

BMO Celebrating Women Grant Program

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the BMO Celebrating Women Grant Program?

BMO is a strong supporter of the advancement of women. Since 2012, BMO has recognized the achievements and contributions of **over 180** women through the BMO Celebrating Women Program. During this uncertain time of Covid-19, we know the challenges for female business owners have increased. BMO, in collaboration with Deloitte, has created the BMO Celebrating Women Grant Program to continue to honour and celebrate women for their courage, innovation and resilience during these unprecedented times. We will be inviting women owned businesses to submit an application explaining how they have shown resilience and courage by innovating their business due to the pandemic for a chance to receive grant money for their business- **10 women owned businesses will receive \$10,000 in funding.**

Who is eligible to apply for a grant?

Applicants must meet all eligibility criteria in order to apply for a Grant including:

- Your business be at least 51% female owned and controlled
- You must have reached the legal age of majority in your province/territory and be a resident of Canada
- Your business must be headquartered in Canada with a minimum 50% of revenue tied to business sales done in Canada
- The business must be currently active and operating in Canada
- Your business is a for-profit business with annual revenues of \$10M CAD or less
- Your business has been in continuous operation selling a product or service for not less than 2 years as of January 1, 2020

How many grants will be awarded?

Ten (10) Canadian women-owned businesses will be selected to receive a Grant of \$10,000 (CAD).

Do I have to be a BMO customer?

No, neither the business owner nor the business needs to have a banking relationship with BMO to qualify.

How do I apply?

We are proud to collaborate with Deloitte to administer the application process. Access to applications will be available on bmoformwomen.com at 12:00 am EST on July 20, 2020.

Applicants simply follow the on-screen instructions to complete their application.

Once your application is completed, click "Submit Application" and your application will

be forwarded to a secure data platform for consideration and review. The application portal closes at 11:59pm EST on August 7, 2020.

For full details on the BMO Celebrating Women Grant Program including eligibility and judging criteria, please [click here for the Official Terms and Conditions](#).

What information is needed to apply for a grant?

The application itself requires providing basic information about the business owner and the business. Each applicant must answer a series of short questions.

Applicants who reach stage 2 of the selection process will be asked to submit a short video. These applicants will be contacted by email in early September and will have a 6-day window to submit the video.

Can I start my application and finish it at a later time?

Yes. You will be required to set up an account on the application portal before you start the application. Your work can be saved, edited, or revisited during the application process. Once an application is submitted (by pressing the 'Submit Application' button) it is considered final.

Is there a deadline to apply for the grant?

The application process opens July 20, 2020 at 12 am EST and ends on August 7, 2020 at 11:59 pm EST.

How will I know if my application has been received?

Once an application is submitted, you will receive a confirmation email with the subject "Application Submitted Successfully".

How will I know if I have been selected as a grant recipient?

Applicants will be notified of their status during each stage of the selection process. The final ten (10) Grant recipients will be contacted by email in late October.

Who is reviewing applications?

Applications will be reviewed by an advisory panel of judges from BMO Financial Group, Deloitte, GroYourBiz, Women Presidents' Organization (WPO), Women Get On Board, Women Business Enterprises Canada Council (WBE Canada), and Women Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub.

How are applications being evaluated?

There is a 3-stage, evaluation process whereby judging panels will review each application submitted based on weighted criteria. For more information, please [refer to the Official Terms and Conditions](#).

What is included in the Grant Package?

The grant package will consist of:

- \$10,000 CAD;
- A BMO Celebrating Women Personalized Crystal Vase;
- Profile on BMOforWomen.com and BMO social channels (as determined by BMO in its sole and absolute discretion); and
- The opportunity to have BMO facilitate membership in certain organizations and/or advisory boards

The total approximate retail value of the Grant Package is \$13,200 CAD.

Who do I contact if I have questions about my application or the application process?

Applicants can get in touch by reaching out bmoformwomen@bmo.com with the subject line "Grant Application".

*[See the Official Terms and Conditions](#) for full details about the Initiative.