



ILLINOIS GROCERY INITIATIVE (IGI) EQUIPMENT GRANT

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Illinois Grocery Initiative (IGI)

Background

The Illinois Grocery Initiative Equipment Upgrades Program is one of two grant programs authorized by [Public Act 103-0561](#).

- Improve energy efficiency and economic viability of grocery stores serving food-insecure communities.
- Prevent formation of additional food deserts.

FUNDING AND AWARDS

- Total Funding Available- \$3.5 million
- Awards will be offered in rounds
- DCEO expects to make 20-30 awards altogether, with individual awards ranging from \$25,000 to \$250,000
- Match Requirement: 1:3
(Applicant pays 25% of project cost)



ALLOWABLE EXPENDITURES

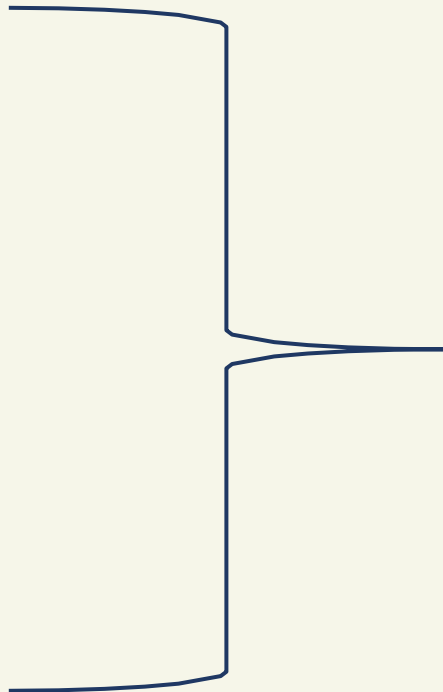
The following expenditures will be eligible for reimbursement, insofar the equipment will result in energy efficiency improvements;

- ✓ Heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment
- ✓ Refrigeration units and freezers
- ✓ Lighting systems
- ✓ Other systems providing significant energy savings

ELIGIBILITY

- Grants will be limited to projects making energy-efficient investments in existing bricks and mortar operations in Illinois.
- Grant opportunity will be limited to the following;

- ✓ Independently owned grocers
- ✓ Cooperatives
- ✓ Not-for-profit grocery stores



**Must have fewer than
500 employees and no
more than four (4)
grocery stores**

The Grocery locations must be consistent with the following;

- ✓ Less than 30% of revenue from alcohol and tobacco sales
- ✓ Store is or will be classified as a supermarket or other grocery retailer

- ✓ Store must accept or will accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits & WIC
- ✓ Must offer fresh foods such as meats, fruits, and vegetables, that have not been processed in any manner



SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications are evaluated on a Merit Review Process that scores applicants on several criteria including the following;

- ✓ Regional poverty rate
- ✓ Food desert (distance from nearest grocery store)
- ✓ Letters of Support from community
- ✓ Management and operations experience
- ✓ Energy-efficiency of proposed upgrades
- ✓ Ability to enhance or preserve access to fresh fruits, vegetables, and meats

First round of awards will go to applicants with a score of 75 points or higher.

This is a reimbursement program. The applicant will be reimbursed 75% of project cost if all grant criteria are met.

FINACIALS

✓ Applicant 25%

✓ Grant 75%

**Reimbursement funding
applicant needs 100% up front**

Business Plan



Cash Flow



Commercial Lending

Bank Institution

CDFI

Regional Revolving Loan

ALTERNATIVE FUNDING

60/90 Day Credit

**If vendor offers terms
and applicant has 25%**

APPLICATION SUBMITTING

- **The deadline for the first round is March 25th at 5:00.**
- Applicants must be properly registered in GATA portal and SAM.gov prior to application deadline.
- Have a valid FEIN number
- Have a valid UIE number
- Not on the Federal Excluded Parties List
- Currently in Good Standing with IL Secretary of State
- Not on the Illinois Stop Payment list
- Not on the IL Dept. of Healthcare and Family Services Provider Sanctions list
- Applicants may submit one application per round for this opportunity.
- Application documents must be submitted to the Department electronically (Link be found in the Notice of Funding Opportunity)
- Documents stored in Google Docs or other cloud-based servers are not allowed.

REQUIRED APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

- Uniform Application
- Conflict of Interest Disclosure
- Mandatory Disclosures
- Budget Template
- Program Application
- Letters of Support

AFTER SUBMITTING APPLICATION

