GLOBAL MARKET ACCESS PROGRAM (GMAP)

A cost-share program that allows eligible Missouri companies to participate in specific events designed to create export sales. Increased export sales create a public benefit through their positive effect on Missouri’s economy including job creation and increased wealth for Missouri’s families.

AUTHORIZATION

The program is funded by State General Revenue. The State Fiscal Year 14 Conference Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 7 provides an appropriation of Program Specific Distribution funds directed to the program. The bill was Truly Agreed To and Finally Passed and signed into law by the Governor, effective July 1, 2013.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

The target audience for this program is Missouri small businesses, primarily manufacturers, with 500 employees or less. DED will focus assistance to these small firms to new markets in order to ensure increased sales opportunities.

Companies must export “Made in Missouri” products. “Made in Missouri” products must have a content consisting of 51% or more of in-state produced or manufactured parts, labor or value-added content or any combination thereof.

The program will cost-share a minimum of 40 new-to-market exporters and a minimum of 90 export activities and trade promotion projects as per the following eligibility company criteria:

PROGRAM BENEFITS/ELIGIBLE USES

- International or domestic trade show, DED (Department of Economic Development)/MDA (Missouri Department of Agriculture) trade mission, DED/MDA foreign market sales trip or US DOC (US Department of Commerce)/USDA matchmaker trade delegation participation fees;
- Costs associated with shipping displays, samples, catalogs, or advertising materials;
- Costs incurred at a trade show event for utilities, booth construction, or necessary modification, repairs or other reasonable expenses associated with displays;
- Costs associated with first time foreign language translation of brochures and product literature, website translation or the use of translation services and interpreters at a trade show, DED/MDA trade mission, DED/MDA foreign market sales trip or US DOC/USDA matchmaker trade delegation event;
- Costs associated with airfare and lodging for one person, per activity.

The following expenses may not be reimbursed:

- Passport or visa fees;
- Immunizations;
- Travel insurance;
- Expenses related to entertaining current or prospective clients or government officials;
- New product development or alteration of existing products;
- Cell phones and cell phone charges;
- Parking / Ground Transportation;
- Employee salaries;
- Meals;
- Currency exchange fees;
- Meeting space audio/visual for reverse trade missions;
- Cost of compliance testing an existing product for entry into an export market.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Must agree to participate in E-verify;
- Must currently export to at least one market;
- A minimum of 50% of the eligible firms must be rural small business concerns (as per county of location);
- A minimum of 10% of the eligible firms must be women-owned and controlled; minority-owned and controlled; veteran-owned and controlled; and/or socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns;
- A minimum of 10% of the eligible firms must be directly or indirectly affected by supply chain exports.

APPLICATION PERIOD OPEN:

JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Each participant shall complete a Client Impact Statement that provides the outcomes of participation in the trade show event or other approved GMAP activity. The Statements will be aggregated by DED and reported annually, in order to represent the return on investment to the program as a whole.

APPLICATION/APPROVAL PROCEDURE

Eligible applicants must submit a complete application form by the dates provided in order to be considered. Only applicants applying for approved cost-share activities will be reviewed for approval. Application review will consider activity, market opportunity, impact, likelihood of success and availability of funds.

Approval of the application is required in advance of the event. Once completed, all receipts and source documentation evidencing the cost and the cost share must be submitted to DED for reimbursement.

Reimbursement is the lesser of the authorized amount in the approval letter or the actual eligible costs. A Tax Clearance letter from the Missouri Department of Revenue indicating that the applicant/company has no outstanding taxes due must accompany the request for reimbursement.

CONTACT

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