

COVID-19 Update: July 16 4:30 pm

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

Gov. Pritzker Outlines More Focussed Regions to Measure Coronavirus Progression or Regression

Governor JB Pritzker announced changes to Illinois' regional approach in order to better target increasing positivity rates and hospitalizations in addition to new tracking metrics and mitigation plans. The Governor's initial plan created four regions across the state tracking key metrics. The [new plan](#) utilizes the current 11 emergency Medical Services Regions. Peoria, Tazewell and Woodford counties are in the North-Central Region that includes the following counties: Bureau, Fulton, Grundy, Henderson, Henry, Kendall, Knox, La Salle, Livingston, Marshall, McDonough, McLean, Mercer, Peoria, Putnam, Rock Island, Stark, Tazewell, Warren, Woodford. Mason and Logan counties are in West-Central with these counties: Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Cass, Christian, Greene, Hancock, Jersey, Logan, Macoupin, Mason, Menard, Montgomery, Morgan, Pike, Sangamon, Schuyler, Scott.

The following metrics will be used to determine when additional mitigation will be required to help alleviate the spread of the virus:

- Sustained increase in the 7-day rolling average (7 out of 10 days) in the positivity rate and one of the following severity indicators:
 - Sustained 7-day increase in hospital admissions for COVID-19 like illness
 - Reduction in hospital capacity threatening surge capabilities (ICU capacity or medical/surgical beds < 20 percent)
- OR three consecutive days averaging equal to or greater than an 8 percent positivity rate

If a region exceeds these resurgence metrics, there are three tiers of mitigation that can be implemented. These mitigation plans include:

- **Tier 1:** Reduced indoor dining capacity and suspended indoor bar service; reduced elective surgeries and limited hospital visitation, limits on gathering size, temporary shutdown of salons and personal care.
- **Tier 2:** Suspend indoor dining and bar service; suspend elective surgeries and procedures, implement surge capacity; greater limits on gatherings and capacity; suspend indoor recreational activity; suspend in-person non-essential retail; online and curbside available; temporary local shutdown of salons and personal care with broader mitigation.
- **Tier 3:** Suspend in-person dining and allow takeout only; open alternative care facilities; strictest limit on gatherings and capacity; remote work for all non-essential workers; suspend organized indoor and outdoor recreational activities; suspend all non-essential retail; suspend salon and personal care operations.

Childcare Restoration Grants

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity is working with the Illinois Department of Human Services and Governor's Office in developing a grant program for struggling child care providers, which represents at least \$270 million for child care providers and will be administered by the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (INCCRRA). "We know our state's recovery relies on the economic survival of our regulated child care system," according to a message from these entities. Child care providers can find application information [posted here](#) next week, July 20-24; they can learn more through technical assistance webinars next Monday (in English) and Tuesday (Spanish). For webinar registration info and further details, click [here](#).

EIDL Advance Funds End

The SBA has announced the conclusion of the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Advance program, which provided U.S. small businesses, non-profits and agricultural businesses a total of \$20 billion in emergency funding. Having allocated the full \$20 billion that was appropriated by Congress, SBA will discontinue making EIDL Advances to new applicants. By law, the SBA is not permitted to issue new EIDL Advances once all program funding has been obligated. EIDL loan applications will still be processed even though the Advance is no longer available. More [here](#).

Reminder: Paycheck Protection Program Extended

The popular Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) has been extended until August 8. The program still has \$130 billion to lend. PPP loans funds to small businesses based on 10 weeks worth of payroll expenses. Companies that use the loan proceeds to keep employees on the payroll for eight weeks following disbursement are eligible to have most or even all of the loan forgiven. In the first two rounds of PPP many small retail and restaurant businesses did not apply since they were completely shut down and did not have employees to pay. Those businesses should consider investigating the program and connecting with their lender. In the first two rounds, 5,527 loans were issued to Greater Peoria businesses leading to the retention of 64,563 jobs. GPEDC analysis of local loans can be found [here](#). Program information and application materials [here](#).

New Career Link Website

Career Link provides comprehensive employment services to both job seekers and employers across eight Central Illinois counties: Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford, Marshall, Mason, Fulton, Stark and McLean. Their newly redesigned [website](#) makes it easy for both types of clients to access services and learn more about available resources. Specific COVID-19 resources can be found [here](#).

Webinar for Latinx-owned Businesses

Join Diana Alfaro, Latino Business Development Manager, and the Small Business Administration (SBA) to learn about SBA programs to support your business such as Payment Protection Program (PPP), Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL), 504 Loans, etc. There will be two webinars one in English and one in Spanish:

- (English) Thursday, July 23, 2020, SBA Resources Latinx-owned Businesses Focused (PPP, EIDL, 504 loans, etc.), Co-hosted with the Small Business Administration (SBA): 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., please register [HERE](#)
- (Spanish) martes, 21 de julio de 2020, Recursos de la SBA (PPP, EIDL, préstamos 504, etc.), Co-organizado con Administración de Pequeños Negocios (SBA por sus siglas en inglés): 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., por favor regístrate, haga clic [aquí](#)

