# Evaluation Criteria

Evaluators will utilize the following project scoring criteria for the purposes of making a funding recommendation. Scoring will also help determine priority of project applications in the likely event requests exceed funding availability. The highest scoring projects will be recommended for funding.

## I. Fundamental Eligibility

The Business must meet **each** of the Fundamental Eligibility criteria in order to forward in the evaluation. Failure to meet one or more criteria will immediately disqualify the Business.

- Located within the City of Florence municipal limits.
- Hold a current, valid City of Florence Business License.
- Is not delinquent on any federal, state, or local payments, fines, etc.
- Completely answered each question on the application indicating N/A for questions which may not pertain to the Business or Owner.
- Provided all required documentation.
- Submitted all required documentation prior to the deadline.

## II. Capacity and Experience to Operate the Business (0-20 points)

Applicant has demonstrated capacity to operate the business sustainably. Consider project status, industry experience, and business development classes and resources.

## III. Readiness to Proceed (0-20 points)

The Business has thoroughly demonstrated a proof of need and is immediately prepared to submit.

## IV. Infectious Disease Response (0-20 points)

Business has demonstrated severe impact by the policies put into effect due to the coronavirus pandemic.

## V. Job/Employee retention (0-50 points)

Awarded based on a percentage of jobs/employees retained includes owners:

- 100% of all FTE and PTE jobs/employees retained – award 50 points
- 75% of all FTE and PTE jobs/employees retained – award 37 points
- 50% of all FTE and PTE jobs/employees retained – award 25 points
- 25% of all FTE and PTE jobs/employees retained – award 12 points

## VI. Webinar Participation Bonus (10 points)

Available to applicants participating in the program webinar held on May 7. No application will lose points for failure to participate.

## VII. Date and Time Stamp Rank

Where more applications than funding available are received and such applications are equal in scoring, or as deemed necessary by the Evaluators, applications may be ranked based upon the date and time stamp of receipt in order to determine final funding recommendations.