

Battle Creek TRAIN

FAQs

What happens after I submit my information?

After you submit your information online, there are a few things that will happen. It will depend on your employment status:

- If you are a local existing employer, someone from our office will contact you within 1-2 business days.
- If you are an employee of a local company and provide us with your employer's contact information, we will contact your employer in 1-2 business days to confirm your employment and other information. Then either we or your employer will contact you.
- If you are a prospective employee of a local company, we will contact you within 1-2 business days to gather more information.

Is the award taxable?

- This award may be subject to taxes. Please consult your tax professional for tax considerations.
- Battle Creek Unlimited will work with the recipient to mitigate taxable events to the best of our ability.

What is the payment process?

- The disbursement of the Battle Creek Unlimited portion of the award will be a direct payment to the employee. The disbursement of the employer portion of this award will be determined by the employer.
- Battle Creek Unlimited can work with the companies to administer the company portion of the award if necessary.

How long will a disbursement take?

- The Battle Creek Unlimited portion of the award will be disbursed at the completion of all administrative processes. This would include confirming employment and wage, employee completion of the intake form and the welcome interview, and other considerations as necessary.
- The employer portion of the award will be determined by the employer unless other arrangements are made between the company and BCU.

What can the funds be used for?

- The Battle Creek Unlimited portion of the award must be used for housing/relocation expenses.
- Use of the employer portion of the award will be determined by the employer.

What proof is needed / verification?

- Once an award is determined, Battle Creek Unlimited will work with the employer to confirm that the employee is employed in Battle Creek and the wage/salary amount.
- The employee will need to present evidence of how the funds will be used – the Battle Creek Unlimited portion of the award must be used for housing/relocation expenses. This evidence will be determined on a case by case basis based on each employee’s intended use.

Will this be a lump sum payment?

- The Battle Creek Unlimited portion of the award will be disbursed in a lump sum if the employee is purchasing a home in Battle Creek.
- If the employee intends to lease/rent, the award will be prorated over 24 months.
- If the employee leases/rents initially, then decides to purchase a home in Battle Creek, the remaining amount of the award will be distributed as a lump sum.

Do you have to pay back the award?

- Battle Creek Unlimited reserves the right to recover a prorated portion of the funds if the employee does not remain a resident of Battle Creek for 2 years.
- Battle Creek Unlimited also reserves the right to recover a prorated portion of the funds if the employee does not remain with their company for 2 years.
- The participating employer will be for collecting prorated fund from the employee.

How long to apply?

- This award program will be available based on funding. Everyone is encouraged to apply early as this will be first come, first serve.

What happens if I am renting and my salary increases, do I get more money?

- No

Is the check coming from BCU or my employer?

- The Battle Creek Unlimited portion of the award will come directly from Battle Creek Unlimited.

Does Battle Creek need to be my primary residence?

- Yes

Are applicants eligible if moving from one residence in BC to another residence?

- An applicant is eligible if moving from one residence in Battle Creek to another residence in Battle Creek, if they meet the following criteria:
 - Currently employed in Battle Creek
 - Currently rents/leases their primary home in Battle Creek and is seeking to purchase a home in Battle Creek

- Earns less than \$55,000 in wage/salary per year
- Meet demographic qualification
 - Women
 - Person of color
 - LGBTQ+

If an existing employee of a local company lives outside/works at a non-Battle Creek local and is transferring into Battle Creek are they eligible?

- As long as the employee currently lives outside of Battle Creek and is being transferred to Battle Creek and will have their primary residence in Battle Creek, they are eligible for this program.