

COVID-19 Update: July 29 5 pm

Reminders: All previous bulletins and other resources listed at www.gpcovid.com. Send any questions to bizinfo@greaterpeoriaedc.org.

State Announces Restrictions on Youth Sports

Gov. Pritzker today outlined a set of guidelines regarding youth sports and compliance with COVID protocols. Each sport was assigned to a risk category of high, medium or low and then associated with four levels of interaction. From the press release: "In level 1, only no-contact practices and training are allowed. In level 2, intra-team scrimmages are allowed with parental consent for minors but there can be no competitive play. In level 3 intra-conference, intra-EMS-region or intra-league play is allowed and there may be state- or league-championship games allowed for low-risk sports only. In level 4, tournaments, out-of-conference/league play, and out-of-state play are allowed. Championship games would also be allowed in level 4." Peoria Journal Star article [here](#) and IDPH guidance [here](#).

Round 5 of LISC Small Business Relief Fund Opens, Applications due August 3

Another round of LISC's Small Business Relief fund recently opened. Businesses can receive grants between \$5,000 and \$20,000 to pay for rent and utilities, payroll, outstanding debt and other immediate operational expenses. Priority given to entrepreneurs of color, women- and veteran-owned businesses and other enterprises in historically under-served places who don't have access to flexible, affordable capital. More information [here](#). Applications are due 10:59 pm on Monday, August 3.

Assistance for Childcare Providers

The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) announced \$270 million in funding is available to assist child care providers across the state with reopening in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Licensed child care providers that meet the eligibility criteria may apply for Child Care Restoration Grants, reserved as part of the \$636 Business Interruption Grants (BIG) program. The application will remain open until August 14, 2020 and is available online at: <https://www.inccrra.org/>.

Businesses eligible for the Child Care Restoration Grants (CCRG) Program must demonstrate the following:

1. A current license from the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to care for children,
2. They are open and caring for children at the time of application,
3. Based on licensed capacity, can demonstrate a 'business interruption' from their pre-COVID capacity, and
4. Submit a complete application with all required documents.

Employee Retention Tax Credit

Employers who did not take advantage of the Paycheck Protection Program might be able to utilize the Employee Retention Tax Credit, a refundable tax credit against certain employment taxes equal to 50 percent of the qualified wages an eligible employer pays to employees after March 12, 2020, and before January 1, 2021. Eligible employers can get immediate access to the credit by reducing employment tax deposits they are otherwise required to make. Also, if the employer's employment tax deposits are not sufficient to cover the credit, the employer may get an advance payment from the IRS. The maximum credit is \$10,000. Even nonprofit

organizations can utilize this credit as it is against employment taxes which are paid regardless of exemption status. More [here](#).

Bradley SBDC International Trade Center Offering Webinar Series on Exporting

The Illinois SBDC International Trade Center at Bradley University is sponsoring a webinar series presented by experienced trade professionals and experts within their fields and will outline the reality that all businesses are confronted with, as they move to address the challenges posed by the current pandemic. These webinars will progress to proactive solutions and resources to help you identify opportunities and thrive in a future where international markets will become increasingly important for business success. All webinars are offered at no charge.

- How to Access and Understand Export Finance: Getting paid securely and financed competitively - Wednesday, July 29, 2020; 10:00 am - 11:30 am CST - Register [here](#).
- State and Federal Resources to Identify Top Markets and Partners - Thursday, July 30, 2020; 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm CST - Register [here](#).
- Global Day-One (Session One) The Getting to Global Initiative - Tuesday, August 4, 2020; 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm CST - Register [here](#).
- Build your post-COVID global ecommerce resource road-map (Session Two) - Wednesday, August 5, 2020; 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm CST - Register [here](#).
- Website Localization to Help you Grow Your Exports, Sales, Brand, and Business Online Globally - Tuesday, August 11, 2020; 12:00pm - 1:00pm CST - Register [here](#).