

COVID-19 Update: May 5

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.

Governor Pritzker Outlines “Restore Illinois” Plan to Reopen Economy

At his daily press conference, Governor Pritzker outlined a five phase plan to reopening the economy based on the state’s Emergency Medical Services (EMS) regions ([map here](#)). Peoria, Woodford and Tazewell counties are in Region 2; Mason and Logan counties are in Region 3. Within the five phases, Illinois is currently at Phase 2. Movement to Phase 3, which can happen region to region, can occur if certain health metrics and hospital utilization rates are met. Phase 3 will allow reopening of some sectors of the economy, including retail and personal services (i.e. hairstylists and barbers). Phase 4 would allow for dine-in services at restaurants and services like gyms to resume. Gov. Pritzker indicated in his press conference that the earliest any region could move to Phase 3 was May 29. The full plan available [here](#).

Economic Injury Disaster Loans Available to Agricultural Businesses Impacted by COVID-19

The SBA announced that agricultural businesses are now eligible for [SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan](#) (EIDL) and EIDL Advance programs. EIDL is a low interest loan for small businesses under 500 employees that also provides a small grant (“advance”) of \$1,000 per employee (\$10,000 max). SBA’s [EIDL portal has reopened](#) and is accepting new EIDL applications on a limited basis only, to provide relief to U.S. agricultural businesses, defined as businesses engaged in the legal production of food and fiber, ranching, and raising of livestock, aquaculture, and all other farming and agricultural related industries (as defined by section 18(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 647(b)). For agricultural businesses that submitted an EIDL loan application through the streamlined application portal prior to the legislative change, SBA will move forward and process these applications without the need for re-applying. All other EIDL loan applications that were submitted before the portal stopped accepting new applications on April 15 will be processed on a first-in, first-out basis.

Paycheck Protection Program Update

As of May 1 the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) has only \$140 billion left to loan (meaning nearly two-thirds of the replenished amount was loaned in the first week of this second round.) According to SBA, 159,628 loans worth \$22,551,025,846 have been approved in Illinois. Interested businesses should contact their financial institution as soon as possible to investigate their options. You can find a qualified lender [here](#). SBA has recorded a webinar on PPP and its other programs that can be accessed [here](#).

PPP Webinar for the Self-Employed

While much attention has been paid to small businesses applying for PPP, sole proprietors, the self-employed and independent contractors can also qualify for the program. SBA recorded a webinar specifically targeting this population. Access the recording [here](#).

East Peoria Phase 1 Rules

The City of East Peoria has outlined rules for businesses that can open within their city limits [here](#).

City of Peoria Restaurant Survey

The City of Peoria has created a survey to capture what consumers are seeking once dine-in services are allowed to resume. They are hoping to get 1,000 responses by the end of this week. Take the survey [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](#).