

COVID-19 Update: April 13

Reminders: All previous bulletins and other resources listed at www.gpcovid.com. Resource requests from our community institutions listed at the end of this bulletin. Send any questions to bizinfo@greaterpeoriaedc.org.

ArtsPartners Resource Page for Artists and Art Organizations

Late last week ArtsPartners of Central Illinois launched a resource page designed to help local artists and arts organizations navigate COVID-19 relief funding opportunities. Access it [here](#).

Improvements to the State Unemployment System

Governor Pritzker today outlined steps being taken to improve Illinois' unemployment filing system which has bogged down under a record number of filings. Details on improvements [here](#).

Illinois Workers Compensation Commission

At Governor Pritzker's direction, the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission adopted an emergency rule that automatically presumes that the workplace was the cause of the virus if any worker becomes infected with COVID-19. Read the full rule [here](#) which goes into effect immediately.

Small Business Majority Resources

Small Business Majority is a national small business advocacy organization, founded and run by small business owners to ensure America's entrepreneurs are a key part of a thriving and inclusive economy. They have compiled resources for small businesses to tackle the COVID-19 crisis, including cataloging a variety of webinars. More [here](#).

Summary of Key Issues in Paycheck Protection Program

Via the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, the firm of Greensfelder Hemker & Gale provides a summary of some key interpretations by the SBA regarding the Paycheck Protection Program. More [here](#).

Local Property Tax Deadlines Changed

Tazewell and Peoria treasurers and county boards have both taken action to give property tax payers an extension for the first installment of annual property taxes. Tazewell County has extended the deadline for the first payment until July 1 (from June 1). More [here](#). Peoria County will split the first installment in half with 50% being due on June 9th and the remaining amount due 60 days later on August 10. More [here](#). Other local counties are still developing their own approaches.

PNC Guidance for Nonprofit Boards During COVID Crisis

From a business perspective, nonprofit organizations are likely feeling the impact — whether through new challenges in fundraising efforts, portfolio volatility from market fluctuations, or being called upon to help affected communities. At times like this, it is increasingly important to explore and implement best practices for financial, risk, and operational management. Jenna Weisner of PNC in Peoria provides two resources for nonprofits: an agenda of decisions boards should focus on immediately ([here](#)) and a summary on how boards may need to pivot on fundraising ([here](#)). PNC is also hosting a free webinar entitled "Nonprofit Enterprise Management: Strategic Planning for Adverse Scenarios" at 1 p.m. on April 21. Get more information and register [here](#).

US Chamber of Commerce Advocating for More Assistance for Small Businesses

U.S. Chamber sent a letter to all members of Congress urging them to increase funding for both the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan program. Each program is designed specifically to assist small businesses. However, due to extremely high demand, each is at risk of quickly running out of funding, and it is imperative that Congress add additional funding as soon as possible. Read the letter [here](#).

RESOURCE REQUESTS

- **Community Foundation of Central Illinois:** Requesting monetary donations for the Central Illinois Disaster Recovery Fund. Information [here](#).
- **UnityPoint Health:** UnityPoint is seeking personal protective equipment (PPE) and other medical supplies. They are also in search of medical personnel to help them prepare in the event that there is an influx of sick patients. Information [here](#).
- **OSF Healthcare:** OSF seeking personal protective equipment (PPE), ventilators and other supplies. Information [here](#).
- **Peoria Innovation Alliance:** PIA is gathering the maker community to discuss ways individuals and small companies can make supplies like masks. Information [here](#).
- **Heartland Health Services:** Seeking personal protective equipment, medical supplies, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant wipes unopened. More information [here](#).
- **UICOMP Accepting Handmade Masks** – The University of Illinois College of Medicine is accepting donations of handmade masks. Details can be found [here](#).
- **IWIRC:** Seeking standard PPE such as N-95/surgical/home-made masks, face shields, gowns, and latex-free gloves. Donated supplies can be dropped off at their downtown Peoria clinic location at 736 SW Washington St. Information [here](#).