

**IE COVID-19 RESPONSE NOTICE**  
**FAQs 4-16-20**

***What are the essential businesses in Illinois according to the Governor's Executive Order?***

Executive Order 20-10 requires all non-essential businesses and operations to cease all activities except for minimum basic operations. Non-essential businesses may also continue operations consisting exclusively of employees or contractors working from home. Please review the FAQ at: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/Documents/Essential%20Business%20FAQ.pdf> for more information.

***How can you verify that an employer is in good standing and not on the federal excluded parties list?***

LWIA staff can verify if the employer is in good standing with the State of Illinois at: <https://www.ilsos.gov/corporatellc/> and also check the federal *Excluded Parties List* at: <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/pages/public/searchRecords/search.jsf>

***How do you define "small business"?***

For the purpose of the Emergency (IE) Assistance Application in Response to COVID-19, DCEO is using the United States Small Business Administration definition of a small business. Please visit the SBA websites for more information. <https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-guide/size-standards> and <https://www.sba.gov/document/support--table-size-standards>

***Can the IE COVID Response Funds pay for business consultants that provide employers with an analysis of how to implement the recommendations of public health officials?***

Yes, if the consultant services directly result in the employer implementing strategies that are recommended by public health officials including but not limited to social distancing, cross training and remote working.

***Can the IE COVID Response Funds pay for business service navigators to identify funding to help employers stay in business?***

Assisting businesses locate financing to avoid layoffs is an allowable Rapid Response activity. In many LWIAs the business service team members perform this important function. LWIAs that need additional support for these activities are encouraged to contact Lorraine Wareham at [Lorraine.wareham@illinois.gov](mailto:Lorraine.wareham@illinois.gov) with detailed information regarding these specific needs.

***Does the IE COVID Response Funds pay for administrative costs?***

Limited administrative costs may be provided on a case by case basis to cover the administrative costs that cannot be absorbed by the local business service teams and program monitors.

***If an employer already purchased computers for remote work, would we be able to apply for grant funds to reimburse those costs? Are pre-award costs allowed?***

Pre-award costs for layoff aversion activities will be allowed dating back to date of the Governor's Executive Order 20-10 on March 20, 2020.

***Will DCEO review and fund other IE requests – including requests that were submitted prior to the IE COVID Response Notice?***

Yes. LWIA administrators are advised to contact Lorraine Wareham at [Lorraine.wareham@illinois.gov](mailto:Lorraine.wareham@illinois.gov).

***If an employer filed WARN for one location, would other locations be eligible under this funding opportunity?***

Yes.

***Will the state provide funding for LWIAs to pay for additional cleaning services and Personal Protective Equipment at the workforce center?***

The cost of additional cleaning services and personal protective equipment for staff that work in the workforce center is an allowable cost on the WIOA grant. Local administrators should contact DCEO regarding additional funding needs for this purpose.