



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

JB Pritzker, Governor

Local CURE Economic Support Frequently Asked Questions

Detailed information on this program can be found in the Notice of Funding Opportunity Supplement and can be accessed by clicking [here](#). Please review this document to understand requirements and required registrations.

Question	Answer
Application Questions	
<p>Would programs that expend all funds before Dec. 30, 2020 but has not yet been expended be eligible?</p>	<p>This program is for costs incurred from March 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020. Programs can be for previous programs or future programs, but all costs must be incurred by December 30, 2020.</p>
<p>What's the Maximum funding level per application?</p>	<p>The Notice of Funding Opportunity Supplement can be found by clicking here, which outlines funding levels by Restore Region on page 3. A Local Government Unit's request should not exceed the total Local Government Unit's allotment under the Local CURE Core Program.</p> <p>The maximum funding per Local Government Unit will be reassessed in December as grant funding begins to be awarded and to determine if the other Local CURE allotments are reallocated to the ES Program.</p>
<p>What is required within the project narrative and what might we include to make sure the application is successful?</p>	<p>Pages 7-8 of the NOFO supplement outlines all the requirements for the project's narrative. For an application to be successful all points listed should be addressed in an application's project narrative.</p> <p>Note: aside from attachments, the narrative must not exceed 3 pages in length.</p>
<p>How do you determine the distribution of funds within the regions?</p>	<p>Funding was determined by population by region and a map of the regions can be found by clicking here.</p>
<p>Can a county government apply on behalf of all the individual municipalities with it?</p>	<p>A County may apply alone or in cooperation with a Municipality or multiple Municipalities within the county. If the application is intended to be a joint application between a County and several Municipalities, the application should clearly state as such and be signed by the appropriate</p>

	<p>representatives of both the County and each Municipality.</p> <p>DCEO encourages this particular arrangement and applications submitted in this manner will receive the per capita weight of the county plus all participating municipalities, provided the municipality does not file an independent application under the NOFO. Please note, however, that each application will have one responsible party (in this case, the county) responsible for grant performance and reporting.</p>
<p>On page 8 of the NOFO supplement a requirement of the project narrative is to include “the source of funding and amount for which the Local Government has local funds available to advance as economic support payments of the program” – what is meant by this? Do we need to submit financial records to the State in order to participate in the program?</p>	<p>DCEO does not need to review any financial records of the local government in order to participate in the program. The intention of this point is to assure that the local government has local funding available to host the funding opportunity and for DCEO to learn how much the local government is planning to release in local funds as economic support payments. It is also important to note that no federal funds may be used to advance payments under this program, the ES Program may not reimburse for expended federal dollars under programs like the Community Development Block Grant program or from proceeds of other federal awards.</p>
<p>Can a local economic development organization apply directly in behalf of an area?</p>	<p>Only municipalities and counties located in the Restore Regions indicated in the NOFO are eligible to apply for this program, however, economic development organizations can partner with municipalities and counties to execute the program.</p> <p>Fees paid to a consultant, administrator, or other partner may be claimed as “administrative” costs under the Local CURE “Core” Program & submitted for reimbursement through the portal.</p>
<p>Are LGUs required to be GATA pre-qualified to apply for this program?</p>	<p>Yes, to apply for the ES Program a Local Government Unit must register and be pre-qualified through the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) website Grantee Portal, found at www.grants.illinois.gov under the Grantee Links tab.</p> <p>The GATA Grantee Portal will verify that the entity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has a valid FEIN number;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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, (not applicable for governmental units); • Is not on the Illinois Stop Payment list; and • Is not on the Department of Healthcare and Family Services Provider Sanctions list. <p>Note: business recipients of the local government’s ES Program awards do not need to be registered & pre-qualified in the GATA system.</p>
Program Requirements	
<p>What if a business is in the process of applying for round 2 for the Business Interruption Grant (BIG) program and eventually get awarded money, but also receives funds through ES?</p>	<p>A business cannot receive both a BIG grant and funding through the Local CURE Economic Support program. Controls must be in place to identify whether businesses have received funds from the BIG program. Recipients of the BIG program are regularly posted on the DCEO website here.</p>
<p>What can businesses that receive this grant use the funds for?</p>	<p>This program is for operating expenses to local businesses within the applicant’s jurisdiction.</p> <p>Eligible incurred expenses by a Local Government for the ES Program must meet the restrictions on the use of Local CURE Program funds (see 14 Ill. Admin. Code 700.50, 700.60) and reimburse the cost of business interruption (14 Ill. Admin. Code 700.20, 700.120). 14 Ill. Admin. Code 700.50 provides that Local CURE Program funds may only be used to cover costs that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID19; 2. Were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the Local Government; and; 3. Were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends December 30, 2020.

<p>Do businesses (subrecipients) need to be Grant Accountability Transparency Act (GATA) pre-qualified?</p>	<p>Businesses do not need to be GATA pre-qualified. However, a business shall be ineligible to receive financial support through an ES Program grant if it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is delinquent on payment of any State of Illinois tax obligation; • is engaged in a business that is unlawful under Illinois or federal law; • has already received assistance, or notice of award of assistance, under the BIG Program; (list of businesses can be accessed here) • is on the federal System for Award Management excluded parties list; or • does not meet any other eligibility criteria established in a financial assistance application. <p>More information in ineligible businesses can be found in the Notice of Funding Opportunity on page 6 by clicking here.</p> <p>All Local Government Units must meet all GATA pre-award requirements, which can be found by clicking here.</p>
<p>What is the turnaround time for applications and reimbursements?</p>	<p>DCEO will inform applicants about the status of the application as soon as possible after the application window closing. Generally, reimbursements against a DCEO grant agreement clear within 7 days of the initial cash request.</p>
<p>Can an LGU hire someone (direct cost) to execute activities? Also please define indirect cost?</p>	<p>The Local Government Unit can hire someone to execute grant activities. The ES Program will not reimburse for administrative expenses; however, administrative costs related to any sort of COVID response programming, including the ES Program, may be claimed within Local CURE’s “core” allotment and claimed for reimbursement through the portal.</p> <p>Indirect costs are costs incurred for general or administrative expenses which cannot be directly allocated to one program or cost object. Please note, this program does not reimburse for indirect costs.</p>