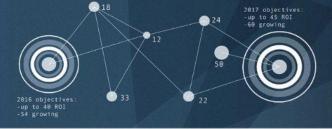
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Financial Benefits of Telework Business Telework Assistance Grant Maryland Commuter Tax Credit



December 14, 2022 12-12:30pm EST







Welcome!

Introduction

Business Telework Assistance Grant

Sarah Sheppard, J.D., M.P.A. Maryland Department of Commerce

Maryland Commuter Tax Credit

Stacey King
Commuter Choice Maryland

Questions & Resources

Webinar Reminders:

- The webinar is being recorded.
- Please use the chat box to type your questions.
- We'll open to discussion and questions at the end.
- Recording and slides will be available at commuterchoicemaryland.com in a few days!







Welcome!

WHO IS COMMUTER CHOICE MARYLAND?

 A program of the Maryland Department of Transportation working in partnership with local and regional jurisdictions.

WHAT WE DO

- Provide complimentary consultations to employers starting or enhancing their commuter benefits programs.
- Make it easy for your employees to find affordable, convenient, and sustainable ways to get to work that enhances their quality of life, while helping you attract and retain talent.

WHY US?

- We work with you create a customized workplace transportation plan that is easy to administer.
- Our services are free!





Maryland Department of Commerce Office of Telework

Sarah D. Sheppard
Director, Education and Workforce Development
and Director, Office of Telework

This is a new grant program funded with \$1 million in Governor Larry Hogan's Fiscal Year 2023 Budget, the program will provide grants of up to \$25,000 to help businesses expand telework capabilities for their employees. These grants will help applicants purchase the equipment necessary to develop and implement telework policies, including hardware, software, and technical services.

BENEFITS

Teleworking provides many benefits to employers and employees, including:

- Employee recruitment and retention.
- Employees who can telework instead of relocating may allow employers to even hire employees they would otherwise not be able to hire.
- A better work-life balance by offering more flexibility and avoiding stressors like rush hour traffic.
- Improved employee morale
- Happier employees tend to be more productive.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible businesses must meet the following criteria to be considered:

- Be in the process of developing a telework policy that conforms to the best practices established by the Office of Telework Assistance within the Department of Commerce;
- Be an existing business in good standing with the state of Maryland; and
- Have a physical location in Maryland.

Applications are due by Friday, January 6, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Completed applications should be submitted by email to: telework.commerce@maryland.gov.

Applications will not be reviewed until after the deadline has passed.

Awards will be announced in early February.

Maryland Commuter Tax Credit

• Allows businesses, including 501(c) 3 and 4, to claim 50% of the subsidy they provide to their employees for commuting expenses, up to \$100 per employee per month.

Before July 1, 2022, qualifying options included:

- Transit
- Vanpool
- Guaranteed Ride Home
- Parking Cash-Out

Starting July 1, 2022, qualifying options also include:

- Carpool
- Active Commuting
- Multimodal Last Mile
- Telework!







Telework Commuter Tax Credit – What's Covered?

Prorated employer-provided subsidies for telework costs, including:

- Internet
- Computer equipment
- Telephone
- Software/supplies not provided by the employer but necessary for the job
- Memberships to co-working spaces and telework centers







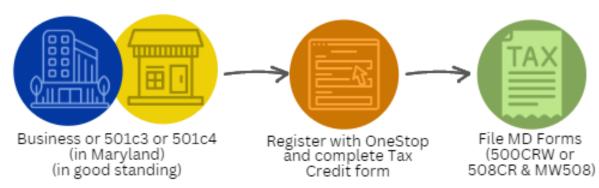






Claiming the Commuter Tax Credit

- 1. Register business with OneStop Portal.
- 2. Complete the Commuter Tax Credit form indicate the monthly subsidies provided and amount of tax credit claimed (50%, up to \$100 per employee per month).
- Keep good records! If audited, the business will need to show how the tax credit claimed was calculated.



bit.ly/MDCommuterTaxCredit



onestop.md.gov





Need Help Getting Started? Already Have a Great Program?

Become an Employer Partner!

- Free support to develop or expand your commuter benefits program.
- Recognition of your organization's achievements and leadership in providing commuter benefits.
- Learn more and get started at: <u>mdot.maryland.gov/employerpartner</u>







Resources and Questions

Maryland Department of Commerce

- commerce.maryland.gov/fund/telework
- commerce.maryland.gov/commerce/telework-office
- telework.commerce@maryland.gov

Commuter Choice Maryland

- onestop.md.gov (Commuter Tax Credit)
- commuterchoicemaryland.com
- commuterchoice@mdot.maryland.gov | 410-865-1100







