

December 11, 2020

Gurnee Business Partners:

The **application period for the Business Interruption Grant (BIG) program** will close at **5pm on Tuesday, December 15**. The State anticipates that it will award the remainder of the \$270 million in funds through this program in the coming weeks. Funding priorities include reaching heavily impacted industries, businesses located in a disproportionately impacted areas (DIAs) and downstate communities, and small businesses with annual revenues of \$5 million or less and/or businesses that have not received other forms of emergency assistance like PPP. BIG grants, leveraging federal CARES Act dollars, provide grants tailored to business losses, with amounts ranging between \$5,000-\$150,000. The average grant provided to date is \$25,000. Grant funds may be used toward operational expenses, including PPE, rent and utilities, payroll, and more. For more information on BIG eligibility, how to receive assistance with submitting your application, and to review the application, please visit [DCEO's program website](#). Click [here](#) to check the status of an already filed application.

Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigations remain in effect. The mitigation measures along with these [Phase 4 FAQ's](#) (updated regularly) provide business guidance.

The **Lake County Allvax Portal** is now open; please register so that the Department can notify you when it's time to make an appointment to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

To receive a **COVID-19 test**, contact your doctor about testing availability, or check the [Lake County Testing Site Locator](#) for options.

For current, pertinent **business email updates**, subscribe to the Lake County Health Department's email lists for [Lake County Businesses](#).

The Department offers **business briefings** on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, at 1:00pm. Call-in information:

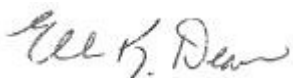
- Join the Call Online (recommended): [Click here to join the meeting, and enter the following info when prompted](#): Meeting ID: 987 6419 0771 | Password: 798874
- Or, Join by Phone: Dial (312) 626-6799, then enter 98764190771#
- If you miss a call or want to review previous meetings, [recordings can be found here](#).

ComEd understands that COVID-19 continues to create economic hardship for many of their customers. To assist in this time of need, they created a **Small Business Assistance Program** to help small businesses. As of December 16, 2020, they are accepting applications for assistance that would be applied to a business' bill in 2021 if they meet all qualifications. The Small Business Assistance Program provides eligible small business customers with a one-time grant up to \$2,000 towards a past due balance. Eligible customers may also place a remaining balance into a payment plan of up to six months. To apply for the Small Business Assistance Program, please call **1-877-426-6331**. More information can be found [here](#).

Please continue to emphasize the importance of compliance with mitigation measures and of practicing the 3 W's – Wear a mask, Watch your distance, and Wash your hands.

Wishing you a happy, healthy Holiday season!

Sincerely,



Ellen K. Dean
Economic Development Director