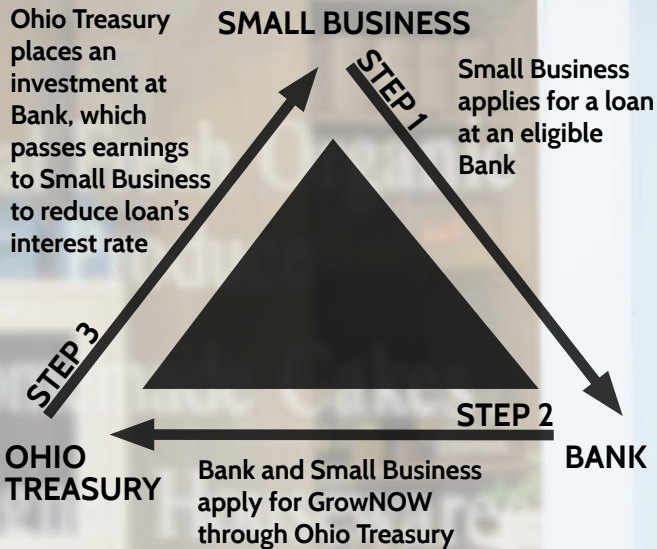


HOW DOES GROW NOW WORK?



Banks make credit decisions



Treasury makes strategic investments



Small Business creates and retains jobs in Ohio

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GrowNOW is a partnership between eligible banks and the Ohio Treasury. The program enables small business owners to receive up to a 3% interest rate reduction on new or existing small business loans for two years with the opportunity for renewal. Small business owners must commit to the creation or retention of at least one full-time job or two part-time jobs in the State of Ohio for every \$50,000 borrowed, up to \$400,000. GrowNOW broadly serves as a catalyst for Ohio's economic development by supporting the small businesses that drive it.



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GROW YOUR SMALL BUSINESS

SECURE A REDUCED RATE ON YOUR LOAN



BROUGHT TO YOU BY
STATE TREASURER OF OHIO

WHAT IS GROWNOW?

GrowNOW is a partnership between eligible banks and the Ohio Treasury. The program enables small business owners to receive up to a 3% interest rate reduction on new or existing small business loans for two years with the opportunity for renewal. Small business owners must commit to the creation or retention of at least one full-time job or two part-time jobs in the State of Ohio for every \$50,000 borrowed, up to \$400,000. GrowNOW broadly serves as a catalyst for Ohio's economic development by supporting the small businesses that drive it.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q. Can I apply GrowNOW to an existing loan?

A. Yes, you may apply GrowNOW to an existing loan, as long as your business meets all the program requirements.

Q. How can I use GrowNOW?

A. As long as you create or retain jobs in Ohio, you can use your loan for business operations and financing. For example, loans can be used for financing purposes, including but not limited to debt refinancing, operating capital or acquisitions.

Q. Can a business participate with more than one loan?

A. Yes, GrowNOW can be applied to multiple loans up to the \$400,000 funding limit.

Q. What if the terms of my bank loan exceed the GrowNOW limit?

A. GrowNOW will reduce the interest on up to \$400,000 of a loan for two years. The length of your loan and the amount of your loan can be greater.

Q. Can the GrowNOW interest rate reduction be renewed?

A. Yes, your small business may complete a simple renewal process after the two-year rate reduction has ended.

Q. How often can a business participate in the program?

A. Your small business can only participate in GrowNOW for four out of any six-year period.

For a list of eligible banks, please call the State Treasurer's office at 1-800-228-1102 or visit www.GrowNOW.ohio.gov.

HOW DO I QUALIFY?

Eligible business owners must meet the following criteria:

- **MUST** be able to save or create 1 full-time or 2 part-time jobs in Ohio for every \$50,000 borrowed
- **MUST** have headquarters in Ohio
- **MUST** have less than 150 employees
- **MUST** have a majority of employees be Ohio residents
- **MUST** be organized for profit
- **MUST** maintain offices and operating facilities in Ohio

WHAT IS THE PROCESS?

- Visit our website at www.GrowNOW.ohio.gov to view a list of eligible banks.
- Apply for a small business loan at an eligible bank and establish an interest rate.
- Complete an easy GrowNOW online application with your bank.
- If approved, the Ohio Treasury places an investment with your bank at a below market-value interest rate.
- The bank agrees to pass along the interest savings up to 3% reduction on your small business loan.



JOSH MANDEL
STATE TREASURER OF OHIO