



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

JB Pritzker, Governor

SUBJECT: IMPORTANT IDOA AND DCEO CANNABIS UPDATES 3.28.20

IDOA UPDATE

- On Thursday, March 12, 2020, the Governor issued an Executive Order extending the craft grower, infuser, and transporter licenses submission deadline to the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) until Monday, March 30, 2020.
- In response to the mounting COVID-19 concerns and subsequent facility closures, the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) has again extended the craft grower, infuser, and transporter licenses submission **deadline to Thursday, April 30, 2020.**
- IDOA is requesting all license applications be submitted via certified mail (**United States Postal Service ONLY**). **Applications submitted via certified mail must be post-marked on or before Thursday, April 30, 2020.** Please be sure to read the complete announcement on IDOA website for further information: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Plants/Pages/Adult-Use-Cannabis.aspx>.

DCEO UPDATE

CANNABIS LOANS FOR CRAFT GROWER OR INFUSER LICENSE APPLICANTS – MEETING THE LIQUID ASSET REQUIREMENTS, LOAN SUBMISSION EXTENDED

- In response to the IDOA license application deadline extension, the Department is extending the deadline for those that want to use the cannabis loan from DCEO to meet their liquid asset requirement. Applicants now have until **5:00 p.m. Friday, April 24, 2020** to submit their loan application to receive an acknowledgement letter. Feel free to submit the loan application before the deadline of April 24th.
 - **Acknowledgement Letter (for those applying for craft grower and/or infuser licenses)**
 - The acknowledgement letter is the document you would submit to IDOA to meet the liquid asset requirement. You **do not** need to submit a Conditional Funding Approval (pre-approval letter) letter from DCEO for the liquid asset.
 - The acknowledgement letter is not a guarantee that you will be approved for funding by DCEO; however, it can be used to meet the liquid asset requirement for now.
 - **Important Reminders**
 - **You must submit your Cannabis Program Financial Assistance Uniform Loan Application by 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 24, 2020 to receive an acknowledgement letter by 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 27, 2020.**
 - **You can submit the Cannabis Program Financial Assistance Uniform Loan Application any time before 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 24, 2020 in order to receive an acknowledgment letter before April 27, 2020.**

- Please include in the Cannabis Program Financial Assistance Uniform Application an indication that you **need a loan acknowledgement letter, via “Message to Recipient (Optional)”** within the electronic submission.
 - For specific Exhibits requested in the Cannabis Program Financial Assistance Uniform Loan Application that are also a part of the IDOA craft grower or infuser license application, cannabis loan applicants **may submit their Cannabis Program Financial Assistance Uniform Loan Application to DCEO without those Exhibits to receive an acknowledgment letter.** This applies only to the license application exhibits referenced in sections IV.B Exhibit 1, IV.B Exhibit 7, IV.B Exhibit 8, and IV.B Exhibit 11 of the Cannabis Program Financial Assistance Uniform Application, which must be received by DCEO no later than 24 hours after the IDOA license application deadline.
- **Conditional Funding Approval (Pre-Approval letters) (this applies to all who applied for a dispensary license and all those who are applying for craft grower, infuser, and transporter licenses)**
 - Once DCEO receives a complete Cannabis Program Financial Assistance Uniform Loan Application **including all exhibits**, DCEO will review your information and, if needed, may require additional information to address any application deficiencies.
 - DCEO will make conditional funding approval (pre-approvals) decisions in June 2020 for those applying for craft grower and infuser licenses who used DCEO’s acknowledgement letter to satisfy the liquid asset requirement. **Any applicant that used an acknowledgment letter from DCEO to satisfy the liquid asset requirement in its IDOA application and is denied program funding will be given 10 days by IDOA to secure alternative funding to satisfy the liquid asset requirement.**

CANNABIS PROGRAM FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNIFORM LOAN APPLICATION SUBMISSION UPDATE

- As noted in prior updates, due to COVID-19 concerns, the Department is temporarily suspending hard copy loan application submittals and will **ONLY be accepting loan applications submitted electronically through the State of Illinois secure file transfer site at <https://filet.illinois.gov/filet/PIMupload.asp>.**
- **DCEO is available via email or phone to answer any questions you may have regarding the loan.** Feel free to email us at CEO.AdultUseCannabis@Illinois.gov or call our cannabis hotline at 877.221.4403. We have also created a FAQ document that may be able to answer some of your pressing questions in the interim; please see attached.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR SOCIAL EQUITY APPLICANTS STILL AVAILABLE

For a complete list of remaining technical assistance offerings, please visit our webpage at: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/CannabisEquity/Pages/TechnicalWorkshops.aspx>

Office of Minority Economic Empowerment
 Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
 Website: www.illinois.gov/dceo
 Follow DCEO’s social media ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#)).