

LAYOFF AVERSION FUNDING PROGRAM: [More Info](#)

Illinois Small Businesses needing help to pay for activities designed to keep current workers employed , can tap into some grant assistance being provided through the various local WorkNet offices throughout Illinois.

Qualifying businesses: Small businesses determined to be “essential” under the Governor’s current Executive Order (refer to [Are you an Essential business?](#)),

Grant Amount: \$5,000 - \$50,000.

Terms: Grants do not need to be repaid as long as the qualifying business fulfills the commitment to keep employees on staff through 45 calendar days from the date of the grant award. Award can be used to reimburse upcoming costs, as well as expenses incurred already since the start of the Governor’s stay-at-home- order (March 20th).

Allowable uses of grant funds: Any activity that helps prevent or limit potential employee exposure to COVID-19, supports social distancing, or supports worker training to redirect and reassign existing employees on critical business needs. Sample activities include, but are not limited to: cleaning/sanitization services; the purchase of software programs, hardware (computers), or smart phones that employees need to use from home to support their work; the offset of costs to the employer or workers to add an additional shift so that fewer employees are on site at any given time; or any other activity deemed appropriate by Program Coordinator (see below). **Non-eligible costs:** employee payroll and benefits.

How can qualifying business apply?: **Before close of business May 8th**, contact Matt Jones, Program Coordinator, WIOA Workforce Development Group at 618-825-3259 or matthew.jones@co.st-clair.il.us to get pre-qualified and receive technical assistance on application process. [Application](#).

Edie Koch
Executive Director
Monroe County IL
Economic Development Corporation
618-806-4739