

BUSINESS INTERRUPTION GRANT (BIG) PROGRAM



BIG Program



- BIG will help businesses hit hard by the pandemic to stay afloat through the crisis, offset the costs they've incurred during the shut down, and ensure they have the resources needed to reopen safely.
- \$540 million in grants to small businesses to reimburse costs incurred due to COVID-19 required closures.
 - \$270 million dedicated to childcare services and early education.
- Grants distributed through multiple funding rounds.
- Program will operate as a lottery.
- Funded by the CARES Act.

BIG Program

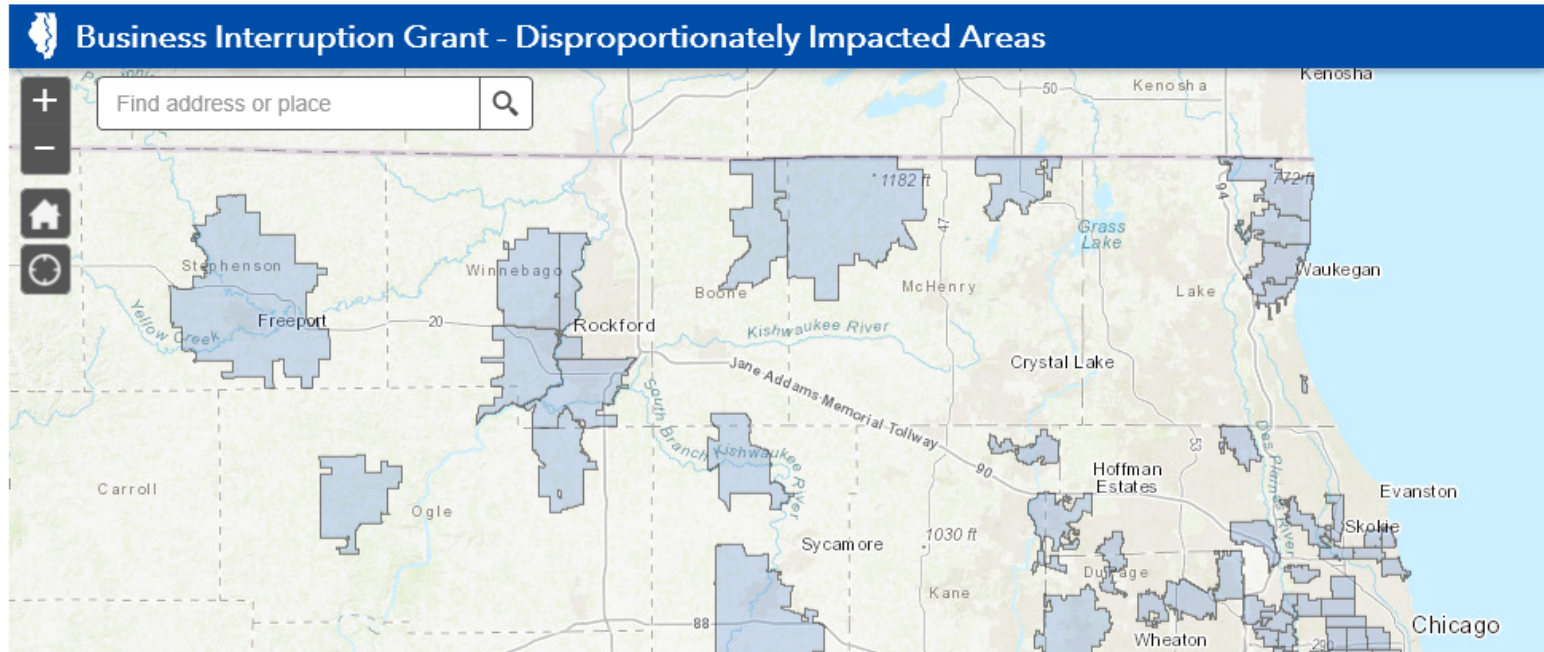
Program Basics



- Using intermediaries to administer the grants, DCEO will issue grants to businesses to reimburse costs of business interruption caused by COVID-19 require closures or capacity limitations.
- Businesses may claim eligible expenditures from March 21, 2020 through December 30, 2020.
- A minimum of 30% will be released to businesses within ZIP codes in disproportionately impacted areas (DIA).
 - A company is considered in a DIA if at least 80% of their employment in IL as of Feb 2020 were primarily working on-site at an establishment in a DIA.
 - A map of DIA's

BIG Program

DIA MAP



BIG Program

Program Basics



- Qualifying businesses include:
 - Experiencing business interruption due to COVID-19
 - Registered, if required and in good standing with the Illinois Secretary of State
 - Licensed to do business within their industry (if applicable)
- Qualifying Businesses will be more exactly defined through subsequent funding notices based on business type, industry, and region.
- BIG awards will prioritize:
 - Businesses and industries most greatly impacted by COVID-19
 - Businesses that did not receive assistance from the Paycheck Protection Program or Coronavirus Relief Funds

BIG Program

Program Basics



- Eligible reimbursable expenses focus on business operations, which include:
 - Payroll & benefits for retained employees
 - Lease, mortgage, and utility payments
 - Variable costs for the goods or services provided
 - Expenses related to PPE for employees
- Grants cannot exceed the total amount of net losses incurred since March 2020 due to closure or reduced operations during the COVID pandemic.

BIG Program – First Round

Overview



First round funding applications available June 26, 2020, with funds distributed in July.

- \$60 million available in first round.
- Grants of \$10,000 to \$20,000 available for about 3,500 businesses that experienced a limited ability to operate due to COVID-19 related closures.

BIG Program – First Round

Eligibility



Businesses eligible for the first round of BIG funding:

- \$20M for Business located within a DIA where the area experienced significant property damage or looting due to civil unrest
- \$20M for Bars & Restaurants
- \$10M for Barbershops & Salons
- \$10M for Fitness centers

BIG Program – First Round

Eligibility



Businesses in Disproportionately Impacted Areas (DIAs) with Recent Significant Property Damage (\$20 million) – 1,000 grants

- Businesses with under \$2 million in revenue in 2019, or pro-rated amount if open for less than a year. Must have been operating for three months prior to March 2020.
- Applicants must attest to experiencing costs or losses of at least \$20,000 since the Stay at Home order was put in place on March 21, 2020.
- Eligibility will be limited to businesses within a subset of DIAs that experienced significant property damage or looting during civil unrest in the past month.

BIG Program – First Round

Eligibility

Bars and Restaurants (\$20 million) – 1,000 grants


- Businesses with under \$3 million in revenue in 2019, or pro-rated amount if open for less than a year. Must have been operating for three months prior to March 2020.
- Only bars and restaurants that did not provide outdoor food and beverage service prior to June 17 will be eligible. This could be for any reason including prohibition by local ordinance, lack of access to outdoor space, or financial infeasibility.
- Grant award will be \$20,000 for restaurants earning \$2-3 million in revenue in 2019 and \$15K for restaurants/bars earning less than \$2 million.
- Applicants must attest to experiencing costs or losses of at least \$20,000 since the Stay at Home order was put in place on March 21, 2020.
- 50% of grants will go to businesses in DIAs with priority for DIAs experiencing the most severe adverse economic conditions due to COVID-19.



BIG Program – First Round

Eligibility


Barbershops and Salons (\$10 million) – 1,000 grants

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- Eligible businesses will be those with under \$500,000 in revenue in 2019, or pro-rated amount if in business for less than a year. Must have been operating for three months prior to March 2020.
 - Grant award will be \$10,000. Applicants must attest to experiencing losses of at least this much since the Stay at Home order was put in place on March 21, 2020 due to closure or reduced operations as a result of the COVID pandemic.
 - “50% of grants will go to businesses in DIAs, with priority for DIAs that have experienced recent property damage or looting during civil unrest.”

BIG Program – First Round

Eligibility

Fitness Centers (\$10 million) – 500 grants

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- Businesses with under \$2 million in revenue in 2019, or pro-rated amount if open for less than a year. Must have been operating for three months prior to March 2020.
 - Applicants must attest to experiencing costs or losses of at least \$20,000 since the Stay at Home order was put in place on March 21, 2020.
 - Must be a facility. Health or fitness service providers that provide remote services or travel to different sites/client locations without a permanent establishment open to members are not eligible.
 - 30% of grants will go to businesses in DIAs.

BIG Program – First Round

Timeline



June 22nd - application available to review

June 26th – begin accepting applications

July 7th – application closes at 5pm

Mid-July – funds to be awarded



BIG Program – First Round

Application



Interested applicants can find the application at DCEO's website:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/SmallBizAssistance/Pages/C19DisadvantagedBusGrants.aspx>

Questions?

Thank You!

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Illinois
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