



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

JB Pritzker, Governor

Northeast Region Weekly Update August 29, 2022

Back to Business (B2B) Start-Up Grant Program (SGP) and the B2B ReVAMP (Reactivating Vacant and Mainstreet Places) Grant Program

Join Team RED's monthly webinar on **Thursday, September 8 at 10am** for an overview of the upcoming **Back to Business (B2B) Start-Up Grant Program (SGP)** and the **B2B ReVAMP** (Reactivating Vacant and Mainstreet Places) Grant Program. Register at this [link](#).

Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program

Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) have opened the application for the second round of Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program funding. The \$15 million in funding will increase training opportunities, expand the talent pipeline, and boost diversity in the construction industry and building trades. The Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program launched in 2021 with the goal of increasing diversity and access to apprenticeship programs. While programming for the first year is still in progress through the end of 2022, preliminary enrollment figures show encouraging representation among key target demographics:

	Black	Hispanic/Latinx	Women
Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Enrollment	70 percent	16 percent	22 percent
Percentage of Apprentices in Illinois	9 percent	17 percent	5 percent

The deadline to apply for the Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program NOFO is the **27th of September of 2022 at 5:00 pm**. Additionally, DCEO will be hosting a series of informational webinars. Additional information and registration links can be found here: [WIOA Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship NOFO 2022 \(illinoisworknet.com\)](https://illinoisworknet.com)

Bidder's Conference

Date: August 30, 2022

Time: 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Registration and Application System Training (GATA)

Date: September 1, 2022

Time: 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Developing Partnerships

Date: September 8, 2022

Time: 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Apprenticeship Educational Expense Tax Credit

Please join the Office of Business Development and Regional Economic Development with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity as Sharon Polk discusses the Illinois Apprenticeship Educational Expense Tax Credit. Employers are allowed a tax credit for qualified educational expenses associated with qualifying apprentices. Under this program employers may receive a credit of up to \$3,500 per apprentice against the taxes imposed by subsections (a) and (b) of Section 201 of the Illinois Income Tax Act, and an additional credit of up to \$1,500 for each apprentice if (1) the apprentice resides in an underserved area or (2) the employer's principal place of business is located in an underserved area.

Date and Time: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 2:00 pm

Event Address for Attendee Registration: <https://bit.ly/3A2mGXE> Registration is required

Tourism Attraction and Festivals Grant – 2nd Round

Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO) announced \$15 million in funding to support tourism sector across Illinois, through the second round of the Tourism Attraction and Festivals Grant program offered by the State. Through a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), localities, tourism and festival businesses, and entities can apply for grants of up to \$500,000 that may be used to establish and enhance tourism attractions or festivals. **Applications will be accepted until Friday, September 23, 2022.** To view the NOFO and apply for the grant, please visit [this page](#). **Team RED hosted a webinar on August 11 regarding this NOFO.** Here is a [link](#) to the recording.

Illinois Housing Development Authority Permanent Supportive Housing Development Program

The Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) is pleased to share that up to \$60 million in state and federal resources is available to finance the creation or preservation of permanent supportive housing across the state. Under Round IX of IHDA's Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Development Program, approved applications will support the construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing developments for persons at risk of homelessness, residents with physical challenges or mental health needs, and other vulnerable populations. The request for applications and supplemental information can be found online at: <https://www.ihda.org/developers/supportive-housing/>.

The Permanent Supportive Housing Development Program was created to support Illinois' efforts increase the community-based housing options available to vulnerable populations and those leaving institutional settings. Developments funded by the program serve individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, persons with disabilities, veterans, and other residents who face barriers to stable housing.

Non-profit, for-profit and joint-venture affordable housing developers are eligible to apply for funds and may request up to \$9 million per project. Applications are due **Friday, December 16, 2022**. Additional program details can be found at <https://www.ihda.org/developers/supportive-housing/>.

Celebrating Black Business Month Throughout August

The Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO) through the Office of Minority Economic Empowerment(OMEE) will **celebrate Black Business Month throughout August.**

See below for available resources. You can visit the [DCEO webpage](#) for more information.

Fire Truck and Ambulance Revolving Loan Program

The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and Illinois Finance Authority (IFA) have opened the [application](#) period for the Fire Truck and Ambulance Revolving Loan Program. The Fire Truck Revolving Loan Program (FTRL) and Ambulance Revolving Loan Program (ARLP) are designed to assist departments or cities in purchasing emergency vehicles that they may not be able to afford. Under the ARLP program, units of local government (city, town, village, township, fire department, fire protection district) and not-for-profit ambulance service providers can apply for no interest or low interest loans for purchase of ambulances of up to \$200,000. These loans must be paid back in 10 years. Approximately \$2.7 million is available for loans this application period.

Applications and Eligibility criteria are available here:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/lam/FireDepartment/Grants-and-Loans/Pages/default.aspx>

State Fire Marshal's Small Equipment Grant Program

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) announced the application period is open for the Small Equipment Grant Program. The OSFM will award \$1.5 million to eligible fire departments and ambulance services for the purchase of small firefighting and ambulance equipment. All interested departments should send an [application](#) to OSFM electronically or postmarked no later than **November 30, 2022**. The Small Equipment Grant Program was established to provide grants of up to \$26,000. All applicants are required to have participated in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) for a minimum of two years prior to applying. The OSFM will require departments to be current from August 2020 through August 2022 for this grant period. Additional information including the application can be found here: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/lam/FireDepartment/Grants-and-Loans/Pages/default.aspx?fbclid=IwAR2IKJADTq30x027VLZUazoBZVtynRWD91meoygszVGPng61et5NSFhbIXc>

Completed applications should be submitted to: Office of the State Fire Marshal, Small Equipment Grant Program
1035 Stevenson Drive, Springfield, IL 62703

SBA Will Offer Disaster Assistance to Illinois Small Businesses Affected by Highland Park Parade Mass Shooting and Related Investigation

Illinois small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small aquaculture businesses, and private nonprofit organizations affected by the Highland Park parade mass shooting and related investigation on July 4 - 10, may apply for low-interest Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) from the U.S. Small Business Administration. **The declaration covers Lake County and the adjacent counties of Cook and McHenry in Illinois;** and Kenosha in

Wisconsin. Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure website at: <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/ela/s/> and should apply under SBA declaration # 17536, not for the COVID-19 incident. Loan applications may be downloaded at: <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance>

Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced that the application period for the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) begins August 1. An all-time high of \$125 million is available to ensure communities with the greatest needs can participate. Note, at least 25% of funding will be set aside for disadvantaged and economically distressed communities.

Applicants can include local governments and regional planning commissions. Nonprofit and private entities that apply must have a public sponsor. The maximum award is \$3 million. For more information, including instructions on how to view and participate in webinars on the application process, visit the [Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program](#) page. Applications, which include an online map and scoring system to determine local match requirements and identify high-need communities, **must be received by September 30, 2022. Awards will be announced next year.**

DOT Announces Funding for Roadway Safety

The application process is now open for communities of all sizes to apply for Federal Fiscal Year 2022 funding to help ensure safe streets and roads and to address the national roadway safety crisis.

[The SS4A Notice of Funding Opportunity is available via this link.](#) **Applications are due on or before September 15, 2022.** DOT will convene a series of stakeholder webinars to help potential applicants learn about the program and what information will be needed to prepare an application. The dates and times of the webinars can be found at the link [Additional information and resources about the SS4A Grant Program are available via this link.](#)

Early Childhood Construction Grant

Governor JB Pritzker has announced \$60 million in capital grant opportunities for Illinois Early Childhood Education providers through the Rebuild Illinois Capital Program. The funding will support the construction, expansion, and renovation of facilities that support early student learning.

The initial grant installment delivers \$60 million to qualifying public school districts and not-for-profit early childhood facilities providing educational, health, social, or child development services to children aged zero to five years old and their families. Centers seeking to increase their capacity to provide care or educational opportunities for children in underserved communities are eligible for up to \$10 million under the Early Childhood Construction Grant. A three to ten percent match is required. Rebuild Illinois, Governor Pritzker's historic \$45 billion bipartisan capital plan, will provide a total of \$100 million in state funding for early childhood education provider grants.

Applications for the Early Childhood Construction Grant will be accepted through **October 10, 2022.** For more information, including selection criteria, visit [Grants - Grants \(illinois.gov\)](#)

Join DCEO's Team!

DCEO is also expanding our staff in the Springfield and Chicago offices. We are accepting applications on the following positions right now. To apply for these jobs, please go to the Work4Illinois website at <https://illinois.jobs2web.com/> and use the search function to find the positions for our department.

Closing Date 09/01/22

EXECUTIVE 2 – 8 vacancies - Office of Community Development – Sangamon County

Closing Date 09/06/22

Administrative Assistant II- Office of Human Resources – Sangamon County

Closing Date 09/07/2022

Executive II- Office of Community Development – Williamson County

DCEO Website – www.illinois.gov/dceo

The Illinois DCEO website includes a page dedicated to current state and federal grant opportunities as well as Grantee resources. Click [HERE](#) to find valuable information!

Following DCEO & Connecting with Team RED

If you have upcoming meetings or events and would like DCEO to participate, please reach out to us [HERE](#). Follow us on our social media channels for real time updates.

Facebook – facebook.com/IllinoisDCEO

Twitter – twitter.com/IllinoisDCEO

Linked In – linkedin.com/company/IllinoisDCEO