



## Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

JB Pritzker, Governor



## Guide to Illinois State Agencies for Businesses

This guide provides websites and contacts for key state agencies to help current and aspiring business owners find services and compliance resources.

### Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA)

**Purpose:** Licenses and regulates agricultural-related businesses, including pesticide applicators, livestock dealers, grain warehouses, nurseries, and meat processors. Also manages programs for food safety, industrial hemp production, agritourism, and commercial weighing devices.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-782-2172  
Email: [agr.info@illinois.gov](mailto:agr.info@illinois.gov) or [Contact IDOA](#)
- **Website:** <https://agr.illinois.gov/>

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### Illinois Office of the Attorney General (OAG)

**Purpose:** Enforces state consumer protection laws, oversees charitable organization registration, and provides guidance on business compliance with privacy, fraud, and advertising regulations. Small businesses may interact with this office regarding legal compliance, complaints, or scam prevention.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 800-243-0618 (Consumer Fraud Hotline)  
[Contact Attorney General](#)
- **Website:** <https://www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/>

### Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE)

**Purpose:** Regulates and approves degree-granting institutions and certain vocational schools operating in Illinois. Small businesses involved in postsecondary education or workforce training may need IBHE approval to offer programs or confer credentials.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-782-2551  
Email: [info@ibhe.org](mailto:info@ibhe.org)
  - **Website:** <https://www.ibhe.org/>
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### Illinois Chief Procurement Office (CPO)

**Purpose:** Oversees and regulates procurement activities for various state agencies and universities in Illinois. CPO ensures compliance with the Illinois Procurement Code, promoting transparency, fairness, and efficiency in state purchasing processes.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-622-1633 or 217-622-1857  
Email: [Diana.Siegrist@Illinois.gov](mailto:Diana.Siegrist@Illinois.gov) or [Dianne.Richman@Illinois.gov](mailto:Dianne.Richman@Illinois.gov)
  - **Website:** <https://cpo-general.illinois.gov/content/soi/cpo-general/en.html>
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### Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

**Purpose:** Regulates and licenses businesses and professionals that provide services to children and families, such as daycare centers, foster care agencies, and residential treatment facilities. DCFS ensures compliance with child welfare and family services standards.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-785-2509 (Springfield) or 312-814-6800 (Chicago)  
Email: [dcfs.info@illinois.gov](mailto:dcfs.info@illinois.gov) or [Contact DCFS](#)
  - **Website:** <https://dcfs.illinois.gov/>
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### Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS)

**Purpose:** CMS manages state procurement, vendor services, business certification, and surplus property to support Illinois businesses.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-782-2141 (Springfield) or 312-814-2141 (Chicago)  
Email: [CMS.BEP@illinois.gov](mailto:CMS.BEP@illinois.gov) (for Business Enterprise Program inquiries)
- **Website:** <https://cms.illinois.gov>

## Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO)

**Purpose:** Supports economic development, business growth, and job creation in Illinois. DCEO provides resources, grants, and incentives for small businesses, including assistance with business expansion, workforce development, and energy efficiency programs.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-782-7500 (Springfield) or 312-814-7179 (Chicago)  
[Contact DCEO](#)
  - **Website:** <https://dceo.illinois.gov/>
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## Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC)

**Purpose:** Regulates public utilities, including electricity, natural gas, telecommunications, and water services. The ICC oversees licensing and ensures compliance with state regulations for businesses that operate in these industries. It also provides consumer protection and resolves disputes related to utility services.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 800-524-0795  
[Contact ICC](#)
  - **Website:** <https://www.icc.illinois.gov/>
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## Illinois Commission on Equity and Inclusion (CEI)

**Purpose:** Established to expand access to state contracts for minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and veterans, and to enhance equity and inclusion throughout the state's workforce. CEI oversees the Business Enterprise Program (BEP) and Veterans Business Program (VBP), ensuring fair access to job and contracting opportunities with the State.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 312-814-1054 or 800-356-9206  
[Contact CEI](#)
  - **Website:** <https://cei.illinois.gov/>
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## Illinois Community College Board (ICCB)

**Purpose:** Partners with businesses on workforce development, apprenticeship programs, and customized training through Illinois' community colleges. Supports employer engagement in education and job readiness initiatives.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-785-0123
- **Website:** <https://www.iccb.org/>

### Illinois State Comptroller (IOC)

**Purpose:** Manages the state's fiscal operations, including overseeing payments to vendors and ensuring transparency in state financial transactions. Through initiatives like Smart Business Illinois, the Comptroller's office supports small and minority-owned businesses by providing resources on state procurement processes, certification, and access to contract opportunities.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 800-877-8078  
[Contact State Comptroller](#)
  - **Website:** <https://illinoiscomptroller.gov/>
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### Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA)

**Purpose:** Coordinates the state's response to natural, man-made, or technological disasters, hazards, or acts of terrorism. IEMA develops and maintains emergency operations plans, supports local governments in preparedness and response, and manages disaster mitigation and recovery programs.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-782-2700 / 24-hour Response: 217-782-7860  
[Contact IEMA](#)
  - **Website:** <https://iemaohs.illinois.gov/>
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### Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES)

**Purpose:** Manages unemployment insurance, new hire reporting, and employer tax accounts.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 800-247-4984  
[Contact IDES](#)
  - **Website:** <https://ides.illinois.gov/>
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### Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)

**Purpose:** Issues permits and enforces regulations related to air quality, water discharge, stormwater, hazardous waste, solid waste, and pollution control. Businesses that generate waste, discharge water, or impact air quality may need to apply for permits through IEPA.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-782-3397  
Email: [EPA.ContactUs@illinois.gov](mailto:EPA.ContactUs@illinois.gov)  
[Contact IEPA](#)
- **Website:** <https://epa.illinois.gov/>

### Illinois Finance Authority (IFA)

**Purpose:** Provides access to low-cost capital through tax-exempt bonds, loan programs, and other financing tools to support businesses, nonprofits, and economic development projects in Illinois.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 312-651-1300  
Email: [info@il-fa.com](mailto:info@il-fa.com)  
[Contact IFA](#)
  - **Website:** <https://www.il-fa.com>
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### Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR)

**Purpose:** Licenses professionals such as contractors, real estate agents, and healthcare providers.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: General Assistance: 888-473-4858 / Professional Licensing: 800-560-6420  
[Contact IDFPR](#)
  - **Website:** <https://idfpr.illinois.gov/>
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### Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM)

**Purpose:** Responsible for protecting life and property from fire and explosions through inspection, investigation, training, education, data processing, and statistical fire reports; enforcing fire prevention and building safety codes; licensing fire equipment distributors and employees; and overseeing the certification of fire service personnel.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-785-0969  
[Contact OSFM](#)
  - **Website:** <https://sfm.illinois.gov/>
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### Illinois Gaming Board (IGB)

**Purpose:** Regulates all legal gaming in the state, including casinos, video gaming, and sports wagering, to ensure integrity, compliance, and responsible business practices in the gaming industry.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 312-814-4700  
[Contact IGB](#)
- **Website:** <https://www.igb.illinois.gov>

### Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS)

**Purpose:** Administers Illinois' Medicaid and child support programs. Businesses interact with HFS primarily if they are healthcare providers seeking Medicaid enrollment or employers managing income withholding for child support.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 877-782-5565 (Provider Enrollment) 888-245-1938 (Child Support Employer Line)
  - **Website:** Provider Enrollment: <https://hfs.illinois.gov/impact.html>  
Employers' homepage: <https://hfs.illinois.gov/childsupport/employers.html>
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### Illinois Department of Human Rights (IDHR)

**Purpose:** Enforces state laws that prohibit discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and financial credit. It also provides training and resources to help businesses understand and comply with equal opportunity laws.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-785-5100 (Springfield) 312-814-6200 (Chicago)  
[Contact IDHR](#)
  - **Website:** <https://dhr.illinois.gov/>
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### Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS)

**Purpose:** Works with businesses as service providers, employers in workforce development programs, and partners in community-based initiatives (e.g., behavioral health, disability services, public assistance programs).

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 800-843-6154  
[Contact IDHS](#)
  - **Website:** <https://www.dhs.state.il.us>
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### Illinois Department of Insurance (IDOI)

**Purpose:** Regulates the state's insurance industry, ensuring businesses have access to fair and affordable insurance, while overseeing compliance with coverage requirements such as workers' compensation and liability.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 866-445-5364  
Email: [DOI.InfoDesk@illinois.gov](mailto:DOI.InfoDesk@illinois.gov)
- **Website:** <https://idoi.illinois.gov/>

## Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL)

**Purpose:** Enforces labor laws related to wages, working conditions, and employee rights, ensuring that businesses comply with state regulations on issues like minimum wage, overtime, and workplace safety.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-782-6206 (Springfield) 312-793-2800 (Chicago) 618-993-7090 (Marion)  
[Contact IDOL](#)
  - **Website:** <https://labor.illinois.gov>
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## Illinois Liquor Control Commission (ILCC)

**Purpose:** Regulates the manufacture, distribution, and sale of alcoholic beverages in Illinois. Issues state liquor licenses and ensures compliance with liquor control laws.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-782-2136 (Springfield) or 312-814-2206 (Chicago)  
[Contact ILCC](#)
  - **Website:** <https://ilcc.illinois.gov>
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## Illinois Lottery

**Purpose:** Licenses businesses to sell lottery products, offering a regulated opportunity to increase revenue and foot traffic. It ensures compliance with state laws and provides oversight of retailer operations.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 844-806-8930  
Email: [support@illinoislottery.com](mailto:support@illinoislottery.com)  
[Contact Illinois Lottery](#)
- **Website:** <https://www.illinoislottery.com>

## Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)

### Conservation

**Purpose:** Regulates hunting, fishing, and environmental permits.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-782-6302  
[Contact Us](#)
- **Website:** <https://dnr.illinois.gov/>

### Historic Preservation Division

**Purpose:** Approves projects that impact historic properties in Illinois. Approval is required for work on or near designated sites.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-782-4836  
[Contact Us](#)
- **Website:** <https://dnrhistoric.illinois.gov/>

### Mines & Minerals

**Purpose:** Regulates mining and drilling to ensure business compliance with environmental and safety standards in Illinois.

- **Contact:**  
[Contact Us](#)
- **Website:** <https://dnr.illinois.gov/mines.html>

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## Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)

**Purpose:** Regulates and licenses small businesses in sectors like food service, body art, and childcare to ensure compliance with health and safety standards. It supports business operations by providing guidance on sanitation, disease prevention, and public health requirements.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-782-4977 (Springfield) 312-814-2793 (Chicago)  
[Contact IDPH](#)
- **Website:** <https://dph.illinois.gov>

### Illinois Racing Board (IRB)

**Purpose:** Regulates horse racing and pari-mutuel wagering in the state, issuing licenses to racetracks, owners, trainers, and related businesses. It ensures integrity and compliance within the industry, supporting economic activity tied to racing operations and associated small businesses.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 312-814-2600  
Email: [IRB.Info@illinois.gov](mailto:IRB.Info@illinois.gov)
  - **Website:** <https://irb.illinois.gov/>
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### Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR)

**Purpose:** Handles business tax registration, sales tax, withholding, and other business-related taxes.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-785-3707  
[Contact IDOR](#)
  - **Website:** <https://tax.illinois.gov/businesses/registration.html>
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### Illinois Secretary of State (SOS)

**Purpose:** Handles business entity formation, registration, annual reports, and corporate filings. Businesses interact with the SOS to form LLCs, corporations, and maintain legal status in Illinois.

- **Contact:**  
Phone (Business Services): 800-252-8980  
Email: [Business.Services@ilsos.gov](mailto:Business.Services@ilsos.gov)  
[Contact SOS](#)
  - **Website:** [https://www.ilsos.gov/departments/business\\_services/home.html](https://www.ilsos.gov/departments/business_services/home.html)
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### Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)

**Purpose:** Regulates and approves K–12 education providers, private schools, and service vendors working with Illinois school districts. Businesses must comply with ISBE oversight and approval requirements.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-782-4321 (Springfield) 312-814-2220 (Chicago)
- **Website:** <https://www.isbe.net/>

### Illinois State Board of Elections (SBE)

**Purpose:** Regulates political committees, lobbyists, and campaign finance in Illinois. Businesses in advocacy or lobbying must register and comply with SBE rules.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-782-4141 (Springfield) 312-814-6440 (Chicago)
  - **Website:** <https://www.elections.il.gov/>
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### Illinois State Police (ISP)

**Purpose:** Supports businesses by conducting background checks, ensuring regulatory compliance, and providing law enforcement services. They assist businesses in maintaining safety and security through investigations and enforcement of state laws.

- **Contact:**  
Email: [ISP.Contact@illinois.gov](mailto:ISP.Contact@illinois.gov)  
[Contact ISP](#)
  - **Website:** <https://isp.illinois.gov/>
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### Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)

**Purpose:** Supports businesses by overseeing transportation infrastructure, managing permits for commercial vehicles, and ensuring compliance with road safety regulations. IDOT also facilitates the movement of goods and services across the state, which is crucial for business operations.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 217-782-7820
  - **Website:** <https://www.idot.illinois.gov>
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### Illinois State Treasurer's Office (ISTO)

**Purpose:** Manages state funds and provides businesses with financial services, including unclaimed property recovery and investment opportunities. The office also offers resources to help businesses with financial planning and accessing state-managed funds.

- **Contact:**  
Phone: 866-458-7327  
Email: [treasurer@illinois.gov](mailto:treasurer@illinois.gov)  
[Contact Illinois State Treasurer](#)
- **Website:** <https://www.illinoistreasurer.gov>

### **Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission (IWCC)**

**Purpose:** Oversees the administration of workers' compensation claims, ensuring businesses comply with state laws regarding employee injury and compensation. It provides support to both employers and employees in resolving disputes and processing claims.

- **Contact:**

Phone: 217-785-7087 (Springfield) 312-814-6500 (Chicago)

618-346-3484 (Collinsville) 312-814-6500 (Peoria)

Email: [wcc.compfile@illinois.gov](mailto:wcc.compfile@illinois.gov)

- **Website:** <https://www.iwcc.il.gov>