



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

JB Pritzker, Governor

Northeast Region Weekly Update July 26, 2022

Did you know? The **Illinois Angel Investment Tax Credit Program** encourages investment in innovative, early-stage companies to help obtain the working capital needed to further the growth of their company in Illinois. Investors in companies that are certified as Qualified New Business Ventures (QNBVs) can receive a state tax credit equal to 25% of their investment (up to \$2 million).

A total of **\$10 million in Angel Investment tax credits a year are allocated**. Credits will be released by quarter, on a first-come first-served basis. Once tax incentive credits for a particular quarter are exhausted, no further credits can be allocated until the subsequent quarter. Please review the [2022 Allocation Schedule.pdf](#) and [webinars](#) before applying. For information about the program and to schedule a webinar contact AngelInvestment@Illinois.gov.

The Impact of Community Investment: [Auburn Gresham sets itself up for a revitalization](#)

The shuttered terra cotta furniture showroom near 79th and Halsted streets had sat vacant for decades. Twenty-five graduating classes at Leo High School next door came and went. The building sat almost unnoticed, a persistent sign of disinvestment in the South Side neighborhood. But **Carlos Nelson**, CEO of the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corp., or GAGDC, got the keys to the building in 2017 after tracking down the owner in Hyde Park and arranging some "creative financing" to spur redevelopment. This month Nelson and his team will cut the ribbon on **the \$20 million Healthy Lifestyle Hub that includes a clinic and pharmacy and will create an estimated 150 jobs!**

Team RED Monthly Webinar – Thursday, July 28 at 10am

Join Team RED and DCEO colleagues on Thursday, July 28 to learn about the **Blue Collar Jobs Act**, a tax credit program where qualified companies can receive a credit of up to 75% of the withholding tax attributable to wages paid to construction workers for incentivized projects. Register [here](#).

University of Illinois Extension

Site Selection in Illinois: A Review for Community Leaders

Wednesday, July 27, at 12 pm, CT - Zoom Webinar – Register [here](#)

Community leaders across Illinois work to make sure that their region is attractive to business owners, executives and other professionals who are responsible for finding locations to locate or expand their businesses. [University of Illinois Extension Local Government Education's site-selection webinar series](#) covers the latest from professionals engaged in searching for and selecting sites here in Illinois.

Join us on **July 27, at 12 PM CT**, for insights from **Ameren's Cheryl Welge**, a member of Ameren Illinois's Economic Development leadership team. Ms. Welge will share a detailed presentation of the site selection process in Illinois, offering her expertise on capacity requirements from the site selector's perspective.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this webinar, please contact Mike Delany at mdelany2@illinois.edu. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet access needs.

Illinois Department of Transportation

How to get Certified and Pre-Qualified to position your firm to win state and federal contracts with the Illinois Department of Transportation and HIRE 360 (Virtual)

Please join the Illinois Department of Transportation, HIRE 360, and our Supportive Service Consultants on Thursday **July 28th** to learn about how to get DBE certified to do business with IDOT, get pre-qualified to serve as a prime contractor on IDOT projects, and get technical assistance in order to better position your firm to win work. This workshop will be conducted online through Webex. You can find more information and sign up at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/increasing-economic-opportunity-for-disadvantaged-business-enterprises-tickets-383395916507?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

HACIA & IDOT's Office of Business and Workforce Diversity Workshop Series August 4th 10-12pm (In Person)

Location: 650 West Lake Street, Suite 230, Chicago. Register [here](#)

Early Childhood Construction Grant

Governor JB Pritzker has announced \$60 million in capital grant opportunities for Illinois Early Childhood Education providers through the Rebuild Illinois Capital Program. The funding will support the construction, expansion, and renovation of facilities that support early student learning.

The initial grant installment delivers \$60 million to qualifying public school districts and not-for-profit early childhood facilities providing educational, health, social, or child development services to children aged zero to five years old and their families. Centers seeking to increase their capacity to provide care or educational opportunities for children in underserved communities are eligible for up to \$10 million under the Early Childhood Construction Grant. A three to ten percent match is required. Rebuild Illinois, Governor Pritzker's historic \$45 billion bipartisan capital plan, will provide a total of \$100 million in state funding for early childhood education provider grants.

Applications for the Early Childhood Construction Grant will be accepted through **October 10, 2022**. For more information, including selection criteria, visit [Grants - Grants \(illinois.gov\)](#)

Community Development Block Grants – Economic Development

Grants are awarded on an as-needed basis throughout the year to units of general local government meeting eligibility and program component requirements until all funds allocated to this program have been distributed. All awards in this category are predicated upon project feasibility and a demonstrated need for funds. This will include a review of all sources and uses of funds, an analysis of the recipient's ability to comply with the terms of the program, and a determination that CDBG participation is appropriate. The grant ceiling has been established at \$1,000,000 per award. The grant funds awarded shall not exceed \$10,000 per job for any job that is retained

and \$25,000 per job for any job that is created. For your application to be considered, your entity must be pre-qualified. For more information on pre-qualification, please visit:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/AboutDCEO/GrantOpportunities/Pages/GranteeResources.aspx>.

Additional information including the Notice of Funding Opportunity and application documents can be found [Here](#)

Illinois Electric Vehicle Rebate Program

Individuals can now access and complete an application for a rebate under Illinois' EV Rebate Program at:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/ceja/Pages/Electric-Vehicle-Rebates.aspx>. Applications for the first funding round are being accepted starting July 1 and must be postmarked on or before **September 30, 2022**.

Rebate application cycles will be opened and rebates will be issued to eligible applicants subject to availability of funds. Illinois residents that purchase an all-electric passenger vehicle **on or after July 1, 2022**, are eligible to apply for a rebate under Illinois' EV Rebate Program. The following rebate amounts have been set forth in statute:

- Beginning July 1, 2022, a \$4,000 rebate for the purchase of an all-electric vehicle.
- Beginning July 1, 2026, a \$2,000 rebate for the purchase of an all-electric vehicle.
- Beginning July 1, 2028, a \$1,500 rebate for the purchase of an all-electric vehicle.

In addition, a \$1,500 rebate is available for the purchase of an electric motorcycle.

A webpage has been established for Illinois' EV Rebate Program at:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/ceja/Pages/Electric-Vehicle-Rebates.aspx>. This includes a link to the rebate application, instructions on completing the application, a Frequently Asked Questions document, and other relevant information.

Individuals interested in receiving updates on Illinois EPA's EV programs may register for the EV Listserv at:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/ceja/Pages/default.aspx>.

For questions contact epa.ev@illinois.gov

EPA Opportunity for School Districts to Adopt Electric School Buses

EPA is offering \$500 million through the [2022 Clean School Bus Rebates](#) for zero-emission and low-emission school bus rebates as the first funding opportunity. **The deadline to apply is August 19**. EPA will continue to update their page with additional Clean School Bus Program funding information and educational resources.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021 authorizes EPA to offer rebates to replace [existing school buses](#) with clean and zero-emission (ZE) models. The 2022 Clean School Bus (CSB) Rebates process includes SAM.gov account registration, application submission, review and selection by EPA, purchase order submission and request for payment, payment receipt, new bus delivery and old bus replacement, and close out.

If interested applicants have questions about their eligibility after reviewing the webpage and the Program Guide they should contact cleanschoolbus@epa.gov with their specific question.

For more information and application link, visit www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus

DOT Announces Funding for Roadway Safety

The application process is now open for communities of all sizes to apply for Federal Fiscal Year 2022 funding to help ensure safe streets and roads and to address the national roadway safety crisis.

The primary goal of SS4A grants is to improve roadway safety by supporting communities in developing comprehensive safety action plans based on a Safety System Approach and implementing projects and strategies that significantly reduce or eliminate transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries involving pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation, personal conveyance and micro-mobility users, commercial vehicle operators and motorists. Funding can also be used to support stakeholder engagement in order to ensure that all community members have a voice in developing plans, projects and strategies.

[The SS4A Notice of Funding Opportunity is available via this link.](#) Applications are due on or before **September 15, 2022.**

[Additional information and resources about the SS4A Grant Program are available via this link.](#)

IDNR Grants

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources is accepting applications for two grant opportunities through **Aug. 2:** the Illinois Habitat Fund and the State Pheasant Fund grants. The Illinois Habitat Fund Special Funds Grant Program enhances game and non-game wildlife habitat through projects developed by not-for-profit organizations and governmental entities. The State Pheasant Fund Special Funds Grant Program enhances pheasant habitat through projects developed by not-for-profit organizations and governmental entities.

Funding for both grants comes from the sale of habitat stamps to sportsmen and sportswomen. This year, all applications for these grants will be accepted online through the Amplifund portal.

For information on how to apply for a Habitat Fund grant, visit:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/grants/Pages/Habitat-Funding-Opportunity.aspx>.

For information about applying for a Pheasant Fund grant, visit:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/grants/Pages/Pheasant-Funding.aspx>.

Both sites include links to the appropriate Amplifund portal. For questions or assistance, please contact Susan Duke at: susan.duke@illinois.gov or call 217-785-4416.

Search for all current state funding opportunities by visiting

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/GATA/Grants/SitePages/CSFA.aspx>

Office of Minority Economic Empowerment (OMEE)

Online with OMEE- Overview of financial resources for small businesses

Wednesday | August 3, 2022 | 10:00-11:00 a.m. | [Register](#)

Is access to financial capital important for your business? The Office of Minority Economic Empowerment (OMEE) Business Development Managers invite you to an online conversation that's open to all racial/ethnic minorities, women, persons with disabilities, veterans, LGBTQIA+ owned businesses and all other marginalized groups. Team

OMEE will provide you with the latest updates on financial resources, federal and state programs, share information about other opportunities, and answer any questions you may have about your business. We'll take questions in English and Spanish.

Illinois DCEO & Groupon Present: What Can I Do? Tools to Help Your Community Support and Celebrate Black Business Month and Beyond

Wednesday August 17, 2022 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Register: <https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=ef12a8a23a93f4759705835af948a717d>

Black Business Month offers an opportunity for communities across Illinois to celebrate local Black entrepreneurs. Join staff from DCEO's Office of Minority Economic Empowerment (OMEE), Groupon, and Visit Champaign County to learn best practices and easy steps your economic development organization can take to engage and support Black businesses during Black Business Month in August, and all year long!

Join DCEO's Team

DCEO is also expanding our staff in the Springfield and Chicago offices. We are accepting applications on the following positions right now. To apply for these jobs, please go to the Work4Illinois website at <https://illinois.jobs2web.com/> and use the search function to find the positions for our department.

Posting closing 7/28/22

PUBLIC SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR, OPT 8L_- Office of General Counsel – Cook County

SMALL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM MANAGER (PUBLIC SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR, OPT 1)_- Office of ENTREPRENEURSHIP, INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY– Sangamon County

DCEO Website – www.illinois.gov/dceo

The Illinois DCEO website includes a page dedicated to current state and federal grant opportunities as well as Grantee resources. Click [here](#) to find valuable information!

Following DCEO & Connecting with Team RED

If you have upcoming meetings or events and would like DCEO to participate, please reach out to me. Follow us on our social media channels for real time updates.

Facebook – facebook.com/IllinoisDCEO

Twitter – twitter.com/IllinoisDCEO

Linked In – linkedin.com/company/IllinoisDCEO