



HIGH IMPACT BUSINESS

Illinois Grocery Initiative

The goal of the Illinois Grocery Initiative (IGI) is to help grocery operators lower costs, expand access to fresh food, and strengthen Illinois communities. Grantees awarded under the New Stores in Food Deserts or the Equipment Upgrade categories can reduce costs by applying for and receiving a High Impact Business (HIB) designation, which provides long-term benefits. Once approved, grantees gain access to tax credits and exemptions. Designations remain in effect for 20 years, include a 20-year renewal option, and provide sales and utility tax exemptions. Additionally, designees are eligible for one-time tax credits tied to investment and new construction jobs.

DESIGNATION PROCESS

- Request IGI HIB Application
- Apply for designation
- Receive HIB designation
- Utilize Benefits



TAX CREDIT BENEFITS

Investment Tax Credits

- 0.5% of qualified investment
- Blue Color Jobs Act (BCJA)
- Construction jobs tax credits



TAX EXEMPTION BENEFITS

Exemptions from

- Building materials sales taxes
- Electricity and natural gas excise taxes

BENEFIT DURATION

Eligible grantees may apply to DCEO for an HIB designation. The initial term of the designation is 20 years, with an option to extend for an additional 20 years.

LEARN MORE

Ben.Denney@illinois.gov



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity