



2012 Lanza Enterprise Awards Program (LEAP) Eligibility Criteria

An eligible recipient of the LEAP Award is a woman micro entrepreneur (51% owned and managed by a woman) who meets the following minimum criteria:

- a. Graduate or a current participant of WEDC's 15-Week Entrepreneurial Training Program.
- b. Willing to provide proof of low or moderate income.
- c. Possesses a current and sound business plan (with current financials).
- d. Operates a woman-owned business (generating revenue).
- e. Able to provide documentation of the legal entity, and required and appropriate business licenses.
- f. Has a business that will be improved and strengthened by this cash award.
- g. Agrees to cooperate and share necessary information as it relates to LEAP Awards Program. For example, must share business and personal information, if requested; must permit WEDC to use her photo and story in a success story, if selected, must permit WEDC to use her name and photo in any print media and on the WEDC web site; etc.
- h. Award recipient agrees to participate in the WEDC PEP or BOSS peer support program (whichever group best applies). This will involve attendance at monthly group meetings. PEP Group is peer support for newly launched businesses and BOSS Group is peer support for women who have been in business for over a year. These programs run once a month for 8 months. Purpose of the meetings is to assess progress and training needs, and to provide additional support on an as needed basis. *If an award winner has already graduated from one of the peer support groups, she will be required to participate in monthly status meetings with a WEDC business counselor to ascertain her progress.
- i. Award recipient must provide quarterly business updates to WEDC and answer all business status requests made by WEDC.
- j. Award recipient must attend award presentation ceremony at the WEDC Spring Luncheon.

Eligible uses for the LEAP Awards program include but are not limited to: inventory, web site development, graphic design services, technology equipment, and professional services.
Ineligible uses include credit card payments, rent, medical bills and settling a legal dispute.

All eligible applications will be reviewed by the LEAP Selection Committee. The business plan, application, and any photographs will **not** be returned to the applicant. Please keep copies of these documents in your files.

These cash equity awards are made possible by an ongoing collaboration between the Lanza Family Foundation, the Women's Research and Education Fund and the Women's Enterprise Development Center.

Application Deadline: Thursday, May 3, 2012 at 4:00 pm

Award Selection will be made by Wednesday, May 16, 2012



LEAP Award Application 2012

Due by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 3, 2012

To enter, please mail, fax or e-mail the following completed application:

Information about yourself:

Full Name: _____

Home Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Home or Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Business Information:

Business Name: _____

Type of Business/Industry: _____

Business Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Business Phone: _____

Date Started: ____/____/____

Form of Business: Sole Proprietorship? ____ Partnership? ____ Incorporated? ____

Tax ID#: _____

Please list other partners or partnership agreements relevant to your business:

Partner's Full Name: _____

Title: _____

Percentage of Business You Own: _____ Percentage of Business Partner Owns: _____

WEDC Graduation Month/Year _____



How you will use the \$5,000 LEAP Award?

Please be specific regarding use of funds for your business (hire bookkeeper for 3 hours a week at a cost of \$xxx to manage accounts receivable, purchase new computer system at a cost of \$x,xxx to increase data processing time, or create new marketing materials at a cost of \$xxx to reach new markets, etc.). **Please attach additional information including prices of items you would like to purchase on the following page.**

How will the \$5,000 LEAP Award give your business a boost?

Describe how this will build or increase your business capacity. How will this award help your business? Please be specific regarding impact of the cash award on your business (financial improvement, growth in your business, strengthen your business, diversify your business, etc).

*****Please attach a current business plan (with financials) for your business.
***Please use additional pages if necessary. If you need assistance or help with the LEAP application, call WEDC at (914) 948-6098, x13.**

Application Deadline: Thursday, May 3, 2012 at 4:00pm

Applications must be received by this date and time



**CHART ON HOW YOU WILL USE
THE \$5,000 LEAP AWARD TO
BUILD YOUR BUSINESS**

Applicant Name:

Business Name:

Type of
Business/Industry:

Item/service to purchase?	How purchase will help to give your business a boost? <i>Examples - Increase profitability, increase business visibility, increase productivity, increase owner expertise, etc.</i>	Dollar amount of item/service?

Please email completed LEAP application to Persephone Zill at pzill@westchester.org or fax to (914) 470-2972 or mail to: WEDC, 1133 Westchester Avenue, Suite N-220, White Plains, NY 10604