramerton and Ranlo.

Purpose

The Gaston County Board of Commission has supported economic development for more than twenty years with an emphasis on tax base development, employer diversification and job creation. The Commission has recognized the need to provide programs and financial support to strengthen and diversify the County's economy. Tax base development is a key concern for the County's fiscal health. It is essential not only to attract new investment but also to encourage existing business to expand and reinvest in their Gaston County operations. The Gaston County Investment Grant Program (GCIGP) is intended to provide an inducement for new business to locate in Gaston County and encourage existing business to expand.

Grant Program Description

The program provides grants to companies investing in Gaston County. The grant will be established by an application with Gaston County. The company must pay their taxes in full each year based on the actual tax value of the property or investment. If the company meets all of the criteria in the application, a portion of the property tax will be returned as a grant. The amount of the grant is based on a sliding scale.

Investment Grants will be based on the increase in tax value of all real property, machinery and improvements above the base year prior to investment. No grant will be given to a company that would reduce their tax payment to an amount lower than the previous tax year. Purchases of any existing Gaston County facility or equipment <u>will not</u> qualify for the program.

All grant monies will be taken directly from the company's tax payment. The company must be current with all other payments required by Gaston County.

The Gaston County Board of Commissioners may modify or eliminate the program subject to meeting all existing grant obligations in effect at the time. No company may transfer grant agreements of contracts without explicit approval by the Gaston County Board of Commissioners.

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Companies in the following North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 1997 and 2000 Revisions are eligible for the grants:

Category of Business	NAICS Code
Manufacturing	31-33(NAICS 97)
Warehousing	493 (NAICS 97)
Data Processing	51821 (NAICS 2000)
Retail	44-45 (NAICS 2000)
Elderly	NAICS 623312

Industrial Grant 1

All investment in real property, new machinery and equipment over $1,000,000.00 would be eligible for a grant as shown below.

Year 1 - 90% property tax grant
Year 2 - 80% property tax grant
Year 3 - 70% property tax grant
Year 4 - 60% property tax grant
Year 5 - 50% property tax grant

Industrial Grant 2

All investment in real property, new machinery and equipment over $15,000,000.00 would be eligible for a grant as shown below.

Year 1 - 90% property tax grant
Year 2 - 80% property tax grant
Year 3 - 70% property tax grant
Year 4 - 60% property tax grant
Year 5 - 50% property tax grant
Year 6 - 40% property tax grant
Year 7 - 30% property tax grant
Year 8 - 20% property tax grant
Year 9 - 10% property tax grant

Industrial Grant 3

All investments in real property, new machinery and equipment over $30,000,000.00 would be eligible for a grant as shown below.

Year 1 - 90% property tax grant
Year 2 - 85% property tax grant
Year 3 - 80% property tax grant
Year 4 - 75% property tax grant
Year 5 - 70% property tax grant
Year 6 – 65% property tax grant
Year 7 – 60% property tax grant
Year 8 – 55% property tax grant
Year 9 – 50% property tax grant
Year 10 – 45% property tax grant

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Industrial Grant 4

All investments in real property, new machinery and equipment over $50,000,000.00 would be eligible for a grant as shown below.

Year 1 - 85% property tax grant
Year 2 - 85% property tax grant
Year 3 - 85% property tax grant
Year 4 - 85% property tax grant
Year 5 - 85% property tax grant
Year 6 - 70% property tax grant
Year 7 - 70% property tax grant
Year 8 - 70% property tax grant
Year 9 - 70% property tax grant
Year 10 - 70% property tax grant

Retail Grant: Only available in Gaston County, Bessemer City, Cherryville and Stanley.

All net retail investments with an aggregate investment of $40,000,000.00 would qualify for a grant as shown below.

Year 1 - 90% property tax grant
Year 2 - 80% property tax grant
Year 3 - 70% property tax grant
Year 4 - 60% property tax grant
Year 5 - 50% property tax grant

The Local Investment Grant Program is intended to diversify the tax base, improve employment opportunities for Gaston County citizens, and create an increase in the net depreciable taxable value of the tax base of Gaston County. The Gaston County Tax Department and the Gaston County Economic Development Commission shall establish procedures for the implementation of the Program. Grant applications shall be reviewed and verified by the Tax Department and the EDC. Any interpretation of the application and/or approved Grant of the program to a specific project shall be subject to a yearly review by the EDC and Tax Department for eligibility in accordance with this policy statement and shall be final.

Small Business Grant for 2015 Investments

The Small Business grant requires a net increase in tax value of at least $10,000 but less than $1,000,000, resulting from investments made in calendar year 2015.

The grant is 50% of the net new county taxes paid on qualifying investments within the parameters and guidelines of the Small Business Investment Grant program. Qualifying Small Business Grants for 2015 investments will be processed (paid) in July, 2017.

If your business is eligible, please go to www.gastongov.com and click on Small Business Investment Grant (SBIG) for guidelines and an application. Applications for this grant are to be filed with the Gaston County Tax Department.