

***BUSINESS
INTERRUPTION GRANT
(BIG) PROGRAM
Round 2***





BIG Program



- Governor Pritzker and the General Assembly established the BIG program to provide relief to small businesses hit hard by the pandemic.
- \$540 million in grants are being awarded in funding rounds to small businesses to reimburse costs incurred due to COVID-19.
 - \$270 million dedicated to childcare services and early education.
- \$49 million in grants awarded to 2,800 businesses in Round 1.
 - Round 1 focused on restaurants, personal care services, gyms, fitness clubs, and businesses in severe disproportionately impacted areas.
- Funded by the CARES Act.

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Round 2 – Overview



- \$200 million of the remaining funds will be available to all small businesses statewide that experienced losses due to the pandemic.
 - More than half of funds are earmarked for businesses downstate
 - “Downstate” includes all counties outside those that received direct support from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund (Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, and Will).
 - \$70 million will be invested in disproportionately impacted areas (DIAs)
 - A map of DIA’s is [here](#).
 - \$60 million set aside for heavily impact industries
 - Remaining funds will be available to any small business meeting eligibility factors.
 - DCEO’s grant administration partner for Round 2 is Accion.

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Round 2 – Eligibility Factors and Key Priorities



- Eligible businesses include for-profit and nonprofit entities with \$20 million or less in annual revenue in 2019 (annualized for businesses that started after January 2019) and experienced losses due to COVID-19.
- Grant size will be calculated based on revenue losses and/or expenses over the last two months, and will range from \$5,000 to \$150,000.
- Priority will be given to applicants that:
 - Did not receive PPP or other forms of emergency aid from the CARES Act or other governments.
 - Are located in DIAs
 - Are subject to regional mitigation measures due to COVID resurgence
 - Have less than \$5 million in annual revenue

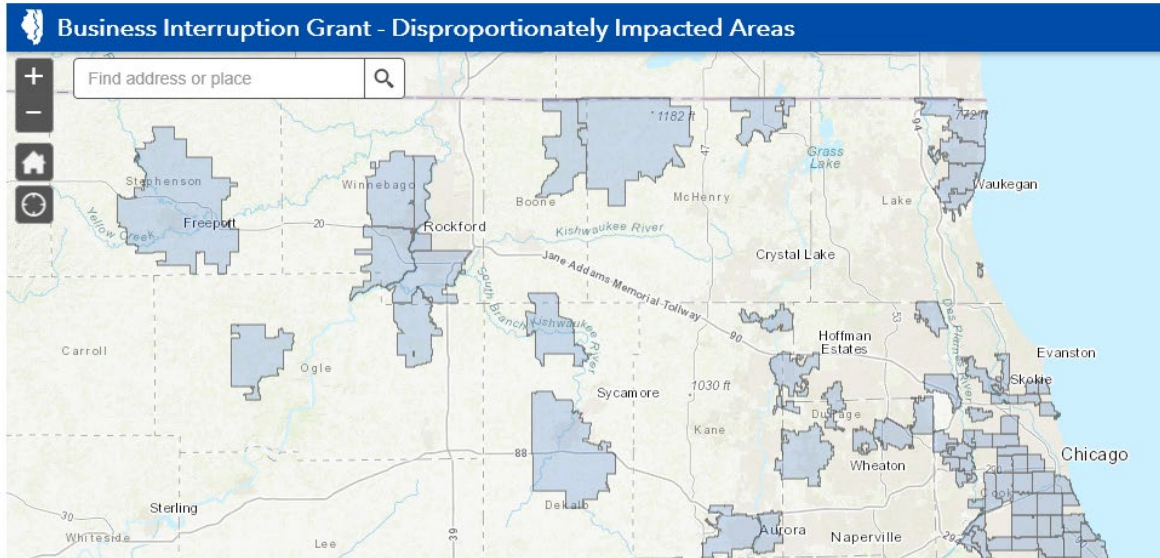
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Round 2 – Eligibility Factors and Key Priorities

Priority will be given to applicants that are located in DIAs

DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED AREAS

Need to find out if your business is located in a DIA? The below map allows you to search by address, or by searching for your zip code in the list of 176 distinct DIAs [here](#).



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Round 2 – Heavily Impacted Industries



- \$60 million will be set aside for businesses in a set of Heavily Distressed Industries. Businesses in these industries have been closed or operating at very diminished capacity since mid-March and are likely to continue to do so until Phase 5.
- These industries include the following:
 - Event spaces
 - Music venues
 - Performing arts venues
 - Indoor recreation
 - Amusement parks
 - Movie theaters
 - Museums
 - Charter/shuttle buses

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Round 2 – Additional Priority Industries



- For the remaining \$140 million in funds this round, any business or nonprofit with under \$20 million in annual revenue that experienced losses due to COVID may apply.
- For these remaining funds, the following industries that are experiencing ongoing dramatic losses industrywide due to the economic fallout from COVID will be prioritized:
 - Independently-owned retail
 - Restaurants and bars
 - Fitness centers
 - Tourism-related industries, including lodging and accommodations
 - Support services for arts or events

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Round 2 – Outreach and Technical Assistance



- DCEO has partnered with four Illinois nonprofits to assist hard-to-reach African American, Latino, and immigrant owned businesses in accessing resources to assist their business through COVID-19, including with access to BIG grants.
- DCEO's FirstStop Hotline, Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs), the Office of Minority Economic Empowerment (OMEE), and the Office of Regional Economic Development (Team RED) are also ready to assist.
- Contact information for our network of more than 60 technical assistance partners is available on the [DCEO BIG webpage](#).



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Round 2 -Timeline



September 17 – begin accepting applications

Grants will be awarded and funded on a rolling basis

A application support materials are available now at the BIG website.

For assistance with your application, please submit a question to Accion via the following question submission form in either [English](#) or [Spanish](#).



BIG Program – Second Round

Application



An application and a checklist for required documents are available now at the BIG website.

For assistance with your application, please submit a question to Accion via the following question submission form in either [English](#) or [Spanish](#).



BIG Program – Second Round

Application – Highly Impacted Areas

Event Venue

- a. A business or organization that is engaged in leasing out an on-site location for private events with a capacity that exceeds 100 people. This may include ballrooms, banquet halls, conference centers, and other types of event spaces.
- b. Over 40% of revenue is derived from event spaces with capacity that exceed 100 people, including space leasing fees, food and beverage, audio/video, and group bookings of rooms related to on-site events.
- c. Higher education institutions are not eligible as an event center.

Music Venue

- a. A business or organization that is a destination for live music consumers and its music programming is a main driver of its attendance, as indicated by the presence of:
 - i. defined performance and audience space,
 - ii. mixing desk and PA system,
 - iii. cover charge to some music performance through ticketing or front door entrance fee, and
 - iv. marketing of specific acts through gig listings in printed and/or electronic publications, or visible calendar of events on socials/website.
- v. b. Over 50% of revenue is from ticketing and entrance fees, as well as food and beverage sold, to attendees of live music performances.



BIG Program – Second Round

Application – Highly Impacted Areas

Performing Arts Venue

- a. A business or organization that has an on-site theater for performing arts, including for plays, opera, symphony, dance, and other forms of performing arts.
- b. Over 50% of revenue is from ticketing and entrance fees, as well as food and beverage sold, to attendees of live performing arts performances.
- c. Organizations primarily operating as educational institutions are not eligible as performing arts venues.

Indoor Recreation

- a. A business or organization that provides an indoor facility with usable indoor space designated for indoor play or fitness activities. This may include indoor bowling alleys, skating rinks, trampoline parks, indoor playgrounds, field houses, laser tag, arcades, and indoor sports facilities.
- b. Facility capacity must be greater than 100 people, except for trampoline parks and indoor playgrounds, which are all eligible regardless of capacity.
- c. Over 50% of revenue is from ticketing and fees to participate in indoor recreation activities and associated services, such as shoe rental.
- d. Fitness centers and gyms, as defined below in the “Priority Industries” section, are not eligible as indoor recreation facilities.



BIG Program – Second Round

Application – Highly Impacted Areas

5) Amusement Park

- a. A park, fairground, or recreational and entertainment complex that supplies refreshments and multiple entertainment and recreation activities, which include, but are not exclusive to amusement parks, theme parks, water parks, and attractions.
- b. Over 50% of revenue is derived from ticketing and fees for admissions, including memberships, as well as services provided to participants.

6) Movie Theater

- a. An indoor theater where movies are shown for public entertainment.
- b. Over 50% of revenue is derived from ticketing and fees for admission.

7) Museum

- a. An institution or entity located in Illinois that is:
 - i. operated by a 501 (c)(3) organization (that is not owned or operated by a government entity);
 - ii. operated primarily for educational, scientific, historic preservation, cultural, or aesthetic purposes; and
 - iii. owns, borrows, cares for, exhibits, studies, archives, or catalogs property.

8) Charter Bus Services

- a. A business that provides transportation, including the bus and driver, for to transport a group of people from one location to another. These businesses include charter buses, interurban and rural buses, and shuttle services.
- b. Over 50% of revenue is derived from ticketing and fees for passenger transport.



BIG Program – Application

Required Documents if operating in a non-Heavily Impacted Industry:

1. 2019 Tax Return
2. July 2019 Bank Statement
3. August 2019 Bank Statement
4. July 2020 Bank Statement
5. August 2020 Bank Statement
6. Signed W-9
7. Business owner ID

Required Documents if operating in a Heavily Impacted Industry:

1. 2019 Tax Return
2. July 2019 Bank Statement
3. August 2019 Bank Statement
4. July 2020 Bank Statement
5. August 2020 Bank Statement
6. Signed W-9
7. Business Rent or Mortgage for July and August
8. Business Utilities for July and August
9. Business Insurance for July and August
10. Payroll Expense Report for July and August
11. Proof of business loan payment for July and August
12. Business owner ID



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Key Do's & Don'ts



- **Do**: Take time to ensure your application is complete and accurate in advance of submitting.
- **Do**: Ask for assistance from the Help Desk in either [English](#) or [Spanish](#) if needed. [FAQs](#) are posted on DCEO's BIG webpage.
- **Do**: Save your answers in a separate document in case you experience any technical delays.



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Key Do's & Don'ts



- **Don't:** Forget to double check your answers prior to submitting.
- **Don't:** Choose a heavily impacted industry, priority industry or DIA zip code if that is not applicable for your business. This will delay and negatively impact your consideration for a grant.
- **Don't:** Use an automatic form filling feature on your browser, it may populate incorrect information into your application.

Questions?

Thank You!

Joe McKeown

Regional Economic Development

Joseph.McKeown@Illinois.gov

312-497-1823



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity
JB Pritzker, Governor