

**State of Illinois Uniform Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
Summary Information**

Awarding Agency Name	Commerce And Econ Opp
Agency Contact	Wendy Bell (wendy.bell@illinois.gov)
Announcement Type	Initial
Type of Assistance Instrument	Grant
Funding Opportunity Number	RIREG
Funding Opportunity Title	Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Grant Program
CSFA Number	420-75-2374
CSFA Popular Name	N/A
Anticipated Number of Awards	0
Estimated Total Program Funding	\$16,500,000
Award Range	\$250000 - \$2000000
Source of Funding	State
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirements	No
Indirect Costs Allowed	Yes
Restrictions on Indirect Costs	No
Posted Date	03/09/2020
Application Date Range	General announcement open for a period of time with no specific due dates for applications.
Grant Application Link	
Technical Assistance Session	No

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Program

NOFO ID: 2374-1363

Agency-specific Content for the Notice of Funding Opportunity

Please refer to Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Application Guidebook and Forms for specific application information and program details; available at the end of this Notice of Funding Opportunity or at:

<https://www.illinois.gov/dceo/CommunityServices/CommunityInfrastructure/Pages/default.aspx>

A. Program Description

The Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Program is a new initiative funded by Public Act 101-0029. This program will provide grants to strengthen local economies and encourage the development of industry clusters.

See Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Guidebook for a complete description, requirements, and application and scoring criteria.

B. Funding Information

This award utilizes capital grant funds to fund regional economic development projects based upon the criteria included in Governor Pritzker's Five-Year Economic Development Plan. The State has allocated \$16,500,000 in Rebuild Illinois funds to the Regional Economic Development (RIRED) component. A grant ceiling of \$2,000,000 per project has been established. Grants for less than \$250,000 will not be awarded,

If selected to receive a grant, grantee must utilize an administrator that has demonstrable grant administration experience. DCEO will evaluate the selected administrator's qualifications.

Details regarding specific eligible and ineligible grant activities are found in Section B & C of the Guidebook.

The release of this NOFO does not obligate the Department to make an award.

C. Eligibility Information

An entity may not apply for a grant until the entity has pre-qualified through the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Grantee Portal, www.grants.illinois.gov. Applicants must register their agency on the GATA Grantee Portal to verify pre-qualification requirements. The portal will verify that the entity:

- Has a valid FEIN number;
- Has a valid DUNS number;
- Has a current SAM.gov account;• 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; and
- Is not on the Department of Healthcare and Family Services Provider Sanctions list.

An automated email notification to the entity alerts them of "qualified" status or informs how to remediate a negative verification (e.g., inactive DUNS, not in good standing with the Secretary of State). A federal Debarred and Suspended status cannot be remediated.

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1. Eligible Applicants include:

- Units of general local government recognized by the Illinois Constitution (i.e., cities, villages, townships and counties).
- Local Economic Development Organizations
- Local Non-Profits able to support project activities on a sufficient scale
- Private Company demonstrating the ability to coordinate the project and comply with all requirements.

All applicants must be registered and have completed the Internal Control Questionnaire (ICQ) for the current year available at: <https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/> prior to application submission.

Grantee may be required to incur costs related to audit requirements.

See Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Guidebook Section A

The Department complies with all applicable provisions of state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to nondiscrimination, sexual harassment and equal employment opportunity including, but not limited to: The Illinois Human Rights Act (775 ILCS 5/1-101 et seq.), The Public Works Employment Discrimination Act (775 ILCS 10/1 et seq.), The United States Civil Rights Act of 1964 (as amended) (42 USC 2000a-and 2000H-6), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 794), The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC 12101 et seq.), and The Age Discrimination Act (42 USC 6101 et seq.).

2. Cost Sharing or Matching.

Cost sharing or matching is not required for this program but those who leverage or match Rebuild Illinois funds with other sources will receive points in scoring. If applicants utilize other funding sources in addition to the grant award, they must include these funds on the uniform budget.

See Rebuild Illinois Guidebook Section J.

3. Indirect Cost Rate.

In order to charge indirect costs to a grant, the applicant organization must have an annually negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA). There are three types of NICRAs:

- a) Federally Negotiated Rate. Organizations that receive direct federal funding, may have an indirect cost rate that was negotiated with the Federal Cognizant Agency. Illinois will accept the federally negotiated rate. The organization must provide a copy of the federally NICRA.
- b) State Negotiated Rate. The organization must negotiate an indirect cost rate with the State of Illinois if they do not have a Federally Negotiated Rate. Or the organization may elect to use the De Minimis Rate. If an organization has not previously established an indirect cost rate, an indirect cost rate proposal must be submitted to the State of Illinois, no later than three months after the effective date of the award. If an organization previously established an indirect cost rate, the organization must annually submit a new indirect cost proposal within six months after the close of the grantee's fiscal year. All grantees must complete an indirect cost rate negotiation or elect the De Minimis Rate to claim indirect costs. Indirect costs claimed without an established negotiated rate or a De Minimis Rate election may be subject to disallowance.

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- c) De Minimis Rate. An organization that has never received a Federally Negotiated Rate may elect a De Minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct cost (MTDC). Once established, the De Minimis rate may be used indefinitely. The State of Illinois must verify the calculation of the MTDC annually in order to accept the De Minimis rate.

All grantees must complete an indirect cost rate negotiation or elect the De Minimis Rate to claim indirect costs. Indirect costs claimed without a negotiated rate or a De Minimis Rate election on record in the State of Illinois' centralized indirect cost rate system may be subject to disallowance.

Limitations on indirect costs restrict the amount and/or type of indirect costs that are allowed to be charged to grant awards. Indirect cost limitations and restrictions must be clearly stated in this section. For example, the grant award may be subject to state and federal statutory requirements that limit the allowability of costs. The maximum amount allowable under a limitation cannot exceed the total amount under the NICRA. State and federal statutes may restrict the amount of salary that can be charged to a grant award, if the base salary exceeds the Federal Executive Level II Pay Scale. If additional statutory restrictions or limitations are imposed, such as parameters for direct administrative costs, facility costs, and indirect administrative cost levels, those restrictions or limitations must be stated in this section. The statutory reference or guidance imposing the indirect cost limitation or restriction must also be stated within this section.

Grantees have discretion and can elect to waive payment for indirect costs. Grantees that elect to waive payments for indirect costs cannot be reimbursed for indirect costs. The organization must record an election to "Waive Indirect Costs" into the State of Illinois centralized indirect cost rate system.

4. Other, if applicable.

Indirect costs are not allowed to be paid with Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development funds. See Section C of the Guidebook.

D. Application and Submission Information

1. Address to Request Application Package.

Grant application forms are available at the web link provided in the "Grant Application Link" field of this announcement or by contacting the Office of Community Development.

Office of Community Development
Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
500 East Monroe
Springfield, IL 62701
Tele: 217-785-6174
Email: ceo.ocd@illinois.gov

2. Content and Form of Application Submission.

Applicants must complete:

PROJECT INFORMATION

Letter of Transmittal from Chief Elected Official
State of Illinois-DCEO Uniform Grant Application
Project Information
GATA Capital Budget

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Engineer's Cost Estimate
Project Maps
FEMA Issued Floodplain Map
Project Summary
Project Readiness Summary
Job Creation Documentation
Minority Benefit/Affirmative Housing Statement

DOCUMENTATION, CERTIFICATIONS, RESOLUTIONS

Signed Letters of Support
Council Commitment of Funds (*If using local funds*)
Resident Participation/Public Hearings materials (if applicable)
Local Government Certifications
Mandatory Disclosures
Conflict of Interest Disclosure

ATTACHMENTS

Firm documentation of commitment from leveraging source(s)
Copy of Construction Permit(s)
Proof of Land Ownership (if applicable)
Control of Right of Way/Easements (if applicable)
Copy of Option to Purchase (if applicable)
Copy of Fair Housing Resolution
W-9
SAM Registration (CAGE #)
IRS Certification Letter

Details of the application requirements are found in Section J of the Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Guidebook.

All grant application materials **must** be:

- Typed (except for signatures and maps)
- Clipped together with a large binder clip on the top.
- Contained in three brown legal-size, open-top (no foldovers with cords or ties) expandable folders
(One marked "original," and two marked "copy")
- Labeled with a 2"x 4" white label, placed in the top right-hand corner of the folder with the following information:
 - Name of Applicant
 - Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development
 - Original or Copy

For Example:

VILLAGE OF ABRACADABRA
Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development
Original

DO NOT USE: dividers, staples, binders, folders or other methods of containment.

Submit the original and two complete copies. Include all of the following:

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- All Application Materials (Application Forms and documentation). Please clearly label the original.

NOTE: All application materials requiring a signature from the applicant must be signed by the Chief Elected Official.

All applicants should complete the application package and submit all requested material to the Department's Springfield Office at:

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
Office of Community Development
500 East Monroe Street, Mail Code: R-2
Springfield, Illinois 62701

Facsimile submissions will not be accepted.

See Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Guidebook Section N.

3. Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number and System for Award Management (SAM).

Each applicant (unless the applicant is an individual or Federal or State awarding agency that is exempt from those requirements under 2 CFR § 25.110(b) or (c), or has an exception approved by the Federal or State awarding agency under 2 CFR § 25.110(d)) is required to:

- (i) Be registered in SAM before submitting its application. To establish a SAM registration, go to www.SAM.gov and/or utilize this instructional link: [How to Register in SAM from the www.grants.illinois.gov Resource Links tab](#).
- (ii) Provide a valid DUNS number in its application; and
- (iii) Continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal, Federal pass-through or State award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal or State awarding agency. The State awarding agency may not make a Federal pass-through or State award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable DUNS and SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time the State awarding agency is ready to make a Federal pass-through or State award, the State awarding agency may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal pass-through or State award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal pass-through or State award to another applicant.

4. Submission Dates and Times.

Applications for the Competitive RIREP component may be made at any time after the Notice of Funding Opportunity is posted and until all available funding is exhausted. See Submission Information for details.

See Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Guidebook Section M

5. Intergovernmental Review, if applicable.

N/A

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6. Funding Restrictions.

Details regarding specific eligible and ineligible grantees and grant activities are found in Section A, B and C of the Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Guidebook.

7. Other Submission Requirements.

N/A

E. Application Review Information

1. Criteria.

Projects will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Project Impact (30% of overall score)
- Creation of Jobs (22.5% of overall score)
- Regional Benefit (20% of overall score)
- Regional Support (17.5% of overall score)
- Project Readiness (10% of overall score)

Failure to provide complete application information will result in a determination of “Do Not Fund”

See Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Guidebook Section L for details of the ranking criteria and scoring process.

2. Review and Selection Process.

The screening and review process for the program is designed to ensure that limited funds are awarded to communities that demonstrate the need for financial assistance and have a well-designed project. The actual number and types of awards will be subject to funding availability and the amount of each applicant's request.

The Department will review all applications as follows:

- Applications will be evaluated according to the Ranking Criteria described in this section of the application guide.
- Applications should meet a scoring threshold of 90 points in order to be funded. Applications with sufficient merit receiving less than 90 points may be considered for funding.
- The Department reserves the right to perform a site visit.
- To maximize impact, the Department intends to provide awards in each of the following five geographic areas identified as DCEO Economic Development Regions:
 - Northeast Region
 - The combination of Northern Stateline and Northwest Regions
 - West Central and North Central Regions
 - East Central, Central and Southeast Regions
 - Southwest and Southern Regions

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Projects must be qualified based on identified ranking criteria.

- All recommendations are forwarded to the Director of the Department who makes the final funding decisions.

See Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Guidebook Section K for details.

F. Award Administration Information

1. State Award Notices.

Successful applicants will receive a Notice of State Award Finalist (NOSAF) specifying terms and conditions of the grant. This will include completion of a Programmatic Risk Assessment Questionnaire (PRAQ) to be answered by the Grantee and, completion of Environmentals, and clearance of special conditions resulting from the application review. Grantees are expected to meet all special grant conditions within 90 days of the NOSAF date.

Once terms are accepted, and the conditions met, the Grantee will receive a Notice of State Award (NOSA). The Notice of State Award will specify the funding terms and specific conditions resulting from the pre-award risk assessments. The NOSA must be approved in the GATA Portal by an authorized representative of the grantee organization. The NOSA is not an authorization to begin performance or incur costs.

See Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Guidebook Section H.

2. **Administrative and National Policy Requirements. Code of Federal Regulations / Title 2 - Grants and Agreements / Vol. 1 / 2014-01-01194**

See Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Guidebook Sections E, F and G.

3. Reporting.

Grantees will be responsible to complete multiple reports during the term of the grant, and potentially after the grant has closed. This will include but is not limited to quarterly financial and performance reports, closeout report, documentation of the project's impact including job creation, and a single audit.

See Rebuild Illinois Regional Economic Development Guidebook Section I.

G. State Awarding Agency Contact(s)

Office of Community Development
Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
500 East Monroe
Springfield, IL 62701
Tele: 217-785-6174
Email: ceo.ocd@illinois.gov

H. Other Information, if applicable

Additional program information, including presentations concerning program application is available at: <https://www.illinois.gov/dceo/CommunityServices/CommunityInfrastructure/Pages/default.aspx>