



# APPLY STEP GRANT FUNDS

## *to EXIM Export Credit Insurance Premiums in North Carolina*

The [STEP grant program](#) has helped thousands of small businesses obtain grants and find customers in the international marketplace since 2011. Managed at the national level by the [U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of International Trade](#), STEP provides financial awards to state and territory governments to assist small businesses with export development.

Through awards to U.S. states and territories, STEP helps small businesses overcome obstacles to exporting by providing grants on a first come, first served basis to cover costs associated with entering and expanding into international markets.

## Qualifications & Eligible Usage

- STEP grants can be used by qualifying manufacturers, distributors, and service providers that are SBA-defined small businesses.
- STEP grants, traditionally used to fund training workshops, trade missions, international marketing campaigns, and more, can now be applied to [Export Credit Insurance](#) premiums for EXIM short term small business policyholders in North Carolina. Qualifying companies can receive up to \$6,000 in premium reimbursement. In most cases, if an exporter has qualified for an EXIM policy, they will meet the minimum state STEP grant standards.



STEP grants are available on a first come, first served basis. To obtain more information from North Carolina's STEP grant administrator, the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina, [click here](#).

This is a descriptive summary to be used only as a general introductory reference tool. Individual state requirements may apply to EXIM premium reimbursements including the maximum allowable reimbursement. State eligibility is subject to change. Please contact the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina for official information.