



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

JB Pritzker, Governor

Illinois Grocery Initiative - Equipment Upgrades NOFO: 3295-2956 Program Application

This Notice of Funding Opportunity also requires the submission of this program application.

1. Provide a brief summary of your project.
2. Provide the address and census tract of the project location. (See census tract lookup at <https://geocoding.geo.census.gov/geocoder/geographies/address?form>) Indicate whether the census tract is currently designated as a food desert. (See USDA map at <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/go-to-the-atlas/>) If not, provide any evidence that the census tract would qualify with updated data. (Forexample, the poverty rate has increased or a recently open grocery has closed.)

3. Specify whether the applicant is an independently owned for-profit grocery store, cooperative grocery store, or not-for-profit grocery store. Please indicate the total employment and number of grocery stores operated by the applicant.

4. Provide documentation of the amount and sources of outside investment in the grocery store and documentation of the Grocery Store's long-term assets and debts. If needed please attach support.

5. Please provide the expected annual percentage of sales at the project location attributable to alcohol and tobacco, including data for the last 3 years as available.

6. Please confirm that the store accepts or will accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits and Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children benefits.

7. Identify the nearest existing grocery store to the project location and estimate the distance between the two locations. Please include supermarkets such as Walmart and Target that sell groceries.

8. Describe why the new or upgraded energy-efficient equipment is needed at the project location and how the Grocery Store proposes to use any award(s) received.

9. Describe how this project will improve energy efficiency at the project location. Note whether equipment is designated as Energy Star and provide any analysis and supporting documentation of energy savings that would result from the project.

10. Describe the impact the project would have on enhancing access to a robust variety of fresh fruits, vegetables, and meats. This should include a discussion of the variety and quality of fresh foods to be made available.

11. Provide a detailed description of the scope of work and how it aligns with the budget provided in the budget template.

12. Provide a timeline for project implementation, including intermediate milestones as appropriate.

13. Describe the project team's experience successfully managing government grants of this nature.

14. Describe the project team's experience successfully managing grocery stores.

15. Identify sources of matching funds and provide documentation that these funds will be available for the project.

16. Provide a list of the individuals providing letters of support (to be uploaded separately), noting their affiliations as appropriate.

This is the last page of the application. Thank You