Federal Grant Support Program





Program Description



- The intent of this program is to increase the amount of federal funding received by Illinois-based organizations applying for competitive federal grants that align with the State's economic development objectives.
- Federal Grant Support Program will make up to \$15 million available to Illinois based businesses and organizations seeking competitive federal grants.
- The Department may provide a grant up to \$2,000,000 that entails up to a 1:1 match of the applicant's cash contribution towards the project.



Program Description



- Eligible applicants will apply for this program while they are preparing an application for a federal grant.
- Successful applicants will then receive a letter of commitment that they will be awarded a Federal Grant
- Support grant from the Department, contingent on receiving a federal award.



Performance Goals and Measures

Performance measures that align with State's economic development plan:

- 1. lay the foundation for long-term growth
- 2. reduce the equity gap
- 3. attract more workers and businesses to Illinois





- All projects will be required to report on the following details:
- Funds and investment either contributing directly to the project or raised as a result of the project, by source (e.g. local government, private equity, or venture capital, etc.)
- Number of Illinois residents directly employed due to the project, either as permanent staff for an ongoing initiative and/or as temporary jobs for a capital or pilot project
- Completion of key milestones/deliverables





Additional performance measures will be required, when applicable.

- Illinois residents, companies, or organizations receiving services, by type of service (e.g. training, business support services)
- R&D spending
- Startups created, and associated number of jobs
- Patents
- Total exports
- Other, as warranted





- Total amount of funding is \$15 million. Awards will be up to \$2 million.
- The Department expects to make 10 to 100 awards for though this NOFO.
- A portion of grants provided for this program may originate from Rebuild Illinois capital funds that are subject to Bondability Guidelines.
- The Department's award is contingent upon receiving the federal award associated with the applicant's proposal.





- If awarded, applicants will receive a commitment letter from the Department stating that they will receive an award, contingent upon receiving the federal award associated with their application.
- Upon receiving the federal award, grantees shall notify the Department and provide proof of the federal award including the full application that was approved, and the Department will enter into a grant agreement with the grantee.
- Applicants should notify the Department if they do not receive the federal award or if there is a change in the grant status, such as a delay in the federal government's review and selection process.
- Initial commitments are good for up to 120 days from the date of the Department's approval letter at the end of 120 days
- This can be extended once for an additional 120 days under certain circumstances



Cost Sharing/Matching



The applicant must:

- Provide a financial contribution (cash) towards the project, which will be used to determine the State's eligible matching award. In-kind contributions will not be used to determine the State's eligible matching award.
- The grant will be up to a 1:1 match of the applicant's cash contribution.
- The applicant must provide letters or other documentation stating the amount, contributing entity, and source of the applicant's cash contributions towards the project.



Eligibility - GATA

- An entity must be registered in the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Grantee Portal, https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/ at the time of grant application
- The portal will verify that the entity;
 - Has a valid UEI number
 - Has a current SAM.gov registration
 - Is not on the Federal Excluded Parties List
 - Is in Good Standing with the Illinois Secretary of State, as applicable
 - Is not on the Illinois Stop Payment list (verified once entity is registered in GATA Grantee Portal);
 - Is not on the Department of Healthcare and Family Services Provider Sanctions list





Eligibility



- Illinois-based organization or business.
- Primary applicant on the federal award application
- At least 51% of the total project must be spent supporting activities that occur in Illinois
- Project must be eligible for a specified federal grant program, for which the applicant intends to apply within 120 days of applying to this state program
- Applicant must commit to providing a financial contribution (cash) towards the project, which will be used to determine the State's eligible matching award
- This opportunity does not allow reimbursement of pre-award costs.



Application Will Be Graded on a 100-point Scale



- Need 35 points
- Capacity 40 points
- Quality -25 points



Scoring - Need



- The federal grant requires a cost-share/matching component
- The federal grant requires a cost-share/match specifically from a public sector entity or the State
- The project will likely not occur, or the applicant will not be able to submit the proposal without Department support.
 - Department support will significantly increase the competitiveness of the federal proposal.
 - The project is located in, or its impacts will be concentrated in, an underserved area or low-income community.





- Committed to the project.
- Experience, knowledge, and expertise required to successfully complete the project.
- Staffing and organizational capacity to successfully complete the project
- Equipment and facilities required to successfully complete the project.
- Budget and backing documentation show that the applicant and partners have the resources required to successfully meet funding commitments for the project



Scoring - Quality



- The project is clearly aligned with one or more of the State's economic goals, as laid out in the five-year economic plan.
- The project has the potential to have a significant and durable impact on economic development in Illinois.





- Uniform Grant Application
- Uniform Budget
- Conflict of Interest Disclosure
- Mandatory Disclosures
- Project Narrative
- Budget Narrative
- Federal Grant Overview
- Demonstration of need for Department Support



Application - Submission



- Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis until available funds are depleted.
- Application materials must be submitted to the Department via electronic form at https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/18bab21b477b4172a329e334c702 4354.
- The Department is under no obligation to review applications that do not comply with the above requirements.



More Information?



- Federal Grant Support Program https://dceo.illinois.gov/aboutdceo/grantopportunities/3073-2554.html
- <u>Contact for program questions</u>
 Travis Grupe
 Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
 Email <u>CEO.FedGrantMatch@illinois.gov</u>
- <u>Contact for grant or GATA-related questions</u>
 Grants Assistance Help Desk
 Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
 Email <u>CEO.GrantHelp@illinois.gov</u>

Thank You!

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Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity