



## Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

JB Pritzker, Governor

### Northeast Region Weekly Update May 12, 2023

#### DCEO Grants & Programs

#### **Team RED Monthly Webinar – Topic: State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI)**

**Thursday, May 18 at 3:00pm – PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME**

Join Team RED and our DCEO colleagues from Advantage Illinois to learn about the new programs coming soon as part of the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI). The expanded program offerings through SSBCI will enable Illinois to support small businesses across the state - helping them attract more capital investment and expand or launch business operations, while supporting key sectors. All of the new programs will launch in the coming months. To register visit:

<https://illinois.webex.com/weblink/register/rb355f470ba15cd199bc09c25176e5dfb>

#### **SSBCI Funding to Support Small Businesses**

The U.S. Department of the Treasury announced that Illinois will receive up to \$354.6 million to administer four programs as part of the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI). The expanded program offering through SSBCI will enable Illinois to support small businesses across the state - helping them attract more capital investment and expand or launch business operations, while supporting key sectors. All of the new programs will launch in the coming months.

- **Advantage Illinois (AI) Loan Participation Program (Existing Program)**  
Advantage Illinois' existing Loan Participation Program provides low-interest loans to small businesses by partnering with local lenders located across the state. In 2022 as of December, 71 percent of AI loans have gone to businesses owned by people of color, women, people with disabilities or veterans.
- **Advantage Illinois (AI) Loan Guarantee Program (New Program)**  
Advantage Illinois' new Loan Guarantee Program will support business applicants who are having difficulty gaining access to capital by using funds to guarantee a percentage of loans provided by partner lenders. By guaranteeing a percentage of the loan, it makes loans more attractive to lenders and has the potential to increase the funds received by the businesses.
- **INVENT Venture Capital Program (VCP) (New Program)**  
Innovation Venture Fund (INVENT) will operate as a direct equity program with a focus on investing in businesses in key industries such as agriculture, ag tech, information technology, life sciences, manufacturing, quantum, and more.

- **Climate Bank Finance Loan Participation Program (New Program)**

This new program will be overseen by DCEO and administered by the Illinois Finance Authority (IFA), which will partner with local lenders to issue the loans. Climate Bank funds will be available to small businesses in the clean energy sector.

The programs will launch in the near future; interested businesses should fill out [this form](#) to receive additional information and updates when the programs are launched.

## **May Is Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month Across Illinois**

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) launched its Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month celebrations which include a [proclamation](#) recognizing AAPI Heritage Month, spotlighting AAPI-owned businesses, hosting a series of business resource events and elevating community events throughout May 2023. Additional information about resources and events can be found [here](#).

Throughout AAPI Heritage Month, DCEO is honoring the AAPI community and the nearly 22,000 AAPI-owned businesses with employees and more than 77,000 AAPI-solopreneurs. Additionally, for the first time in state history, DCEO hired an AAPI Business Development Manager – an Office of Minority Economic Empowerment (OMEE) team member dedicated to supporting the growing AAPI community.

AAPI-owned businesses continue to prove their resiliency and fortitude as they persevere through the rise in anti-AAPI sentiments and hate crimes in their communities since the onset of the pandemic. DCEO is committed to creating an equitable and inclusive business environment through significant investments in equity-based programs, outreach, and funding opportunities.

### **DCEO AAPI Heritage Month Events:**

DCEO's Offices of Minority Economic Empowerment (OMEE) and Regional Economic Development (RED), alongside community and civic groups curated the following virtual events featuring business resources, highlighting the AAPI community's resilience, and recognizing AAPI businesses and their contributions to Illinois. Participants can learn more and register for events on DCEO's [AAPI Heritage Month page](#):

**Event Name:** Advancing the AAPI Community Through Opportunity

**Event Date/Time:** **Wednesday, May 24, 10:00-11:00 a.m.**

**Event Location:** Virtual – [REGISTER](#)

**Description:** Hosted by OMEE and the Illinois Small Business Development Center (IL SBDC) at DCEO, the virtual event is part of the monthly webinar series, *Advancing the Development of Minority Entrepreneurship* (ADME), which features a different topic and presenter each month. In recognition and celebration of AAPI Heritage Month, Illinois Small Business Development Center at Chinese Mutual Aid Association (IL SBDC at CMAA) will lead the presentation during a panel discussion with AAPI leaders in the small business support ecosystem.

More information on AAPI Heritage Month and instructions to sign up for events in May can be found at visit [DCEO's website](#). Updates on other small business supports available can be found by calling the First Stop hotline at 1.800.252.2923 or following DCEO at [@IllinoisDCEO](#) for updates on programs.

## **Climate Works Pre-Apprenticeship, Barrier Reduction Programs**

Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) launched \$10 million in funding for the Climate Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program and \$6 million for the Energy Transition

Barrier Reduction Program as part of the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA). The programs will increase training opportunities in the trades, expand the clean energy talent pipeline, and boost diversity in the clean energy trade industries by providing resources to limit barriers to participation. The programs will be run through training partners which will be selected through a competitive Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) process.

The Climate Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program will prioritize underrepresented populations and Illinoisans living in communities that have historically faced economic and environmental barriers, bolstering a diverse workforce in the clean energy industry. The Climate Works program will be bolstered by Barrier Reduction Program funding, which will provide services for participants to address common barriers for underrepresented populations such as transportation, childcare, supplies, and other expenditures that often amount to roadblocks to success.

The Climate Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program will align with the needs of clean energy employers in the construction and building trades, provide students with nationally recognized certifications, and provide a pathway to an apprenticeship in the growing renewable energy, electrification and energy efficiency industries. The program will also provide access to educational and career counseling along with hands-on learning that will reinforce foundational professional skills taught in the classroom.

As outlined in statute, the pre-apprenticeship program will consist of three regional centers serving the Chicago metropolitan area, Northern /Central Illinois, and Southern Illinois. Centers will recruit, prescreen, and provide pre-apprenticeship skills training, for which participants can attend free of charge, receive a stipend, and access to support services through the Barrier Reduction Program.

People of color, women, and other underrepresented populations have historically been significantly underrepresented in apprenticeship programs. A pre-apprenticeship helps break down barriers and provide greater access to apprenticeships, which provide a pathway to good-paying long-term careers. The Climate Works model provides nationally recognized credentials, provides funding to cover costs to address barriers, and provides hands-on support that will help program graduates enter an apprenticeship program and lay the foundation for a long-term career in a growing sector.

The program is expected to enroll 500-700 pre-apprentices during its first year, with capacity increasing over the course of the program. Climate Works will help participants secure good-paying clean energy careers in construction, installation, maintenance and repair activities after being trained on topics specific to clean energy such as solar PV basics and building energy efficiency.

Through a competitive Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), qualified entities can apply for grants, with awards ranging from \$3 million to \$6.5 million (inclusive of Illinois Climate Works and Barrier Reduction Program funding). **Applications will be accepted until June 2, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.** To view the NOFO and apply for the grant, please visit the [DCEO website](#). Interested parties are encouraged to reach out to [CEO.GrantHelp@illinois.gov](mailto:CEO.GrantHelp@illinois.gov) for application assistance.

### **Connect Illinois Round 3 Open & Accepting Applications**

Through multiple rounds of competitive matching grants, Connect Illinois seeks to achieve what no other state or federal approach to date has accomplished: ubiquitous broadband access for homes, businesses, and community anchor institutions. At the same time, Connect Illinois seeks progress in digital equity and inclusion while leveraging investment in new broadband infrastructure to spur advances in use and innovation for such areas as agriculture, economic development, education, and

telehealth.

Applications should be classified under one of three categories: (a) Broadband Access for Illinois homes, businesses, and community anchor institutions in unserved or underserved areas; (b) Broadband Innovation for economic development and related applications; or (c) Urban Broadband for expanded access and/or innovation in qualified Illinois cities or metropolitan areas of 75,000 residents or more.

All Connect Illinois projects must include infrastructure expansion scalable to speeds of at least 100 Mbps download and 100 Mbps upload upon deployment.

For Broadband Access projects, proposals covering unserved and/or underserved areas are eligible for Connect Illinois grant funding via this NOFO. An unserved area is an area of Illinois in which households, businesses, or community anchor institutions lack access to wireline broadband service of at least 25/3 Mbps. An underserved area is an area of Illinois in which households, businesses, or community anchor institutions have wireline broadband access of at least 25/3 Mbps but less than 100/20 Mbps

To view the NOFO and apply, click [here](#)

### **Community Development Block Grant – Economic Development**

Only units of general local government (i.e., cities, villages, townships and counties) may apply for funding. Eligible municipalities shall not receive funding from HUD as an entitlement city. Counties and townships that are not participating in the HUD Urban County Entitlement Program are also eligible to apply for block grant funds **For your application to be considered, your entity must be pre-qualified. For more information on pre-qualification, please visit <https://dceo.illinois.gov/aboutdceo/grantopportunities/granteeresources.html>.**

To view the NOFO click [here](#)

Applications accepted on a rolling basis. Apply [here](#)

### **Grant Match Program to Spur Innovation in Cutting Edge Technologies**

Governor Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) announced \$5 million in state-funded matching grants for businesses who have received federal funding through the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) or Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs.

The federal [SBIR & STTR](#) programs provide grants for research and development (R&D) to small businesses to encourage private sector innovation in emerging technologies. R&D represents a critical business expense that can be costly and presents a potential risk for small businesses that don't have large sums of capital. By providing grants that support R&D, the programs encourage innovation in emerging technologies that could benefit the federal government as well as the commercial marketplace.

The state-funded SBIR/STTR Matching Grant Program is designed to further increase capital for SBIR/STTR recipients in Illinois - stimulating high-tech innovation and commercialization for Illinois small businesses that are conducting cutting-edge research. Illinois currently has more than 100 SBIR/STTR federal recipients who may be eligible for a state matching grant of up to \$50,000 per project.

DCEO is currently accepting applications from businesses who have received a Phase I federal SBIR/STTR grant award. Applicants are eligible to receive up to \$50,000 in matching grants, with the option to re-apply and receive

up to five awards for each federal Phase I award received (one per fiscal year). **Awards will be granted on a first-come-first-serve and rolling basis.** Interested companies can learn more [here](#).

## **Meat & Poultry Supply Chain Capital Grant Program**

Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) announced a new \$6 million capital grant program designed to strengthen the meat and poultry supply chain by helping independently owned meat processing companies in Illinois build capacity and create and retain jobs. Through the Meat & Poultry Supply Chain Capital Grant Program, companies are eligible for grants of \$250,000 to \$1.5 million, with a company match of at least four times the amount awarded. The Meat & Poultry Supply Chain Capital Grant Program aims to support communities by helping independently owned companies build capacity, create jobs and ultimately, strengthen our meat processing supply chain in Illinois, thereby making food products more affordable and accessible. Eligibility is restricted to plants that are not operated by the four largest meat processing companies that own most of the nation's meat processing market share. Through the program, companies can receive funding for the construction of a new facility, expanding or renovating existing facilities, and modernizing processing and manufacturing equipment. As part of DCEO's commitment to equity, the application process prioritizes applicants located in underserved and rural areas.

**Grants will be issued on a rolling basis;** interested parties can find more information on the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) [here](#).

## **Other State Agency Grants & Programs**

### **IDOT Transit Grant**

The Illinois Department of Transportation announced that applications are now being accepted for a competitive grant program that aims to expand safe, equitable access to public transportation throughout the state. Selected projects will feature transit opportunities while furthering the goals of IDOT's [Illinois Long-Range Transportation Plan](#).

The grants will fund studies on planning and preliminary engineering issues regarding public multimodal, intermodal and non-motorized transportation. Previously chosen projects focused on topics ranging from bus-on-shoulder travel to transit equity, trails and bikeways, transit system expansion, travel behavior of people with disabilities and transportation for veterans.

The program's total funding is \$2.5 million, with awards averaging \$200,000 and requiring a 20% non-federal match. Applicants can request IDOT provide this match, particularly if the study benefits a historically disadvantaged community.

Governmental entities such as counties, metropolitan planning agencies, municipalities, state agencies, public transit agencies and state universities are urged to apply.

**Applications must be submitted to IDOT by 5 p.m. on May 24.** Awards will be announced this summer.

An informational webinar to explain the grant program and provide assistance to prospective applicants will be held on **April 18 at 10 a.m.** via Webex at <https://bit.ly/3zgbQ06>. For additional details, visit [2023 IDOT Transit Planning NOFO.pdf \(illinois.gov\)](#).

## IDOT Funding Opportunities Workshops

The Illinois Department of Transportation is hosting several workshops throughout the state in May and June to help local governments and communities learn about and apply for funding opportunities. The Special Programs Assistance Conferences are designed to help potential grantees take part in the department's Economic Development Program, Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program and Safe Routes to School Program.

Staff from IDOT will be available to offer general information and answer questions one-on-one. Each conference will take place over two days, with morning sessions the first day and morning and afternoon sessions the second day, at the following locations:

- May 16-17: IDOT District 3, 700 E. Norris Drive, Ottawa
- May 23-24: IDOT District 1, 201 Center Court, Schaumburg
- May 25-26: Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 S. Ravinia Ave., Orland Park
- May 31-June 1: Effingham Emergency Management Operations Center, 311 W. Miracle Ave., Effingham
- June 6-7: Peoria Public Library Auditorium, 107 N.E. Monroe St., Peoria
- June 13-14: Dixon High School, 315 Lincoln Statue Drive, Dixon
- June 21-22: Gateway Convention Center, 1 Gateway Drive, Collinsville

Advance registration is encouraged. Visit the [Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program](#) and [Safe Routes to School Program](#) pages to view the schedule and learn more. More details on the [Economic Development Program](#) are available [here](#).

## IHDA Community Revitalization

The Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) announced \$15 million in available grant funding to support affordable housing and community revitalization efforts across the state. Available under the second round of IHDA's Strong Communities Program (SCP), the initiative provides funding to units of local government and land bank authorities for the acquisition, maintenance, rehabilitation and demolition of abandoned residential properties in their communities. The program is designed to support local revitalization efforts and attract further investment in communities that may lack the resources needed to tackle vacant, abandoned and deteriorated properties.

Created in August 2020, this round of the Strong Communities Program provides grants of up to \$750,000 to help Illinois municipalities, counties and land banks address local affordable housing needs and community revitalization efforts. The program aims to return vacant residential properties to productive and taxable use through rehabilitation and provide funds for demolition in cases where properties are beyond repair and negatively impacting neighboring residences. As a result, SCP will help to increase property values, create jobs, help reduce crime, generate additional tax revenue and attract further community investment.

A link to the application - including details on an **informational webinar at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, May 16** - can be found [here](#). **Applications will be accepted through 3 p.m. on Wednesday, June 7, 2023.**

SCP program funds will reimburse applicants for costs related to the acquisition, rehabilitation and maintenance of abandoned residential properties and may also include reimbursements for tree, shrub and debris removal, lot treatment and greening and other reasonable construction costs associated with returning vacant, abandoned and deteriorated properties to productive use.

The grants are funded by the Rebuild Illinois capital plan and will leverage IHDA's ongoing state- and federally-funded revitalization initiatives in underserved communities around the state. A total of \$30 million in grant funding will be awarded through the program over two application rounds.

### **IDNR Illinois Natural Areas Stewardship Grants**

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) will accept applications through **June 16, 2023**, for Illinois Natural Areas Stewardship grants.

The goal of this grant program is to increase the delivery of much needed stewardship activities to natural areas protected within the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission (INPC) system. Stewardship needs throughout the state have continued to outpace the ability to deliver these services by individuals, volunteers, organizations, and government agencies. The program is designed to fund projects that immediately address this deficiency and begin to expand on the stewardship capacity of Conservation Land Trusts through grants that will expand their staff and equipment for these activities.

Stewardship activities funded by this grant program must be included in the management schedules approved by the INPC and are limited to a maximum of \$100,000 per proposal. Eligible costs may include contractual services, staff time related to the project, equipment, and materials necessary to complete stewardship projects such as tools, safety items, herbicide, construction materials, and indirect costs. Benefit costs are not eligible. Matching funds are required on all projects. The minimum match requirements allowed by administrative rule are 5% or \$1,000, whichever is less, to ensure that all land trusts will have access to the program.

Eligible applicants are Conservation Land Trusts exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the federal Internal Revenue Code and whose originating documents include in its purposes the restoration and stewardship of land for conservation purposes.

Potential applicants for this program can find more information online at <https://dnr.illinois.gov/grants/stewardshipgrants.html>. Questions can be directed to [Susan.Duke@Illinois.gov](mailto:Susan.Duke@Illinois.gov).

Funding for this grant program is derived from a portion of the Illinois Natural Areas Acquisition Fund and must be used by the IDNR for the stewardship of natural areas, including habitats for endangered and threatened species (Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Act, 525 ILCS 35/14).

To view the Notice of Funding Opportunity for IDNR programs or to browse all State of Illinois grant opportunities, see <https://gata.illinois.gov/grants/csfa.html>

### **Illinois EPA Electric School Buses**

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) Director John J. Kim announced a \$27,023,485 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to fund the replacement of existing diesel school buses with new all-electric school buses located and operated in any of the three priority areas outlined in the Beneficiary Mitigation Plan (BMP). Illinois EPA will also fund a portion of new electric charging equipment if charging infrastructure is needed. This opportunity continues the Pritzker Administration's commitment to focus Illinois' remaining Volkswagen (VW) Settlement funding on electric transportation and infrastructure.

Through this funding opportunity, Illinois EPA intends to fund projects in the three priority areas outlined in the VW BMP and specified in the NOFO:

- **Priority Area 1:** Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will counties, Oswego Township in Kendall County, and Aux Sable and Goose Lake townships in Grundy County.
- **Priority Area 2:** Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair counties.
- **Priority Area 3:** Champaign, DeKalb, LaSalle, McLean, Peoria, Sangamon, and Winnebago counties.

Eligible applicants include school districts that own their buses or commercial school bus providers. Purchased buses must serve a school district within one of the three priority areas. Existing diesel buses must be engine Model Year 2009 and older diesel-powered Class 4 – 8 school buses and must be scrapped within 90 days of the new bus being placed into service.

In April of 2022, Illinois EPA submitted a revised BMP to the VW Settlement Trustee, focusing Illinois' remaining \$84.3 million on electric transportation and infrastructure. The goals of the revised plan include reducing nitrogen oxide emissions in areas where the affected VW vehicles were registered. The revised BMP takes into consideration areas that do not meet federal air quality standards for ozone and bear a disproportionate share of the air pollution burden, including environmental justice areas.

All required forms and information can be found on the Driving A Cleaner Illinois webpage: <https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/air-quality/driving-a-cleaner-illinois.html>. Applications for the Driving a Cleaner Illinois – Volkswagen All-Electric School Buses NOFO **will be accepted through 5:00 PM (CST) on September 5, 2023**. All applicants must pre-qualify through the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act [Grantee Portal](#).

## **IHDA Home Improvement Grants**

The Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) today announced the grand opening of the Home Repair and Accessibility Program (HRAP) designed to assist low-income and very low-income homeowners with health, safety, accessibility, and energy efficiency repairs to their homes. HRAP will provide \$15.3 million to preserve existing affordable housing stock, provide investment in underserved communities, improve the health and well-being of occupants, and help people with disabilities stay in their homes and communities. **Eligible homeowners may receive up to \$45,000 to cover necessary repairs through a five-year, forgivable loan.**

HRAP will be administered locally through 36 local government and nonprofit organizations with experience operating and administering homeowner rehabilitation assistance programs. To be eligible, homeowners must be at-or-below 80 percent of the Area Median Income based on household size, current on their mortgage payments, and the property must be single-family.

For owner-occupied properties, the property must be the homeowner's primary residence. Permanently affixed mobile homes are allowed if the homeowner owns the land underneath the mobile home and they can record the IHDA mortgage against the property. Renter-occupied properties are also eligible to make accessibility upgrades. **More information on eligibility and a list of administering agencies can be found at <https://www.ihda.org/my-community/revitalization-programs/>.**

Properties eligible for rehabilitation must have documented health and safety issues or concerns, such as mechanical, electrical, structural or plumbing that undermine the integrity of the home. Properties eligible for accessibility must require accessibility improvements to assist an occupant with a disability or mobility impairment. The properties may also have other documented health and safety issues, and any significant issues discovered during the inspection must be addressed by the rehabilitation. A "roof only" option is also available for properties with no other significant documented health and safety issues. For this option, eligible homeowners may receive up to \$21,500. Assistance is provided as a three-year, forgivable loan.



Households can apply for HRAP grants by contacting one of the funded organizations that serves their community. These organizations will provide more information on eligibility and the application process. Contact information for each organization is available on IHDA's website [here](#). Households residing in areas not currently served by HRAP are encouraged to [contact a HUD-certified housing counseling agency](#) to discuss their options beyond HRAP.

### Home Repair and Accessibility Program Round 1 Grantees

Organization	Counties of Operation	Grant Amount
BCMW Community Services	Bond, Clinton, Marion, Washington	\$ 300,000
City of Bloomington, IL	McLean	\$ 350,000
City of Chicago Heights	Cook	\$ 400,000
City of Decatur	Macon	\$ 400,000
City of Galesburg	Knox	\$ 400,000
City of Kankakee	Kankakee	\$ 500,000
City of Loves Park	Winnebago	\$300,000
City of Macomb	McDonough	\$ 500,000
City of Moline	Rock Island	\$ 300,000
City of Peoria	Peoria	\$ 300,000
City of Quincy	Adams	\$ 300,000
City of Rock Island	Rock Island	\$ 300,000
City of Rockford	Winnebago	\$ 400,000
City of Springfield	Sangamon	\$ 650,000
Coles County Regional Planning	Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Moultrie, Shelby	\$ 650,000
Community Contacts Inc.	Kane	\$ 500,000
Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH)	Cook, Lake	\$ 450,000
DuPage Habitat for Humanity and Chicago South Suburbs	Cook, DuPage	\$ 400,000
Greater Southwest Development Corporation	Cook	\$ 300,000
Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County	McHenry	\$ 400,000
METEC	Peoria	\$ 600,000
Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago, Inc.	Cook	\$ 400,000
North Central Illinois Council of Governments	Bureau, Grundy, LaSalle, Marshall, Putnam	\$ 400,000
North West Housing Partnership	Cook, DuPage, Kane	\$ 650,000
Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency	Jo Daviess, Stephenson	\$ 300,000

Project NOW, Inc	Henry, Mercer, Rock Island	\$ 300,000
Rebuilding Together Henry County NFP	Henry	\$ 300,000
Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation	Carroll, Ogle, Rock Island, Whiteside	\$ 650,000
South Beloit	Winnebago	\$ 300,000
The Neighbor Project	Kane, Kendall	\$ 600,000
United Cerebral Palsy Seguin of Greater Chicago (a.k.a. UCP Seguin)	Cook	\$ 600,000
Village of Coal City	Grundy	\$ 350,000
Village of Machesney Park	Winnebago	\$ 350,000
Village of Park Forest	Cook, Will	\$ 400,000
Will County Center for Community Concerns	Will	\$ 500,000
Will County Habitat for Humanity	Grundy, Kankakee, Kendall, Will	\$ 500,000

**About the Illinois Housing Development Authority**

IHDA ([www.ihda.org](http://www.ihda.org)) is a self-supporting state agency that finances the creation and the preservation of affordable housing across Illinois. Since its creation in 1967, IHDA has allocated \$18 billion and financed approximately 255,000 affordable housing units for residents of Illinois.

**Statewide PACE Program - Clean Energy Renovations and New Construction**

Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Finance Authority announced the launch of a statewide PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) program to spur investment in electric vehicle charging stations, energy efficiency, and water conservation, and to stimulate the growth of renewable energy and resilient building design throughout Illinois. The Illinois Finance Authority PACE program, now available to all Illinois counties and municipalities, is designed to reduce costs, improve service delivery, and create uniformity in Illinois’ Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) financing market.

Under Illinois law, counties, cities, villages, and incorporated towns may create PACE areas at the request of for-profit and non-profit owners of commercial, industrial, and multi-family (of 5 or more units) properties. C-PACE financing can be used by owners and developers of commercial properties to finance or refinance eligible clean energy improvements in connection with the renovation of existing buildings and new construction, in each case up to 25% of the value of the property. Counties and municipalities interested in learning more about the Illinois Finance Authority PACE Program are encouraged to visit its website [here](#). Contact Brad Fletcher ([bfletcher@il-fa.com](mailto:bfletcher@il-fa.com)) to opt into the Illinois Finance Authority PACE Program for free!

## Helpful Resources

### **DCEO Website – <https://dceo.illinois.gov>**

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!

DID YOU KNOW? Illinois has a new [EV website](#)! Check it out!

Other state and federal funding opportunities can be found [here](#).

### **Join DCEO's Team**

DCEO Team RED is expanding around the state. 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.

**Posting closing 5/15/23**

Pre-Apprenticeship Grant Manager (Executive 2) – Office of Illinois Works– Cook County

**Posting closing 5/18/23**

Regulatory Flexibility Program Manager (PSA, Opt. 1) – Office of Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Technology – Sangamon County

Grant Manager (Executive II) Sangamon County, 2 vacancies

Chief Internal Auditor – Office of Internal Audits– Sangamon County (primary); Cook County

**Posting closing 5/23/23**

Fiscal and Administrative Manager (Public Service Administrator, Opt. 1) *Sangamon County*

### **Following DCEO & Connecting with Team RED**

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

**Facebook** – [facebook.com/IllinoisDCEO](https://facebook.com/IllinoisDCEO)

**Twitter** – [twitter.com/IllinoisDCEO](https://twitter.com/IllinoisDCEO)

**Linked In** – [linkedin.com/company/IllinoisDCEO](https://linkedin.com/company/IllinoisDCEO)