

September 23, 2020

 City of Highland Park

Business Development

eNews

State of Illinois Accepting Applications For The Second Round of BIG Grant Funding

Applications for the second round of funding are now being accepted and can be found [HERE](#). A total of \$220 million will be made available for small businesses of all types in Illinois. Grants will be awarded and funded on a rolling basis until funding is depleted. The grant size will be equivalent to two months of expenses.



The BIG program is open to all eligible businesses (for-profit and nonprofit) with \$20 million or less in annual revenue in 2019 and experienced losses due to COVID-19. Of the total funding, \$70 million will be invested in Disproportionately Impacted Areas (DIAs) and \$60 million in heavily impacted industries. A map of the DIAs and the eligibility guidelines can be found on our website. The heavily impacted industries are defined as having annual revenues of \$10 million or less, and have been closed or operating at a very diminished capacity since mid-March and are likely to continue to do so until Phase 5 of the Restore Illinois Plan. These industries include the following:

- Event spaces
- Music venues
- Performing arts venues
- Indoor recreation
- Amusement parks
- Movie theaters
- Museums
- Charter/shuttle buses

BIG - Business Interruption Grant Webinars



Agnes Masnik, Northern Stateline Regional Manager & FDI, Office of Regional Economic Development, Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity will be providing a regional hosted Webinar covering the Business Interruption Grant (BIG) overview and Q&A session.

This is a multi-million program developed by Governor Pritzker and the Illinois General Assembly to provide economic relief for small businesses hit hardest by COVID-19. BIG leverages federal funding provided by the CARES Act to help offset COVID-19 related losses for Illinois small businesses. Funding may be used to help businesses with working capital expenses, including payroll costs; rent; utilities; and other operational costs.

Recommended guests are business owners and community stakeholders. This webinar is mainly reserved for Boone, Lake, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson and Winnebago counties, however, all businesses and Illinois stakeholders welcome.

Thursday, September 24, 2020 10 - 11AM CDT

Event address for attendees:

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=ee9358fa0a4c207126d69852869ee72ff>

Event number:

133 342 8235

Event password:

DCEO

DCEO will also be hosting additional webinars on the program, and advance registration is currently being accepted for these sessions:

- [September 30, 9:30 - 10:30 AM](#)
 - [October 7, 9:30 - 10:30 AM](#)
 - [October 14, 9:30 - 10:30 AM](#)
 - [October 21, 9:30 - 10:30 AM](#)
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Lake County Virtual Town Hall

Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2020
7:00 p.m.



Lake County is holding its third live Virtual Town Hall on Wednesday, September 30, at 7 p.m. Hosted by Lake County Board Chair Sandy Hart, panelists will discuss the most current information about how COVID-19 is impacting Lake County, relief efforts including programs that have provided funding to Lake County businesses and residents who have been financially impacted, and information about voting in the November General Election. [Register to attend here.](#)

SBDC Recovery Assistance Training

Cash Resiliency

Thursday, September 24 OR
Thursday, October 8
9AM - 12PM

Discover tactics for identifying sources of cash in the next 90 days and solving immediate, short-term and long-term cash flow challenges.



Register for all programming at tinyurl.com/y3bwaoo8

Ravinia "District Doings"

The [Ravinia District](#) of Highland Park continues to come alive with 'District Doings,' a series of activities curated by local businesses in its shared al fresco dining space along Roger Williams Avenue, between Burton and Pleasant Avenues.



Events continue through September. All activities will follow social distancing guidelines. Please contact individual businesses for pricing information. District Doings schedule includes:

[Black Cat Yoga](#) continues their Ravinia District Doings with their outdoor yoga and pilates sessions Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9 AM and Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4:15 PM through September 28. Reservations are required. For a full class schedule and to register visit blackcatpoweryoga.com. Questions email hello@blackcatpoweryoga.com.

[WeOrbit](#) continues their popular Summer Outdoor Art, Mondays through September 28, 10-10:30 AM for 18-36 month-olds and 11-11:30 AM for 3-6 year-olds. Classes will focus on basic color skills and art experimentation. Register at weorbit.com and dress for a mess.

[WeOrbit](#) kicks off their kid's fun fitness series for 3-6 year-olds with George's Gym "learning through play" method to give kids a strong, high energy workout that they can repeat at home! Classes will be held on Tuesdays, 9:15-9:45 AM, and 10-10:30 AM. Register at weorbit.com/classes. 5-week session is also open for registration. Classes will be held in the Ravinia District's Al Fresco Dining Area on Roger Williams Avenue. Please bring a foam/yoga mat and water. Social distancing guidelines will be in place.

[Burn Boot Camp](#) invites the public to come to Burn Outdoors (bring your sunscreen) Tuesdays through September 24 at 11 AM. The 45-minute workout is free to the public, and all levels are welcome. Come for the workout and stay for some beer! Participants must pre-register by calling or texting (847) 748-0607.

****This event was rescheduled due to rain to Thursday, September 24 ****

[Alchemy and Cloth](#) hosts a girl's night out of 'Layering and Libations' on **Thursday, September 24**, 5-6 PM in the west end of the Ravinia District of Highland Park Al Fresco area. Join Alchemy and Cloth owner Carla Levi as she and her daughter Haley, designer of Galazzia Jewelry, demonstrate how to mix, layer, and accessorize the newest fall fashions while enjoying a cocktail courtesy of [Viaggio Restaurant](#). Registrants will be entered to win a piece from the new Galazzia collection! Space is limited so please register for the 5:00-5:30 or 5:30-6:00 presentation. Please RSVP to carla.alchemyandcloth@gmail.com. Social distancing will be maintained.

For a full schedule of updated District Doings, follow [@RaviniaDistrict.HighlandPark](#) on Facebook.

Additionally, live music sponsored by the Ravinia District Special Service Area 17 property owners will continue on select Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sundays including:

Saturday, September 26 – 6-8:30 – Desert Birds (Gypsy Jazz/Bluegrass)
Sunday, September 27 – 3-6 – [Diamondback Trio](#) (Country)

The Ravinia District Al Fresco Dining Area was established for the public to safely enjoy the variety of foods from Ravinia District businesses. No outside food or beverages are permitted. Seating reserved for individuals

who have purchased food and drink from Ravinia District restaurants, including [Abigail's American Bistro](#), [BWB.Rocks](#), [Baker Boys](#), [Happi Sushi](#), [Piero's Pizza](#), [Ravinia Brewing Co.](#), and [Viaggio](#).

Physical distancing and safety guidelines include:

- Wear a face covering over nose and mouth when interacting with restaurant employees, including placing orders; picking-up carryout orders, and; when food and beverages are brought to the table or removed.
- Continue to wear a face-covering when walking around the District, if not able to maintain a safe 6-foot social distance.
- Avoid congregating on the street and sidewalk, as well as in close quarters.
- Enjoy alcoholic beverages only in the designated outdoor dining areas.
- Dispose of your trash before leaving the outdoor dining area, or take it with you and dispose of it at home.
- Respect established state and city capacity limits.
- Observe all additional requirements or guidelines implemented by business owners.

For more information on the District Doings and live music schedule in the Ravinia District of Highland Park, please visit the [Ravinia District Facebook page](#).

[Additional Resources](#)

SCORE

Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity industry-specific guidelines and tool kits

COVID-19 Emergency Resources For Businesses - Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

Emergency Small Business Grant & Loan Assistance - Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

COVID -19 Small Business Survival Guide - Illinois Small Business Development & International Trade Center

Illinois Department of Revenue COVID -19 Tax Relief

Illinois Department of Insurance (DOI)

Highland Park Chamber of Commerce COVID-19 Toolkit

Lake County Health Department

NorthShore University HealthSystem

Illinois Department of Public Health

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

For general business inquiries, contact the City's Business Development Manager Carolyn Hersch at chersch@cityhpil.com.

For more information on the City's response to COVID-19, contact the City's Communications Manager Amanda Civitello at acivitello@cityhpil.com.

This newsletter is produced by the City of Highland Park's Office of Business Development. If you have information you would like to include in this bi-weekly mailing, please submit information, photos, and news to Melissa Rosen at mrosen@cityhpil.com. The City reserves the right to edit and/or filter submissions. No pricing information will be published.

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