

Agency-specific Content for the Notice of Funding Opportunity

Rebuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas

NOFO ID: 2437-1644

A. Program Description

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) sets forth the requirements of the **Rebuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas** program. **This is a new initiative funded by Public Act 101-0638 and Public Act 101-0637.**

The Department seeks a grantee to implement and administer the **Rebuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas** Program for eligible and deserving projects in their region. Each grantee will be required to demonstrate that there have been multiple instances of property damage due to civil unrest during protests and demonstrations on or after May 25, 2020, and the capacity to provide and oversee capital grants to reimburse businesses for completed work or coordinate and hire qualified vendors to perform repairs. The successful grantee(s) will be responsible for soliciting, evaluating, and selecting project applications from eligible Illinois entities in their region, and for overseeing these projects to completion.

The intent of this program is to support Illinois businesses that have sustained property damage as a result of civil unrest during protests and demonstrations on or after May 25, 2020. The capital funds will be used to reimburse businesses for significant repairs to property that has already occurred or will fund repairs or new construction performed by qualified vendors in order to help the business and community recover as quickly as possible. The successful applicants will be awarded funds in the form of a grant by the DCEO and henceforth be known as a Grantee. This opportunity will have two components.

- Funds to make repairs or perform new construction through the **Rebuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas** program will be from the Rebuild Illinois Program funded by Public Act 101-0638.
- Funds for administrative expenses incurred by the Grantee will be from Community Development Grants, funded by Public Act 101-0637 for the purpose of making subgrants and loans to promote business and community development. These funds can be used to reimburse costs of administration and outreach to promote community and business development. An applicant may apply for an amount of up to 5% of the capital support disbursed by that Grantee.

Applications from Grantees will be accepted for the two-week period from the time this Notice of Funding Opportunity is posted.

Oversight will include reporting on the expenditure of funds and the specific improvements rendered. Using the Periodic Financial Report (PFR) and Periodic Performance Report (PPR) templates, and providing all required detailed supporting information including the expense tracking spreadsheet, the grantees must be able to document and report the extent to which subgrants and other capital projects have supported Illinois businesses that have sustained damage as a result of civil unrest during protests and demonstrations on or after May 25, 2020.

This grant will include a Business Enterprise Program goal, as required by State law (30 ILCS 575/0.01 *et seq*). The law establishes a goal for contracting with businesses that have been certified as owned or controlled by persons who are minority, female, or who have disabilities. The final BEP goal will be determined at grant agreement. Grantees are strongly encouraged to utilize qualified state, county, or municipal BEP, minority business enterprise (MBE), women business enterprise (WBE), veterans or disabled vendors (hereafter "BEP") to make repairs or perform new construction for eligible businesses. For reference, [a list of state approved vendors is maintained by CMS](#).

The Department also encourages that qualified vendors that make repairs or perform new construction to be from the local community or be residents of Illinois, and utilize labor from the local community or be residents of Illinois. During periods of high unemployment, Illinois law requires that projects funded or financed with State funds use Illinois labor at 90% of the project's labor force. (30 ILCS 570/3)

Scope of Work for Grantee

The primary responsibility of the grantees will be to solicit, evaluate, and select project applications from eligible Illinois entities in their region and oversee these projects for completion.

Grantees will disburse capital funds for projects in two ways:

1. **Subgrants**: Grantees will provide subgrants to reimburse businesses directly for completed work that occurred prior to the issuance of this grant program.
 - a. Reimbursable expenses will be capped at 30% of the capital grant award amount.
 - b. Subgrants that reimburse businesses for work previously performed can only be provided for work that has begun prior to the date when the grantee first begins to receive applications.
2. **New projects**: Grantees will coordinate and hire qualified vendors to make repairs or perform new construction for eligible entities. All projects that begin after the date when the grantee first begins to receive applications must be completed through this process.

For subgrants that are used for reimbursable expenses, grantees are expected to:

- evaluate that businesses meet the eligibility requirements (described below),
- the project work was for an eligible use (described below),
- collect and evaluate required documentation to ensure project work is for qualified use
- provide subgrant funds to business
- maintain project and cost controls

For new projects, grantees are expected to:

- evaluate that the entities meet the eligibility requirements (described below)
- the project work is for an eligible use (described below)
- collect and evaluate required documentation to ensure project work is for a qualified use
- coordinate and hire eligible vendor to perform repair and new construction work
- oversee project completion and satisfaction
- maintain project and cost controls

Capital subgrants and new projects can range from \$1,000 to \$200,000. The Department may allow larger subgrants for certain industries/business types to address community needs. The Department must provide approval for awards over \$200,000. Funded projects must occur in Illinois. Grantees will be expected to begin receiving applications within two weeks of completing a grant agreement and to have awarded all grant funds within one year of completing a grant agreement.

Rebuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas - Subgrant and New Project Management

Entities meeting the following characteristics will be eligible to apply for subgrants and new projects:

1. Be located in an area that DCEO has identified is eligible for Rebuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas grants. The list of zip codes eligible for capital grants will be posted to DCEO's website at a future date.
2. Businesses – including nonprofits – that have sustained property damage or destruction as a result of civil unrest during protests or demonstrations on or after May 25, 2020. Types of businesses will include, but not limited to:
 - a. Convenience retail store
 - b. Grocery/specialty food store
 - c. Pharmacy

- d. Personal services (i.e. dry cleaners, laundromats, barber shops, salons, spas)
 - e. Professional services (i.e. doctors, lawyers, accountants, real estate brokerage)
 - f. Restaurant/Tavern
 - g. Soft Goods Retails (i.e. apparel/shoes/home furnishing/books/gifts/novelties)
 - h. Industrial/warehouse
 - i. Other
3. The Department encourages grantees to prioritize subgrants and new projects to small business owners under 50 employees, women and minority-owned business owners, those who are uninsured or underinsured, grocery stores and pharmacies, and those living in communities with a history of disinvestment.

Eligible Uses

Subgrants from this program must be used to reimburse a business for expenses incurred for a capital project to recover from damage sustained as a result of civil unrest during protests and demonstrations on or after May 25, 2020. The capital project must have begun prior to the date when the grantee first makes applications available to the public.

New projects entail hiring qualified contractors to make new repairs or perform new construction to recover from damage sustained as a result of civil unrest during protests and demonstrations on or after May 25, 2020.

Eligible project expenses include major and durable repair of an asset. Routine or reoccurring operational or maintenance costs and restocking of inventory are not eligible expenses.

Eligible costs of the program must meet the requirements of a bondable expenditure. Bondable expenditures are infrastructure related and are:

- not reoccurring;
- can be characterized as durable or not readily consumed in use;
- reflect an extended useful life or longevity which effect confers long-term (non-transitory) benefits to the citizens of the State of Illinois;
- are not subject to inherent risk of failure, rapid technological obsolescence, or primarily intended to fulfill temporary requirements or needs;
- appreciably increases, improves, or enhances the equitable interests of the State of Illinois in capital facilities, land, permanent improvements, and related assets;
- are considered as internal components of a project, which if considered separately may not reflect extended useful life, but will be bondable provided that such components are initially required and appreciably contribute to effective functioning, or are otherwise incapable of separation from a more complex unit which in itself is bondable.

For the ReBuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas grant program, the department sees the following uses as bondable and eligible under the program:

- structural repair or reconstruction of existing building structure, storefronts, entrances, doors, and brickwork;
- total repair/replacement of roofing and windows;
- total replacement and installation of security shutters, lighting systems, electrical systems;
- building additions and other exterior work which will extend the building's useful life.

Ineligible expenses for the ReBuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas grant program:

- operating costs, including insurance, utilities, management fees, maintenance;

NOFO ID: 2437-1644

- minor touch-ups including painting, patching a roof, changing lightening fixtures, etc. as the sole project request;
- routine or reoccurring operational costs;
- expenses that have already been reimbursed through a separate grant program or insurance claim.

There are no cost sharing or matching requirements for this grant program.

Subgrantee and New Project Application Submission Information

Grantees will be required to receive applications for capital funds from entities in their region. Applications should be simple in nature and should not require an applicant to seek assistance from grant professionals. Subgrantee and new project applicants will be required to submit the following information when applying for a **Rebuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas** grant program:

PROJECT INFORMATION FOR ALL PROJECTS

Contact information

Type of Entity

Copy of the most current bank statement for the business

Photos of damage

Police Report or other documentation that damage was sustained due to civil unrest

Project narrative/damage summary

- This description should include detailed summary of all clean-up/recovery actions that have taken place or are needed, and a detailed description of the damaged sustained.

Insurance

- Details about insurance the business had related to property damage, including coverage, deductible, or anticipated or previously received payout from insurance company. If an insurance company is denying any payments, applicants are required to include that documentation.
- If applicant claims they have no insurance coverage, they are required to provide a notarized letter stating that.

Business Information

- Number of years in business;
- If the business is or was unable to open due to damage, and the anticipated or actual duration of closure due to damage;
- how many full-time employees currently at the business, and at the business in February 2020;
- if the business is owned or leased (if leased, landlord contact information)

Financial Need

- Applicant should describe the financial need of the business, if the business would not be able to recover without this funding
- Applicants may be required to submit verification including but not limited to a notarized letter attesting that no other funds (grants, public funds, etc.) were previously allocated/approved to repair the damage.

PROJECT INFORMATION FOR REIMBURSED PROJECTS

Receipts/Invoices:

- work in-progress, completed, or contracted work; supplies or equipment that was purchased or rented; or other needs of the business in response to clean-up and rebuild.
- Applicant must provide description of use or supplies needed for each receipt.

ATTACHMENTS

Proof of ownership (if applicable)

Contact for landlord (if applicable)
W-9

Review Criteria

The criteria below will be used to evaluate all subgrantee and new project applications requesting funding under the **Rebuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas** program.

Project Benefit (information to be provided in Project Summary)
Three factors will be considered under this criterion:

a. Project Need – Project need is defined as the inability of the business to rebuild after sustaining damages from rioting and looting that occurred during protests on or after May 25, 2020. Describe in sufficient detail the need for the assistance and the specific role of requested funding, including any other options which have been pursued.

Evidence of need is demonstrated through a well-developed justification for public financing demonstrating a financial gap argument. Businesses need to demonstrate how the funding will allow their building to reopen. The discussion should also address why other financing options could not be obtained or are not feasible and repercussions if funding is denied.

b. Financial Feasibility – Determination must be made as to how requested funds can address the business's need to accomplish the needed repairs.

c. Commitments for Job Retention and Reopening - Provide estimated date of reopening business upon receiving funds and details from the employer regarding the number of permanent jobs to be retained and types of positions. If the business is unable to reopen due to the Governor's Restore Illinois Plan, the business will provide a notarized commitment letter stating intention to reopen when entering the appropriate phase of Restore Illinois.

B. Funding Information

This grant program is utilizing state funds appropriated by the Illinois General Assembly through Public Act 101-0638 and Public Act 101-0637. Applications from Grantees will be accepted for a two-week period from the time the Notice of Funding Opportunity is posted.

There are two sources of funding available in this NOFO.

- The total amount of grant funds available for administrative and outreach expenses to manage the grant program will be up to 5% of the capital grant amount awarded for repairs and new construction. These funds can be used for administrative and outreach costs.
- Capital grant funds to fund rebuild projects for businesses that experienced damage during rioting and looting during protests that began on May 25, 2020. The State has allocated \$25,000,000 in Rebuild Illinois capital funds to the Rebuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas program to fund rebuild projects for businesses that have experienced damage during the civil unrest that took place during protests and demonstrations on or after May 25, 2020.

Grantee applicants must submit a project narrative that describes in detail how the award will be executed. The project narrative should include enough information for DCEO to understand the scope of the project; the budget, including detailed breakdown of the costs associated with each budget line; and any additional necessary detail to enable DCEO to manage the grant agreement activity against planned project performance. Detailed breakdown of tasks and timeline is required. The Project Narrative must include demonstration of administering grant funds, demonstration of need, administrative capacity,

administrative costs, and a descriptive proposal for the **Rebuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas program** as described in Section E.1.

DCEO will make multiple awards under this program. Each grantee will be required to propose a region for which they will perform outreach and receive applications, providing evidence that businesses in that region experienced significant property damage in the time period described. The regions must fall into an area that has been identified by DCEO as an area eligible to receive ReBuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas capital funds. Only one award will be provided in a given region.

Eligible Uses For Administrative Grant

The award for administrative costs and outreach can be used for grantee operating costs, included direct and indirect expenditures related to the ReBuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas program, contractual and consulting expenses of technical assistance and community outreach, and other expenditures approved by the department as contingent costs of delivering the program.

- Funds awarded to individual businesses for capital projects must be used to reimburse a business for expenses incurred, or to hire qualified vendors to make repairs or perform new construction due to damages sustained as a result of civil unrest during protests and demonstrations on or after May 25, 2020. Eligible projects expenses include major and durable repair of an asset. Routine or reoccurring operational or maintenance costs and restocking of inventory are not eligible expenses. More details on eligible uses for capital projects for subgrants and new projects is listed above.

There are no cost sharing or matching requirements for this grant program.

For new projects, the Grantee must ensure competitive cost controls for the project. The Grantee will be required to obtain cost quotes or estimates from at least two qualified vendors that includes an itemized cost estimate for anticipated work, supplies or equipment that will be purchases or rented, or other expected needs for the business in response to clean-up and rebuild.

Grantees will be expected to begin receiving applications within two weeks of completing a grant agreement and to have awarded all grant funds within one year of completing a grant agreement.

Applicants must submit a project narrative that describes in detail how the award will be executed. The project narrative should include enough information for DCEO to understand the scope of the project, the budget, including a detailed breakdown of the costs associated with each budget line and any additional necessary detail to enable DCEO to manage the grant agreement activity against planned project performance. The Project Narrative must include evidence of capacity, quality and need as defined in Section E.1.

Agreement(s) and budget(s) with subrecipients and subcontractors must be pre-approved by and on file with DCEO. Agreements can be submitted to DCEO when available. Subcontractors and subrecipients are subject to all applicable provisions of the Agreement(s) executed between DCEO and the grantee. The successful applicant shall retain sole responsibility for the performance of its subrecipient(s) and/or subcontractor(s).

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

C. Eligibility Information

An entity must be pre-qualified through the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Grantee Portal, www.grants.illinois.gov/portal at the time of grant application.

Applicants must register their agency on the GATA Grantee Portal to verify compliance with 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.

Pursuant to the policy of the Illinois Office of the Comptroller, to receive grant funds from the State of Illinois, a grantee must be considered a regarded entity by the IRS for federal income tax purposes. Disregarded entities will not be eligible to receive grant funds.

1. Eligible Applicants include:

Eligible applicants include local governments; non-profit organizations; chambers of commerce; county, local, or regional economic development organizations; community development financial institutions; or organizations or associations that have demonstrated experience administering grants of this kind.

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.

There are no cost sharing or matching requirements for this grant program.

3. Indirect Cost Rate.

Note that funds that the grantee provides to individual businesses for repairs and upgrades are limited to capital improvement expenses. Those funds may not be used to compensate for indirect costs, overhead or administrative expenses associated with the execution of the program.

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 may negotiate an indirect cost rate with the State of Illinois if they do not have a Federally Negotiated Rate. If an organization has not previously established in indirect cost rate, an indirect cost rate proposal must be submitted through State of

Illinois' centralized indirect cost rate system no later than three months after receipt of a Notice of State Award (NOSA). If an organization previously established an indirect cost rate, the organization must annually submit a new indirect cost proposal through CARS within six to nine months after the close of the grantee's fiscal year, depending on the grantee's audit type requirements.

c) De Minimis Rate. An organization that has never negotiated an indirect cost rate with the Federal Government of the State of Illinois is eligible to 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.

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.

Business Enterprise Program: For grant awards of \$250,000 or more, the grantee will be required to comply with the Business Enterprise Program for Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities Act (30 ILCS 575/0.01 *et seq.*), which establishes a goal for contracting with businesses that have been certified as owned and controlled by persons who are minority, female or who have disabilities. The Department and the Capital Development Board will work with the grantee to ensure compliance prior to the establishment of the grant agreement as well as through the life of the grant.

Environmental Review Requirements: Capital grants will be reviewed to determine environmental review requirements. Based on the scope of the project, the grantee may be required to complete additional environmental approvals before a grant agreement can be initiated.

Illinois Works Jobs Program Act (30 ILCS 559/20-1 *et seq.*): For grants with an estimated total project cost of \$500,000 or more, the grantee will be required to comply with the Illinois Works Apprenticeship Initiative (30 ILCS 559/20-20 to 20-25) and all applicable administrative rules. The "estimated total project cost" is a good faith approximation at the time an applicant submits to the Department a grant application of the costs of an entire project being paid for in whole or in part by appropriated capital funds to construct a public work. The goal of the Illinois Apprenticeship Initiative is that apprentices will perform either 10% of the total labor hours actually worked in each prevailing wage classification or 10% of the estimated labor hours in each prevailing wage classification, whichever is less. Grantees will be permitted to seek from the Department a waiver or reduction of this goal in certain circumstances pursuant to 30 ILCS 559/20-20(b). The grantee must ensure compliance for the life of the entire project, including during the term of the grant and after the term ends, if applicable, and will be required to report on and certify its compliance.

Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/0.01 *et seq.*): Applicants that are awarded grants shall comply with all requirements of the Prevailing Wage Act, including but not limited to, inserting into all contracts for construction a stipulation to the effect that not less than the prevailing rate of wages as applicable to the project shall be paid to all laborers, workers, and mechanics performing work under the award and requiring all bonds of contractors to include a provision as will guarantee the faithful performance of such prevailing wage clause as provided by

contract. Grantees will be required to report on Prevailing Wage Act compliance on a monthly basis.

Applicants may only submit (1) one application for this program.

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 Program Manager:

David E. Parr
Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
Office of Grants Management
500 E. Monroe St.
Springfield, IL 62701-1643
Mobile: 217-685-1197
Office: 217-524-5199
Email: CEO.OGMgrants@illinois.gov

2. Content and Form of Application Submission.

A standard application package must be submitted and reviewed by the Department. Each package should contain the following items:

1. Uniform Grant Application in fillable PDF format. (print, sign and scan signature page with submission)
2. Uniform Capital Budget utilizing the template provided by DCEO for this project. The entire budget with all worksheets included even if the worksheets are not relevant to the grant opportunity must be submitted with the application materials. (print, sign and scan signature page with submission)
3. Conflict of Interest Disclosure
4. Mandatory Disclosures

The project narrative should include the following:

1. **Summary of the structure of the applicant organization**, including (1) identification of the organization's leadership team and a description of their responsibilities, (2) a summary of the organizations core skills and competencies, (3) identification of relevant experience and skill sets of staff who will be assigned responsibility over the program, and (4) other factors that make the application organization well-suited for overseeing a grant program for reimbursable expenses.
2. An assessment of the applicant's experience **working with communities in low-income, distressed areas**.
3. An assessment of the applicant's **administrative capacity to run a grant program**, including (1) the organization's experience overseeing voucher or grant programs pertaining to economic development and/or capital projects, and (2) a demonstration the applicant has a good understanding of **Rebuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas** program management requirements and will commit resources necessary to successfully complete responsibilities.
4. A demonstration of **need for a capital grant program for distressed communities**, including identification of the region in which the grantee would operate the program, evidence that region has been impacted by property damage during recent civil unrest, an estimate of the number of businesses facing obstacles in that region to funding to repair

destroyed property and capital, an estimate of the scale of damage that was performed in that region, and understanding of economic impact grant program will have on impacted areas.

5. A complete itemized budget and discussion of administration costs therein.
6. A description of the intended outreach program and the applicant's plan to reach applicants.
7. A description of the applicant's ability and plan to offer technical assistance to subgrantees or applicants for new projects with completing applications, acquiring cost estimates, assisting with application submission, and other assistance that may be needed by the subgrantee or applicant for new project when applying for funding.
8. A description of the applicant's plan for incorporating and utilizing BEP vendors to make repairs or perform new construction for expenses incurred from damages during recent civil unrest.
9. A description of the applicant's anticipated controls and methods to ensure repair and construction work was or will be done satisfactorily, timely, and meets necessary safety and code standards.
10. A description of the applicant's method for preventing price gouging and ensuring competitively priced work.
11. A description of the application and award process, applications schedule, likely impacts on the quality of grant applications, and procedures to prevent "self-dealing" by the applicant.
12. A description of the applicant's plan for evaluating and selecting the most promising applications.
13. A description of the applicant's plans for identification and evaluation of meaningful metrics for project and program success.

ATTACHMENTS

W-9

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 the System for Award Management (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.

The application and all required documentation shall be submitted electronically to [CEO.OGMgrants@illinois.gov] and must be received no later than 5:00pm on July 15, 2020. Applications received after this deadline will not be reviewed or considered for a grant.

All applicants will receive confirmation of receipt shortly after submitting an application prior to the deadline. **July 15, 2020.**

5. Intergovernmental Review, if applicable.

N/A

6. Funding Restrictions.

Indirect costs, including non-capital expenses to administer grant, are not allowable for funding under Public Act 101-0638. Pre-award costs are not permitted under funding for Public Act 101-0637 (expenses for outreach and administration), but they are permitted for eligible expenses incurred since May 25, 2020, for funding under Public Act 101-0638.

7. Other Submission Requirements.

Application materials must be submitted electronically to the Program Manager:

David Parr
Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
500 E. Monroe St.
Springfield, IL 62701-1643
Tele: 217-685-1197
Email: CEO.OGMgrants@illinois.gov

Files containing Application packets and supporting documents that are too large to send via standard email may be shared using the CMS data sharing link (<https://filet.illinois.gov/filet/pimupload.asp>). This link provides a secure platform to transfer large files to Illinois employees. Applicants must confirm receipt of the application and documents by contacting the program contact listed in this NOFO.

Electronic submissions including links to documents stored in Google Docs or other cloud-based servers are not allowed.

E. Application Review Information.

1. Criteria.

Grant proposals will be reviewed on a competitive basis. Each proposal will be scored on a 100-point scale. DCEO shall consider the following criteria when evaluating the application submittal:

(15 points) Capacity – Up to 15 points will be awarded for demonstrated grants administration experience and the ability to disburse grants in a timely manner while following all grant requirements and maintaining credibility of the program. Consideration will be given to the expertise of both the applicant organization and individuals identified as project leaders in the proposal.

(30 Points) Demonstration of Need – Up to 30 points will be awarded for demonstrated scale of significant property damage caused by civil unrest in the proposed region since May 25, 2020. This will include amount of businesses impacted and the nature of the property damage. Points

will also be awarded on the strength of evidence to support the demonstrated scale of property damage.

(15 Points) Controls – Up to 15 points will be awarded for providing metrics and methods for ensuring quality project controls, including competitive costs, budget controls, timely completion, code and safety construction standards.

(25 points) Quality of Proposal -- Up to 25 points will be awarded based on the quality of the plans specified in the proposal for achieving the goals of the **Rebuild Illinois for Economic Distressed Areas** Program. The proposal should describe the applicant's plans for the following:

- Outreach – the effective distribution of information regarding the availability of grants to a wide pool of potential applicants who are diverse with respect to geography, industry sector, and the race/gender of ownership.
- Application Process – establishment of a grant application and award process that is clear and simple for applicants to apply. The applicant should specify whether applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.
- BEP Inclusion – demonstrates ability to meet BEP goals and ability to utilize significant proportion of BEP vendors as possible.
- Project Selection – effective and timely evaluations of proposed projects that are appropriate and support rebuilding businesses impacted by looting or rioting from protests or demonstrations on or after May 25, 2020.
- Project Oversight – effective oversight and assistance for grant recipients, as needed, to promote successful project completion. Grants may not be used to reimburse Grantee for services.

Cost – If multiple applicants provide proposals to provide services to the same region, the Merit Review Committee may take the proposed administrative and outreach cost into account.

2. Review and Selection Process.

Applications will be graded using the Merit Review Process and scored on the criteria specified in Section E.1. DCEO will designate an Evaluation Committee to grade each application received for this funding opportunity. The final score of each committee member will be calculated and an average of all scores will be the final grantee score. Each applicant will then be ranked by their score. If multiple applicants propose services for the same region, only one applicant will receive an award to administer the program in that region.

The Merit Based Review process is subject to appeal. However, evaluation scores cannot be appealed. The appeal must be submitted in writing to the Department within 14 calendar days after the date that the grant award notice has been published. The written appeal shall include the name and address of the appealing party, the identification of the grant and a statement of reasons for the appeal. To file an appeal, applicants must submit the appeal in writing and in accordance with the Merit-Based Application Review Appeals Process listed on the Grant Opportunities page of the DCEO website:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/AboutDCEO/GrantOpportunities/Pages/MeritAppReview.aspx>.

3. Anticipated Announcement and State Award Dates, if applicable.

The Department anticipates sending Notices of State Award by approximately **July 31, 2020**, but reserves the right to issue a reduced award, or not to issue any award.

F. Award Administration Information

1. State Award Notices.

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

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

N/A

3. Reporting.

Periodic Performance Report (PPR) and Periodic Financial Report (PFR)

Grantees funded through this NOFO are required to submit in the format required by the Grantor, at least on a quarterly basis, the PPR and PFR electronically to their assigned grant manager. The first of such reports shall cover the first three months after the award begins. Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.327, Periodic Financial Reports shall be submitted no later than 30 calendar days following the period covered by the report. Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.328, Periodic Performance Reports shall be submitted no later than 30 calendar days following the period covered by the report. Any additional reporting requirements will be disclosed in the NOSA.

Grantees are required within 60 calendar days following the end of the period of performance to submit a final closeout report in the format required by the Grantor (See 2 CFR 200.343).

Monitoring

Grantees funded through this NOFO are subject to fiscal and programmatic monitoring visits by the Department in accordance with 2 CFR 200.336. They must have an open-door policy allowing periodic visits by Department monitors to evaluate the progress of the project and provide documentation upon request of the monitor. Program staff will also maintain contact with participants and monitor progress and performance of the contracts. The Department may modify grants based on performance.

Audit

Grantees shall be subject to Illinois' statewide Audit Report Review requirements. Terms of the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 (31 USC 7501-7507), Subpart F of 2 CFR Part 200, and the audit rules set forth under the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act shall apply (See 30 ILCS 708/65(c)).

G. State Awarding Agency Contact(s)

David E. Parr
Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
Office of Grants Management
500 E. Monroe St.
Springfield, IL 62701-1643
Mobile: 217-685-1197
Office: 217-524-5199

Email: CEO.OGMgrants@illinois.gov

H. Other Information, if applicable

N/A