

COVID-19 Update: October 7

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

Second Round of Business Interruption Grant Still Available

Illinois DCEO is still accepting applications for its Business Interruption Grant (BIG) program. This is a very broad program covering a variety of different businesses. Grant amounts will be calculated based on two months of eligible operating expenses for businesses in heavily impacted industries and two months of revenue losses for all other industries (more below) and will range from \$5,000 to \$150,000. A total of \$200 million is available with specific allocations to certain business types. Among the qualified businesses:

- *Highly Impacted Industries:* Event centers, music venue, performing arts venue, indoor recreation (i.e. trampoline parks), amusement park, movie theaters, museums, charter/shuttle bus service
- *Priority Businesses:* Independently-owned retail stores; Restaurants, bars, and taverns; fitness centers; tourism- and travel-related activities (including hotels); support services for arts and events

Additional priority is being given to businesses in these categories that are located in “Disproportionately Impacted Areas” (DIA). Businesses that are not in a DIA are still strongly encouraged to apply for this program. DIAs are determined by zip code. There are no DIAs in Woodford, Mason or Logan counties. In Peoria county the DIA zip codes are: 61603, 61604, 61605 and 61606. In Tazewell county there is one DIA zip code: 61610.

More details, as well as the application portal, can be found at DCEO’s website [here](#). Applications are being taken, reviewed and awarded on a rolling basis. As more details emerge, GPEDC will provide additional information to businesses and keep www.gpcovid.com updated.

Business Grant Program for Agriculture Businesses

The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) announced the availability of \$5 million in business recovery funding for livestock producers and small meat and poultry plants suffering interruptions as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past six months meat and poultry plants across the country have been impacted by the pandemic, as reduced sales resulted in a slowdown of processing livestock and forced many Illinois farmers to incur additional costs. Online applications are available now through October 31, 2020 and can be found [here](#).

Child Care Restoration Grants, Round 2 — applications due Oct. 15

Over \$100 million in additional Child Care Restoration Grant help will soon be made available to Illinois providers who are struggling with financial losses in the COVID pandemic. Through Oct. 15, interested child care programs can submit applications for this state-and-federal help; eligibility details and further information can be found [here](#). This second round of restoration-grant funding follows on the heels of a first round that resulted in awards totaling more than \$156 million for nearly 4,700 providers.

Free Webinar: Maximizing Your Space - Serving Guests in the Fall & Winter

With the seasons changing, get ideas from the pros now on utilizing your outdoor space. Architects and designers from City Open Workshop join the Illinois Restaurant Association for a

webinar providing restaurants and bars with expert design ideas to safely and optimally use their space for service. The webinar is Thursday, October 8 at 10 am. Register for free [here](#).