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## **Downtown Canton Rental Assistance Program Rubric**

	Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
Application (5 points)	Incomplete				
Business Plan for New Business (20 points)	Not submitted Inappropriate / harmful for the community	Unclear objective/vision  Unlikely to receive community support  Lack of employees necessary to meet demand of operation  Lack of knowledge of product/service	Duplicative in need  Questionable ability for employees to meet demand of operation  Lack of marketing plan  Unrealistic expectations of success	Clear objective/vision  Concept does not present in community  Community likely to patronize  Likely to meet demand of operation  Appropriate market plan	Understanding of market opportunity  Needed product/service in community  Future opportunity for community participation  Strong likelihood of success
Projected Cash Flow Statement for Relocation or Expansion of Existing Business (20 points)	Not submitted	Likely unable to fulfill obligations without assistance  No potential to maintain operation in the event of a crisis	Proof of incoming investment  Likely instability in the event of a crisis (financial or otherwise)	Likely to maintain business after assistance period ends  Potential to maintain operation in the event of a crisis	Strong likelihood of continuing business after assistance period  Potential to produce an immediate profit

Location / Lease (10 points)	Not submitted	Proposed space doesn't align with nature or requirements of the business  Significant drawbacks or challenges in the selection location  Proposed location lacks visibility and accessibility	Space has basic alignment with nature of business but may have limitations  Notable considerations or improvements needed in selected space  Proposed location has some visibility and accessibility	Location suitable/appropriate  Only minor work needed to pass inspection and begin operating  Space aligns well with nature of the business  Proposed location is highly visible and accessible	Space is ideal match for nature and requirements of the business  Turn-key or nearly turn-key space  Proposed location is outstanding in terms of visibility and accessibility
Personal /Professional References (10 points)	Not submitted	No professional references  Lack of substance	Professional references provided but weak  Unconvincing of ability to succeed	Professional reference provided  Details business experience/qualities  Describes ability to success	Strong professional reference(s)  Passion for work  Great experience  Acknowledges weakness and ingenuity
Explanation of Need (10 Points)	Not submitted	Minimal or unclear justification of need Lacks specificity or details	Provides basic explanation of need  Presents some details on business' financial situation but lacks depth	Provides well-articulated and compelling explanation of need  Offers specific, detailed information about business' financial situation	Articulates an exceptionally clear and persuasive explanation of need for rental assistance