



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

JB Pritzker, Governor

Business Interruption Grants, Round 2 Eligibility Guidelines

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Businesses must meet the following requirements to be eligible for funds available through the second round of Business Interruption Grants. Note that this is a summary, and further terms that recipients must comply with are outlined in the Business Interruption Grant Program Certifications and Requirements, found [here](#).

- 1) Must be an independently owned and operated for-profit corporation or limited liability corporation, partnership, or sole proprietorship authorized to conduct business in the State of Illinois; OR a 501c3, 501c6, or 501c19 nonprofit;
- 2) Must have been operating for at least three months prior to March 2020.
- 3) Must have had less than \$20 million in gross operating revenue in calendar year 2019, or a pro-rated amount if in operation for less than a year prior to March 2020.
- 4) Must have experienced net operating losses since March 21, 2020.
- 5) Must have been closed or had reduced operations due to government orders, public health guidelines, or depressed consumer demand during the COVID 19 pandemic.
- 6) Must have complied with all relevant laws, regulations, and executive orders from the State and federal government, including the social distancing guidelines as promulgated by the Executive Orders of the Illinois Governor.
- 7) The following businesses are not eligible:
 - a. independent contractors or freelance workers that do not operate a sole proprietorship;
 - b. child care providers that are eligible for [Child Care Restoration Grants](#) (this includes all licensed child care providers; license-exempt child care providers that meet other eligibility guidelines are eligible to apply);
 - c. a private club or business that limits membership for reasons other than capacity;
 - d. a business primarily engaged in speculative activities that develop profits from fluctuations in price rather than through normal course of trade;
 - e. a business that earns more than a quarter of its annual net revenue from lending activities, unless the business is a non-bank or non-bank holding company certified as a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI);
 - f. a business that derives at least 33% of its gross annual revenue from legal gambling activities;
 - g. a business engaged in pyramid sales, where a participant's primary incentive is based on the sales made by an ever-increasing number of participants;

- h. a business engaged in activities that are prohibited by federal law or applicable law in the jurisdiction where the business is located or conducted. (Included in these activities is the production, servicing, or distribution of otherwise legal products that are to be used in connection with an illegal activity, such as selling drug paraphernalia or operating a motel that knowingly permits illegal prostitution);
- i. a business that derives a majority of its income as an owner of real property that leases that property to a tenant or tenants under a lease agreement;
- j. a business principally engaged in teaching, instructing, counseling, or indoctrinating religion or religious beliefs, whether in a religious or secular setting;
- k. a government-owned business entity (except for businesses owned or controlled by a Native American tribe);
- l. a business primarily engaged in political or lobbying activities;
- m. a business that manufactures or sells at wholesale, tobacco products, liquor or that manufactures or sells firearms at wholesale or retail;
- n. a night club or strip club;
- o. an employment agency;
- p. a pawn shop;
- q. a liquor store;
- r. a storage facility or trailer-storage yard or junk yard;
- s. an establishment similar to any enumerated above; or
- t. a business in which a majority owner has a financial or familial connection to a director, principal shareholder or leadership member of the Department or Department's partner under the program.

Highly Impacted Industries

We have identified a set of “Highly Impacted Industries” that have been closed or operating at significantly diminished capacity since March and are likely to continue doing so until we reach Phase 5 of the Restore Illinois plan. Those industries are defined as follows. For nonprofits, exclude donations from the calculation when determining the share of revenues derived from an activity.

- 1) Event Venue
 - a. A business or organization that is engaged in leasing out an on-site location for private events with a capacity that exceeds 100 people. This may include ballrooms, banquet halls, conference centers, and other types of event spaces.
 - b. Over 40% of revenue is derived from event spaces with capacity that exceed 100 people, including space leasing fees, food and beverage, audio/video, and group bookings of rooms related to on-site events.
 - c. Higher education institutions are not eligible as an event center.
- 2) Music Venue
 - a. A business or organization that is a destination for live music consumers and its music programming is a main driver of its attendance, as indicated by the presence of:
 - i. defined performance and audience space,

- ii. mixing desk and PA system,
 - iii. cover charge to some music performance through ticketing or front door entrance fee, and
 - iv. marketing of specific acts through gig listings in printed and/or electronic publications, or visible calendar of events on socials/website.
 - b. Over 50% of revenue is from ticketing and entrance fees, as well as food and beverage sold, to attendees of live music performances.
- 3) Performing Arts Venue
- a. A business or organization that has an on-site theater for performing arts, including for plays, opera, symphony, dance, and other forms of performing arts.
 - b. Over 50% of revenue is from ticketing and entrance fees, as well as food and beverage sold, to attendees of live performing arts performances.
 - c. Organizations primarily operating as educational institutions are not eligible as performing arts venues.
- 4) Indoor Recreation
- a. A business or organization that provides an indoor facility with usable indoor space designated for indoor play or fitness activities. This may include indoor bowling alleys, skating rinks, trampoline parks, indoor playgrounds, field houses, laser tag, arcades, and indoor sports facilities.
 - b. Facility capacity must be greater than 100 people, except for trampoline parks and indoor playgrounds, which are all eligible regardless of capacity.
 - c. Over 50% of revenue is from ticketing and fees to participate in indoor recreation activities and associated services, such as shoe rental.
 - d. Fitness centers and gyms, as defined below in the “Priority Industries” section, are not eligible as indoor recreation facilities.
- 5) Amusement Park
- a. A park, fairground, or recreational and entertainment complex that supplies refreshments and multiple entertainment and recreation activities, which include, but are not exclusive to amusement parks, theme parks, water parks, and attractions.
 - b. Over 50% of revenue is derived from ticketing and fees for admissions, including memberships, as well as services provided to participants.
- 6) Movie Theater
- a. An indoor theater where movies are shown for public entertainment.
 - b. Over 50% of revenue is derived from ticketing and fees for admission.
- 7) Museum
- a. An institution or entity located in Illinois that is:
 - i. operated by a 501 (c)(3) organization (that is not owned or operated by a government entity);
 - ii. operated primarily for educational, scientific, historic preservation, cultural, or aesthetic purposes; and
 - iii. owns, borrows, cares for, exhibits, studies, archives, or catalogs property.
- 8) Charter/Shuttle Bus Service

- a. A business that provides transportation, including the bus and driver, for to transport a group of people from one location to another. These businesses include charter buses, interurban and rural buses, and shuttle services.
- b. Over 50% of revenue is derived from ticketing and fees for passenger transport.

Priority Industries

Outside of the highly impacted industries listed above, there are a set of “Priority Industries” that – although they have not experienced long-term shutdowns in the same way that highly impacted industries have – continue to experience significantly depressed demand as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic. Those industries are defined as follows. For nonprofits, exclude donations from the calculation when determining the share of revenues derived from an activity.

- 1) Independently-owned retail
 - a. Business consists of at least one physical establishment that provides goods for sale on-site to end users.
 - b. Excludes:
 - i. Franchises
 - ii. Chains with more than 3 locations
 - c. Over 80% of revenue is derived from retail sales of goods to end users.
- 2) Restaurant, bar, or tavern
 - a. Business consists of at least one physical establishment licensed to prepare and serve food and/or beverages for on-site consumption;
 - b. Over 80% of revenue is derived from food and beverage sales.
- 3) Fitness center
 - a. Business consists of at least one physical establishment that is open to members or the general public to participate in activities related to physical fitness on-site;
 - b. Business has a current membership agreement or liability waiver required of all health and fitness centers open to the public.
 - c. This does not include the following businesses:
 - i. businesses primarily engaged in indoor recreation (see definition above);
 - ii. businesses that exclusively provide mobile or remote services and do not operate a physical establishment where members or the public engage in physical fitness activities on-site;
 - d. Over 80% of revenue is derived from fees, including membership fees, to participate in fitness activities.
- 4) Tourism- and travel-related activities, including lodging and accommodations
 - a. Includes businesses that provide services related to travel and tourism. This includes short-term vehicle rentals, passenger transport, accommodations (hotels, motels, bed & breakfasts), tourism promotion, campgrounds, agritourism, tourist guides, tour operators, and travel agents.
 - b. Over 80% of revenue must be derived from activities related to tourism and travel, as defined here.

- c. This does not include retail establishments, restaurants, or service providers that are located in areas that are frequented by tourists that do not participate in tourism-related activities described above.
- 5) Support services for arts and events
- a. Businesses that provide services for events and for performing arts. These include design, sound, equipment rental or preparation, casting, hair and makeup, talent management, booking agents, caterers, photographers/videographers, event planners, florists, and printers.
 - b. Over 50% of revenue must be derived from performing the activities listed above for the purposes of an event or performing arts performance.