



## NEWS RELEASE

Media contacts:

Stacey Stockton-Shangraw  
309-242-4278  
sstockton-shangraw@ameren.com

Brian Bretsch  
618-407-6894  
bbretsch@ameren.com

Marcelyn Love  
217-381-2241  
mlove@ameren.com

10 Executive Drive : Collinsville IL 62234 : AmerenIllinois.com  
Twitter : @amerenillinois

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Ameren Illinois Offers Hardship Grants to Small Businesses and Non-profit Organizations

COLLINSVILLE, IL (May 29, 2020) – Ameren Illinois announced that funding is available for small businesses and non-profits that have fallen behind on their electric bills. Under the company's COVID-19 Economic Hardship Recovery Program, one-time grants of up to \$500 will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis until June 30, or until the funds are exhausted.

"This has been a challenging time for many small businesses and non-profits that have experienced economic hardship due to COVID-19," said Richard J. Mark, chairman and president of Ameren Illinois. "As these organizations begin to re-establish their operations, it's my hope that this funding will help them along the road to recovery."

To be considered, businesses must have an active, non-residential account, 50 or fewer full-time employees, and a principal office in Illinois. Eligible businesses may include, but are not limited to: small commercial enterprises, restaurants, clothing stores, hair salons, flower shops, and fitness facilities. Eligible non-profits may include, but are not limited to: schools, day cares, senior centers, religious organizations, community organizations, and charitable organizations.

Grant recipients will have the funds applied to their Ameren Illinois electric account. To apply, visit [AmerenIllinois.com/Recovery](http://AmerenIllinois.com/Recovery) or call the Ameren Illinois Business Center at 800.232.2477.

Ameren Illinois also announced several new energy efficiency offerings to help small businesses and non-profits to reduce their energy usage and save money. Eligible customers can receive a free lighting assessment, free smart thermostat, and a free energy analysis tool. Call 866.800.0747 or visit [AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/Recovery](http://AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/Recovery).

### About Ameren Illinois

Ameren Illinois delivers energy to 1.2 million electric and more than 800,000 natural gas customers in Illinois. Our mission is to power the quality of life. Our service territory covers more than 1,200 communities and 43,700 square miles. For more information, visit [AmerenIllinois.com](http://AmerenIllinois.com), find us on Twitter @AmerenIllinois or Facebook.com/AmerenIllinois.

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