

**The Illinois  
Department of  
Commerce &  
Economic  
Opportunity (DCEO)  
[www.Illinoisbiz.biz](http://www.Illinoisbiz.biz)**



DCEO Regional Contact for Kankakee, Will, Grundy, and Southern Cook Counties:  
Edward Piatt, NE Senior Account Manager, Office of Regional Outreach  
(312) 636-0739 email: [Ed.Piatt@illinois.gov](mailto:Ed.Piatt@illinois.gov)

**The Employer Training Investment Program (ETIP)** helps keep Illinois workers' skills in pace with new technologies and business practices, which, in turn, helps businesses increase productivity, reduce costs, improve quality and boost competitiveness. ETIP grants can reimburse new or expanding companies for up to 50 percent of the cost of training their employees. Trainees must be employed by the company prior to implementation of the training program. Instructors may be plant workers, public educators, private consultants, or others possessing the required expertise. Grants may be awarded to individual businesses, original equipment manufacturers sponsoring multi-company training for employees of their Illinois supplier companies, and to intermediary organizations operating multi-company training projects. Contact: Bob Westover, (312) 814-7168, email: [Bob.Westover@illinois.gov](mailto:Bob.Westover@illinois.gov)

**The Economic Development for a Growing Economy Tax Credit Program (EDGE)** program is designed to offer a special tax incentive to encourage companies to locate or expand operations in Illinois when there is active consideration of a competing location in another State. The program can provide tax credits to qualifying companies, equal to the amount of state income taxes withheld from the salaries of employees in the newly created jobs. The non-refundable credits can be used against corporate income taxes to be paid over a period not to exceed 10 years. To qualify a company must provide documentation that attests to the fact of competition among a competing state, and agree to make an investment of at least \$5 million in capital improvements and create a minimum of 25 new full time jobs in Illinois. For a company with 100 or fewer employees, the company must agree to make a capital investment of \$1 million and create at least 5 new full time jobs in Illinois. Contact: Bob Westover, (312) 814-7168, email: [Bob.Westover@illinois.gov](mailto:Bob.Westover@illinois.gov)

**The Illinois Enterprise Zone Program** is designed to stimulate economic growth and neighborhood revitalization in economically depressed areas of the state. This is accomplished through state and local tax incentives, regulatory relief, and improved governmental services. Contact: Mickey Harris, (217) 785-6193, email: [Mickey.Harris@illinois.gov](mailto:Mickey.Harris@illinois.gov)

**Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP- ED)** program is a federally funded program that is designed to provide grants to units of local government for economic development activities related to business retention and or expansion opportunities. The program is targeted to assist low-to-moderate income people by creating job opportunities and improving the quality of their living environment. Local governments qualifying to receive grant

funds can then make these funds available in the form of loans to businesses locating or expanding in their community. A local government may request grant funds of up to \$750,000. Funds may be used for machinery and equipment, working capital, and building construction and renovation. The local government may also use the grant funds for improvements to public infrastructure that directly support a specific economic development project. Applications may be submitted at any time. Local government entities located in heavily populated metropolitan areas of the state may receive funding directly from the federal government and therefore, are ineligible for participation through this program. Contact: Maureen Palmer, (312) 814-5701, email: Maureen.Palmer@illinois.gov

#### **Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESGP)**

The Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESGP) is designed to help improve the quality of existing emergency shelters for the homeless, to help make available additional emergency shelters, to help meet the cost of operating emergency shelters and to provide certain essential social services to homeless individuals in order to provide access to not only safe and sanitary shelter, but also to the supportive services and other kinds of assistance needed to improve their situations. The program is also intended to restrict the increase of homelessness through the funding of preventive programs and activities.

#### **Housing**

DCEO administers the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program which is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) <http://www.hud.gov>

The Office of Urban Assistance was formed within DCEO in November 2009. Its mission is to create and implement policies designed to address the pressing economic needs of residents, businesses and stakeholders in the state's urban areas. The Office of Urban Assistance will oversee existing programs such as the [Employment Opportunities Grant Program](#); and implement new strategies such as the [Urban Weatherization Initiative](#) and the [Illinois Fresh Food Financing Initiative](#).

In addition to these programs, the office will be responsible for:

- Incentivizing new industrial enterprises to locate in the urban areas of Illinois, thereby stimulating local economies and creating jobs;
- Gathering and providing information on revitalization efforts of urban areas to public and private entities;
- Recommending and formulating policies that result in the reconstruction of urban economies; and
- Recommending urban economic policies to the General Assembly and Governor relating to a wide variety of topics including, but not limited to: housing, urban youth unemployment, and business incubators.
- For additional information, please contact Karin Norington-Reaves at [Karin.Norington-Reaves@Illinois.gov](mailto:Karin.Norington-Reaves@Illinois.gov) or (312) 814-2346.

**The Bureau of Workforce Development** is committed to encouraging statewide economic development by cultivating a well-trained workforce. To accomplish this goal, the Bureau identifies youth, adults and dislocated workers who are eligible for assistance under the [Workforce Investment Act \(WIA\)](#), assesses their employability skills and provides training as appropriate for identified sectors of growing employment demand. Ideally, this will lead to the placement of these individuals in self-sufficient employment. The Bureau also provides follow-up services leading to employment retention in high-wage and high-skilled jobs. These services are provided statewide while maintaining focus on the economic needs of each region. Contact: Therese McMahan, (312) 814-6028, email: [Therese.McMahan@illinois.gov](mailto:Therese.McMahan@illinois.gov)

**Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity  
Bureau of Energy and Recycling Programs  
December 2009**

**ILLINOIS ENERGY EFFICIENCY PORTFOLIO**

Under Public Act 95-0481, DCEO, ComEd, and Ameren Illinois are required to develop a portfolio of energy efficiency programs to achieve certain annual energy savings goals. Over \$50 million was available for the Illinois Energy Efficiency Portfolio programs during the first year starting June 1, 2008. The portfolio program funding doubled during the second year and will triple in the third year. DCEO is responsible for 25% of the portfolio and the utilities 75%. DCEO will utilize approximately 65% of funds on public sector programs, 25% on low income programs, and 10% on market transformation programs. Ameren Illinois and ComEd portfolio programs will be focused on residential, commercial, and industrial sectors.

**Public Sector Electric Efficiency Programs**

The programs described below are offered to the public sector - federal, state and local government (county, township, municipal), public schools, community colleges, public universities and colleges, public safety, water and park districts in ComEd and Ameren Illinois electric service territories.

**Standard Incentive Program**

Provides grants and rebates to public sector entities for a specific list of energy efficiency measures. Measures include electric system efficiency improvements for lighting, motors, variable frequency drives, cooling equipment, traffic signals and exit signs, among others. The incentives are available to units of local, state, and federal government, schools, community colleges and universities. This program is part of the Illinois Energy Efficiency Portfolio and is limited to ComEd and Ameren Illinois electric service territories.

DCEO contact: Andrea Reiff, 217/785-0164, email: andrea.reiff@illinois.gov

**Custom Incentive Program**

Provides grants to public sector entities for improving the energy efficiency of equipment or process. The incentives are available for facility improvements that reduce the electricity use for measures not specifically listed in the Standard Incentive Program. This program is part of the Illinois Energy Efficiency Portfolio and is limited to ComEd and Ameren Illinois electric service territories.

DCEO contact: Tom Coe, 217/785-2433, email: tom.coe@illinois.gov

**New Construction Program**

Provides grants to public sector entities to encourage applicants to design new or rehabbed buildings to achieve the greatest level of energy efficiency. The program offers \$/square foot incentives for facility design improvements beyond code, with incentive levels increasing for additional percentages beyond code. Estimated electricity savings must be documented by energy modeling and/or supporting calculations. This program is part of the Illinois Energy Efficiency Portfolio and is limited to ComEd and Ameren Illinois electric service territories.

DCEO contact: Tom Coe, 217/785-2433, email:tom.coe@illinois.gov

**Retro-commissioning Program**

Provides funding to identify and implement low cost tune-ups and adjustments that improve the efficiency of existing public buildings' operating systems by returning them to intended operation or design specifications, with a focus on building controls and HVAC systems. Retro-commissioning services will be delivered through a network of commissioning providers that have been trained in program protocols and participation processes. This program is part of the Illinois Energy Efficiency Portfolio and is limited to Com Ed and Ameren Illinois electric service territories.

DCEO contact: Tom Coe, 217/785-2433, email: tom.coe@illinois.gov

**Illinois Lights for Learning Fundraiser**

The Illinois Lights for Learning Fundraiser is a unique educational opportunity for Illinois students to earn money for their school or organization by selling money saving, energy efficient Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (CFLs). Participating schools keep 50% of the proceeds, and presentations are provided to educate students and their community about the environmental and financial benefits of using CFLs. The program is administered for Illinois by the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance.

DCEO contact: Carol Kulek, 217/785-3412, email: carol.kulek@illinois.gov

### **Low Income Energy Efficiency Programs**

Illinois Energy Efficient Affordable Housing Construction Program (EEAHCP)

Under this Program, grants are provided to Illinois based non-profit affordable housing developers to include energy efficient building practices in the rehab or new construction of affordable housing units. The new program will be available to both for- and non-profit developers and will include additional electricity savings measures.

The Program takes an all encompassing view of housing and does not fund standard energy efficient practices. Some of the energy efficient building practices required by DCEO under the Program are:

R21 blown insulation in sidewalls

R44 attic insulation

R10 foundation insulation

High efficiency, sealed combustion furnace (with electrically commutated motor) or boiler

Sealed combustion water heater

ENERGY STAR rated bathroom exhaust fans with controls

ENERGY STAR rated appliances

Fluorescent light fixtures

#### **Goals of the Program include:**

Demonstrate the impact that energy efficiency has on creating and maintaining affordable housing show that lower housing costs can be achieved with energy efficiency treat the house as a system, focusing on energy efficiency, indoor air quality and occupant comfort identify and maximize cost effective energy efficiency opportunities present in rehab and new construction educate developers, architects and builders of the various energy efficient building measures such that they can begin using these measures and products on other non-funded DCEO projects. DCEO contact: Maureen Davlin, 217/785-2373, email: maureen.davlin@illinois.gov

### **Residential Retrofit Program**

Provides funding to leverage existing low income weatherization and home improvement programs to maximize electricity savings. DCEO will partner with Program Implementers such as state agencies, local government, lending institutions, housing authorities, and affordable housing developers for direct installation or funding of electric efficiency measures in low income households. This program is part of Illinois Energy Efficiency Portfolio and is limited to ComEd and Ameren Illinois electric service territories.

DCEO contact: Maureen Davlin, 217/785-2373, email: maureen.davlin@illinois.gov

#### **Market Transformation Programs:**

##### **Smart Energy Design Assistance**

Provides technical assistance services through the Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC), which is staffed with engineers and energy professionals from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, School of Architecture. SEDAC provides free technical assistance services to businesses, state and local government facilities, public schools, community colleges, universities and colleges to assist clients who are considering energy efficiency improvements at existing facilities or to enhance baseline design of new facilities.

SEDAC services include:

free technical design assistance services (energy audits, utility bill analysis, energy cost reduction recommendations, energy use modeling, investment analysis, implementation assistance) education and training information on Illinois building energy codes, tax incentives through the 2005 Energy Policy Act, energy rates, and sources of loans and grants

a network of Energy Service Providers an informative website at: [www.sedac.org](http://www.sedac.org)

SEDAC contact: 800/214-7954 and visit [www.sedac.org](http://www.sedac.org)

DCEO contact: Andrea Reiff, 217/785-0164, email: [andrea.reiff@illinois.gov](mailto:andrea.reiff@illinois.gov)

##### **Large-customer Energy Analysis Program (LEAP)**

LEAP works with large Illinois clients including manufacturers, hospitals and universities to help manage their energy costs by making cost-effective efficiency improvements. The program involves key decision-makers and focuses on measures that can bring high returns with modest investments. LEAP identifies best practices in energy management and examines how energy is integrated with management systems. LEAP is available to:

Identify best practices in energy management using the One-2-Five® software-based program

Examine how energy is integrated with management systems.

#### LEAP Process

- 1) One-2-Five diagnostic sessions guide management through a series of questions relating to 10 key areas of energy management systems
- 2) Results allow clients to assess their performance in each of the key elements of an effective energy management system on a scale from one to five stars.
- 3) A series of recommended actions are produced for use in implementing an energy efficiency action plan to create effective change in energy management practices.
- 4) Opportunities to conduct more detailed technical assessments are identified. These technical assessments may include, but are not limited to; an energy audit, evaluation of purchasing options available due to electric deregulation, evaluation of cogeneration of steam and electricity, and other technical energy services.

The program targets clients with energy costs greater than \$500,000 per year and provides rebates to clients of 50%, up to \$10,000, towards the cost for developing an energy efficiency action plan and 50%, up to \$10,000, for the cost of a technical assessment.

DCEO contact: Byron Lloyd, 217/785-0201, email: byron.lloyd@illinois.gov

#### **Energy Performance Contracting (EPC)**

Energy Performance Contracting (EPC) is an innovative arrangement for designing, installing and financing energy improvement projects where the savings achieved by the project are guaranteed to amortize the cost of the project over the term of the agreement (typically ten to twenty years). Because of its complexities, the Department provides technical assistance to public entities, such as state facilities, municipalities, public housing authorities, K-12 schools, colleges, universities and not-for-profit facilities to fully understand and navigate the EPC process. Services provided by the Department include: competitive procurement process, comparative evaluation methodology, technical review of project energy audits and scope, review and comment on basic contract documents, and advice on contract negotiations. To date, 6 the state EPC program has helped implement a total of \$73.5 million in projects with annual utility savings of over \$9.6 million at facilities throughout Illinois.

DCEO contact: Wayne Hartel, 217/785-3420, email:wayne.hartel@illinois.gov

#### **Education and Training Programs**

##### **Building Industry Training and Education Program**

The Building Industry Training and Education Program will provide funds to organizations to train professionals from all aspects of the building industry in energy efficient practices and about energy efficient products and equipment, in order to develop the robust energy efficiency services market necessary to achieve the energy savings goals in future years. Grantees will organize and coordinate workshops and training for all sectors throughout the state in order to educate the industry on the state of the art energy efficiency practices for building construction, rehab, operation, and maintenance. This program supports efforts such as the Illinois Energy Conservation Code for Commercial Building training, Home Energy Rater (HERS) training, Building Performance Institute (BPI) training and the Building Operator Certification (BOC) program.

DCEO contact: Bruce Selway, 217/785-2023, email: bruce.selway@illinois.gov

##### **Illinois Sustainable Education Project (ISTEP)**

The Illinois Sustainable Education Projects (ISTEP) provides educational resources about energy efficiency, renewable energy, waste reduction, and recycling. ISTEP was created to increase the awareness of the link between economic development and environmental protection, the environmental consequences of our actions and values, and how informed decisions can move Illinois toward a more sustainable future.

ISTEP resources include hands on Sustainable Education Demonstration Cases (recycling and vermicomposting), a variety of educational bookmarks, and educational DVDs highlighting best practices of urban renewal in IL. These items are free of charge to Illinois educators.

DCEO contact: Brett Ivers, 217/524-5859, email: brett.ivers@illinois.gov

For detailed program information visit: [www.istep.org](http://www.istep.org)

### **Illinois Sustainable Workforce Development**

This new pilot program will provide grants to Illinois community colleges to include coursework focused on energy efficiency and alternative energy technologies in the new and rehab building construction and operation industries. The program has been designed to satisfy the building construction industry's need for an energy-technologies trained workforce and promote an expanded use of these technologies throughout the State.  
DCEO contact: Carol Kulek, 217/785-3412, email: carol.kulek@illinois.gov

### **Home Performance with Energy Star Program (HPwES)**

Home Performance with ENERGY STAR is an innovative whole-house approach to improving the energy efficiency, comfort, and safety of existing homes. HPwES trains contractors to consider all energy options when retrofitting houses. Under HPwES, a qualified energy analyst first performs a thorough energy inspection of the home to gauge its energy efficiency and determine the cause of any problems the homeowner may be experiencing. Homeowners then receive a list of home improvements prioritized according to their impact on energy efficiency and cost-effectiveness, plus a list of qualified contractors trained in whole-house energy-efficiency improvements. Once the work is completed, the homeowner is eligible for a post-inspection to verify the quality and benefits of the work. The Department is working with Tri-County Construction Labor-Management Council (TRICON) in Central Illinois and EarthWays Center in the Greater St. Louis area of Illinois to train assessors and contractors for participation in the program. TRICON is a group incorporated in 1987 to strengthen the union construction industry in Central Illinois. EarthWays Center, a division of Missouri Botanical Garden, promotes sustainability through environmental education and improving the built environment. Based on the success of these pilots, DCEO plans to expand this program to other areas of the state.

DCEO contact: Bruce Selway, 217/785-2023, email: bruce.selway@illinois.gov  
Peoria TRICON contact: Ginger Johnson, 309/637-0934 email: gingerj@triconpeoria.org  
EarthWays Center contact: Glenda Abney, 314/577-0288 email: glenda.abney@mobot.org

### **Renewable Energy Programs**

#### **Renewable Energy Resources Programs (RERP)**

Illinois boasts significant potential for renewable power and heating: wind, solar and biogas offer both economic and environmental benefits. DCEO administers the Renewable Energy Resources Program (RERP) to foster the investment in and the development and use of renewable energy resources within the state of Illinois. DCEO strongly believes that the facilitation of such investment in renewable energy projects in Illinois brings strong economic development benefits to the state: new income streams for farmers, new jobs, new investment, and new property tax revenues for local governments.

#### **Solar and Wind Energy Rebate Program**

The focus of the Solar and Wind Energy Rebate Program, through the State's Renewable Energy Resources Program, is to encourage utilization of small-scale solar and wind energy systems in Illinois. Through this program the Department offers rebate awards for up to 30 percent of eligible system costs for homeowners and businesses and 50% for governmental agencies, and non-profit entities, with a maximum incentive of \$50,000 for the purchase and installation of a solar photovoltaic, solar thermal energy system or wind energy system.

DCEO contact: Wayne Hartel, 217/785-3420, email: wayne.hartel@illinois.gov or  
Scott Henkel, 217/785-3968, email: scott.henkel@illinois.gov

#### **Renewable Fuels Development Program (RFDP)**

DCEO administers the Renewable Fuels Development Program (RFDP) to increase the production of biofuels (ethanol and biodiesel) within the State of Illinois. DCEO provides up to \$5.5 million in funding (to the extent of funds available) for the construction of new biofuels facilities of at least 30 million gallons of production per year, or the expansion of existing facilities by at least 30 million gallons of production per year.

DCEO contact: Norm Marek, 217/785-5082, email: norm.marek@illinois.gov

### **Recycling Programs**

#### **Recycling Expansion and Modernization (REM) Program**

DCEO provides grants to divert materials from the municipal solid waste stream, thereby conserving our natural resources, and improving the performance and "bottom line" of Illinois businesses and organizations (reducing operating costs, increasing sales, etc.) while demonstrating public economic benefits. Modernization projects involve improved waste reduction practices or the increased use of recyclable commodities. Matching grants are available, from \$30,000 to \$250,000. REM projects include:

Assessment Services, assisting with the cost of technical experts or consultants,

Demonstration Services that involve the testing and demonstration of innovative new practices or products, and  
Implementation Services that assist with the cost of capital equipment.

Applications are received throughout the state fiscal year. In addition to the above services, matching grants of up to \$10,000 are available to for-profit companies for waste audit services designed to decrease solid waste in the firm's operations. The grant can offset the business expense of initiating a company waste reduction program that involves the hiring of a qualified consultant to conduct a waste audit. Along with the waste audit, eligible services include "first stage" implementation assistance including ongoing consultant activities and equipment needed for waste reduction. Applicants must select a qualified consultant to conduct the project.

The newest REM initiative is the Procurement/Demonstration project grant. These grants support the use of recycled content products in the construction of new "green" buildings or in "green" building remodeling initiatives. Matching grants of up to \$75,000 are available for the purchase and demonstration of recycled content products in eligible projects.

DCEO contact: David Ross, 217/782-7887, email: david.ross@illinois.gov

### **Illinois Recycling Grants Program (IRGP)**

The IRGP annually accepts applications from qualified entities for traditional recycling (fiber, plastic, metal, and glass) projects and/or computers and electronics recycling projects. The purpose of these solicitations is to divert recyclable commodities from Illinois landfills by increasing the quantity of materials recycled in Illinois and increasing the self-sufficiency of the recycling industry, as well as to establish permanent collection facilities, expand operations for processing computers and electronic equipment, and for the removal and proper management of 10 electronic components. Projects that demonstrate public economic benefits, such as job creation, are given priority.

Grants are available to assist local governments, for-profit, and not-for-profit businesses and organizations with their recycling efforts. Traditional Recyclables grant funds may be used to purchase project-related capital equipment such as collection, processing or handling equipment; project-related expansion and modernization costs; and the development and distribution of materials designed to promote and educate participants about the project. Computers and Electronics Recycling grant funds may be used to set up permanent drop-off and collection facilities; purchase recycling containers; site improvements; and purchasing processing and handling project-related equipment to collect, refurbish, demanufacture, and recycle computers and electronic equipment.

The program solicits applications through a request-for-application process. To be placed on the program's notification mailing list or to learn more about the timing and/or availability of these grants please contact DCEO.

DCEO contact: David Ross, 217/782-7887, email:david.ross@illinois.gov

Those interested are encouraged to schedule an individual consultation with their regional DCEO representative by calling 217/785-3416. For more information, visit: [www.illinoisrecycles.com](http://www.illinoisrecycles.com)

### **Illinois Zero Waste Schools Grant Program**

DCEO administers the IL Zero Waste Schools Grant Program for Illinois public and nonpublic schools to implement/expand recycling and waste reduction programs encouraging Illinois schools to achieve zero waste status. DCEO has expanded and improved the former Recycling and Waste Reduction Grant Program to encourage schools across Illinois to strive to become "waste-free," where virtually all waste generated at the school is reduced, reused, or recycled.

Those interested in more information on a new grant cycle may contact Brett Ivers at the number below. New RFAs are posted on [www.istep.org](http://www.istep.org) and [illinoisrecycles.com](http://illinoisrecycles.com) as they become available.

DCEO contact: Brett Ivers, 217/524-5859, email:brett.ivers@illinois.gov

### **Food Scrap Composting Revitalization & Advancement (F-SCRAP) Program**

DCEO is accepting applications for projects that will divert food scraps (12 percent of all MSW currently landfilled in Illinois) and other organic material, excluding yard waste, from landfills for composting. The program will assist entities with the acquisition of capital equipment for sustainable projects that will increase the volume of organic material being composted in Illinois. The Department anticipates that these projects will provide new jobs and other economic and environmental benefits to the State of Illinois as well as advance Illinois' composting infrastructure. The Department encourages the submission of joint projects or applications that address regional or multi-jurisdictional composting approaches from any combination of two or more governmental, for-profit, or not-for-profit organizations.

Program Guidelines and Applications are posted at: [illinoisrecycles.com](http://illinoisrecycles.com).

DCEO contact: David E. Smith, 217/785-2006, email: David.E.Smith@illinois.gov

#### **Important Links**

**[www.illinoisenergy.org](http://www.illinoisenergy.org) - DCEO Energy Division energy efficiency programs, guidelines and Requests for Applications (RFAs).**

**[www.illinoisrecycles.com](http://www.illinoisrecycles.com) - DCEO Recycling Division recycling programs, guidelines and Requests for Applications (RFAs).**

**[www.sedac.org](http://www.sedac.org) – Smart Energy Design Assistance Center technical support and trainings for public facilities and businesses.**

**[www.ileeps.org](http://www.ileeps.org) – IL Energy Efficiency Portfolio summary.**

**[www.istep.org](http://www.istep.org) - Illinois Sustainable Education Project resources.**

**[www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) – US EPA, US DOE ENERGY STAR products and guidance.**

**[www.boccentral.org](http://www.boccentral.org) – Building Operator Certification program.**

**[www.illinoiscleanenergy.org](http://www.illinoiscleanenergy.org) – IL Clean Energy Community Foundation energy programs for non-profit organizations.**

**IL Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity**

**[www.illinoisbiz.biz](http://www.illinoisbiz.biz)**

**TDD: 800/785-6055**