

**Economic Stimulus Programs for Small Businesses Due to COVID-19:
Perceptions, Participation and Progress for African Americans, P.I.: Sally Sledge,
Ph.D., School of Business, Professor of Management**

The U.S. Government has put in place a number of programs to help small business owners to gain funding to operate their businesses during this time. Yet many of these entrepreneurs have expressed difficulty in learning about the assistance or accessing the funds in a timely manner. This research project will specifically address the impact of the government and private industry pandemic response programs for African American Small Business owners. By nearly all media accounts, this demographic has been more severely impacted by the COVID-19 virus than other groups, and thus there is a need to determine how best to assist these business owners in this time of crisis.