

COVID-19 Update: June 23 5 pm

Reminders: All previous bulletins and other resources listed at www.gpcovid.com. Send any questions to bizinfo@greaterpeoriaedc.org.

Illinois Business Interruption Grant Details Released

Today DCEO launched the first round of Business Interruption Grants (BIG) by providing \$60 million to businesses experiencing losses or business interruption as a result of COVID-19 related closures. The BIG Program is available for up to 3,500 businesses that experienced a limited ability to operate due to COVID-19 related closures. For full details, click [here](#). Summary below.

Specifically, the program includes support for:

- *Bars and Restaurants* - \$20 million for bars and restaurants unable to offer outside service, providing 1,000 grants of up to \$20,000.
- *Barbershops and Salons* - \$10 million for barbershops and salons, providing 1,000 grants of \$10,000 each.
- *Gyms and Fitness Centers* - \$10 million for gyms and fitness centers that have lost significant revenue due to COVID-19, providing 500 grants of \$20,000 each.
- *Businesses located in "disproportionately impacted areas" (DIAs) that experienced recent civil unrest* - \$20 million for businesses that are located in a subset of DIAs that have recently experienced significant property damage, providing 1,000 grants of \$20,000 each. In the Greater Peoria region, only businesses in the 61604 zip code can qualify under this category. This zip code ([map](#)) covers portions of central and western Peoria, all of the City of West Peoria and parts of Peoria County, including Bellvue and Norwood.

Businesses must have been in operation for at least three months prior to March 2020 and must meet specific criteria outlined [here](#). Any restaurant/bar, barber shop/salon or gym/fitness center that is otherwise eligible can apply regardless of whether they are located in a DIA. However, in the first wave of grants, priority will be given to eligible businesses located in a DIA zip code: 61603, 61604, 61605, 61606 and 61610 (generally around Creve Coeur). A map of all DIAs can be found [here](#) (bottom of page). Even more preference given to businesses in "civil unrest zip codes: 61604 (as explained above).

DCEO will begin accepting applications on Friday, June 26th. This [Grant Application link](#) is for viewing only so that businesses can read, review and prepare the required documents. An application for eligible businesses to complete will be posted on June 26 on the [DCEO BIG page](#) with an anticipated deadline of July 5. DCEO will screen and qualify businesses through the application process and the grants will be awarded in a lottery style, not first come first served. DCEO will begin distributing funds to qualifying businesses in early July.

Reminder: Illinois Phase IV Guidelines Released

Reminder: Comprehensive information on Phase IV reopening guidelines can be found [here](#) including and industry-by-industry summary [here](#).

Reminder: Application for City of Peoria Business Assistance Program Open

The City of Peoria opened the application window for their Business Assistance program on June 22. Applications are due by 3pm on July 2. Program details, application materials and recordings of a webinar explaining the program can be found [here](#).

Tool to Determine Eligibility for Paid Sick Leave

The U.S. Department of Labor launched an interactive [online tool](#) to help workers determine if they qualify for paid sick leave or extended family and medical leave to cover time away from work for reasons related to the coronavirus. The tool guides workers through a series of questions to help them determine if the paid leave provisions of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act apply to their employer. If the provisions do apply, the tool helps them learn whether they qualify for either paid sick leave or extended family and medical leave under that law.

Community Focused Lenders

From SBA: Still looking for capital for your small business? Want to find a smaller community-focused lender to help? SBA [relaunched and revamped](#) its [LenderMatch](#) tool to help you do just that. Whether you're looking for a Paycheck Protection Program loan or another traditional SBA-backed loan, complete a short [LenderMatch](#) intake form and interested community-focused lenders will contact you within two days. An added benefit: If you get an SBA-backed loan before September 27, the [SBA will pay the principal, interest, and fees for six months](#).