

# Business Interruption Grants Program (BIG) Round 2

September 15, 2020 - The Governor announced the opening of the second round of the Business Interruption Grant (BIG) Program. These grants will be available to all small businesses statewide that experienced losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Grants will be awarded and funded on a rolling basis until funding is depleted.

**HOW TO APPLY:** ILDCEO will begin accepting applications for the second round of BIG beginning on the afternoon of Thursday, September 17. The application is available on the [Illinois Department of Commerce website](#) to review. Applicants can start gathering the necessary information.

To help you prepare for your application now, see below a preliminary application and checklist.

ROUND 2 APPLICATION DETAILS:

- VIEW: [Round 2 Application Questions](#)
- VIEW: [Round 2 Application Checklist](#)
- VIEW: [Business Certification Form and Eligible Cost List](#)
- VIEW: [Guidance for BIG Awards and Other Federal Support Such as PPP and EIDL \(Non-Duplication of Benefits\)](#)
- VIEW: Round 2 Detailed Eligibility Criteria (Coming soon)

Funding for this round is approximately \$200 million, with more than half of the funds earmarked for businesses downstate. Of this funding, \$70 million will be invested in Disproportionately Impacted Areas (DIAs) and \$60 million in heavily impacted industries. A map of the DIAs can be found on our website. The heavily impacted industries are defined as having annual revenues of \$10 million or less and have been close or operating at a very diminished capacity since mid-March and are likely to continue to do so until Phase 5 of the Restore Illinois Plan. These industries include the following:

- Event spaces
- Music venues
- Performing arts venues
- Indoor recreation
- Amusement parks
- Movie theaters
- Museums
- Charter/shuttle buses

While these priority areas are part of the program, the BIG program is open to **all** eligible businesses (for profit and nonprofit) with \$20 million or less in annual revenue in 2019 and experienced losses due to COVID-19. The grant size will be equivalent to two months of expenses. DCEO will be hosting a series of webinars regarding this program. You can register for any of the webinars by using the links below:

- September 23, 9:30am-10:30am:  
<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=e61db6e1bf4f7af4fdcc54544027f0235>
- September 30, 9:30am-10:30am:  
<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=ee94b00d843ec9aab65c49acc33d41942>
- October 7, 9:30am-10:30am:  
<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=e236cb57ca8f146097a0eabf19155d4c1>
- October 14, 9:30am-10:30am:  
<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=e1b2877876f223c4252cc1ead2d17ce88>
- October 21, 9:30am-10:30am:  
<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=eb1058a62e1cdd864f497a5dadcd0d290>