

Chicago Community Loan Fund supports the resiliency of community development efforts and created this resource guide for neighborhood scale real estate developers, small businesses and nonprofit organizations. You will find information for grants, low-cost loans and other resources offered by government and private sources that can help sustain your enterprise. Use it as a resource tool and share it broadly with peer networks. This resource guide is a living document and will be updated monthly.

If you know of a resource that should be part of this directory, or you would like additional information, please email: info@cclfcchicago.org.



Table Of Contents

Table Of Contents.....	2
Get Prepared to Apply For Assistance.....	7
FOR PROFIT FUNDING.....	8
Community Development Block Grant Public Infrastructure.....	8
January 18, 2024, 5:00 PM CST.....	8
North Shore Exchange Grant.....	9
January 19, 2024.....	9
Tech Rise.....	10
January 31, 2024.....	10
Founders First ChicagoLand Job Creators Grant.....	11
February 6, 2024,.....	11
Equitable Transit-Oriented Development.....	12
February 24, 2024, at 11:59 PM CT.....	12
Restaurant Relief Grant.....	13
March 29, 2024, 5:00 CDT.....	13
Galaxy Grant.....	14
March 31, 2024.....	14
American Dream Awards.....	15
Apr 30, 2024 at 5:00pm CDT.....	15
Racial Equity & Capital Fund (RECF).....	16
July 2026.....	16
Small Business Improvement Fund (SBIF).....	17
Monthly deadlines based on TIF Area.....	17
Emergency Supplemental Victims Fund.....	18
Rolling Application.....	18
Standard Participation Loan Program (PLP).....	19
Rolling Application.....	19
Chicago Community Loan Fund.....	20
Open Application.....	20
Connect2Capital.....	21
Open Application.....	21
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC).....	22
Open Application.....	22

This guide was compiled by



&



SomerCor.....	23
Open Application.....	23
American Express.....	24
Open Application.....	24
Honeycomb Credit - Crowdfunding Loan.....	25
Open Application.....	25
Kiva - Crowdfunding Loan.....	26
Open Application.....	26
Minority/Women/Disabled/Veteran-Owned Business Advantage Illinois.....	27
Rolling Application.....	27
DishRoulette Kitchen 2 Kitchen Grant.....	28
Rolling Application.....	28
Wish Local Empowerment Fund.....	29
Rolling Application.....	29
Cook County Property Tax Incentive Program.....	30
Rolling Application.....	30
Tax Increment Financing (TIF).....	31
Rolling Application.....	31
Chicago Neighborhood Opportunity Fund.....	32
Rolling Application.....	32
Chicago Recovery Plan Community Development Grant.....	33
Rolling Application.....	33
NON PROFIT FUNDING.....	34
Cook County Community Recovery Initiative.....	34
January 11, 2024 11:59 CST.....	34
Community Development Block Grant Public Infrastructure.....	35
January 18, 2024, 5:00 PM CST.....	35
Chicago Region Food System Fund.....	36
March.....	36
Nonprofit Finance Fund.....	37
Open Application.....	37
Chicago Community Loan Fund.....	38
Open Application.....	38
The Charitable Trust Stabilization Fund.....	39
March 31, 2024, at 11:59 pm CT.....	39
Honeycomb Credit - Crowdfunding Loan.....	40
Open Application.....	40

This guide was compiled by



Kiva - Crowdfunding Loan.....	41
Open Application.....	41
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC).....	42
Open Application.....	42
Seaway.....	43
Open Application.....	43
SomerCor.....	44
Open Application.....	44
IFF.....	45
Open Application.....	45
INDUSTRY SPECIFIC FUNDING.....	46
Good Jobs Institute.....	46
None.....	46
Real Estate.....	47
Chicago Community Loan Fund.....	47
Open Application.....	47
Your Forte, Our Finance Program.....	48
Open Application.....	48
Seaway.....	49
Open Application.....	49
IFF.....	50
Open Application.....	50
Connect2Capital.....	51
Open Application.....	51
Racial Equity & Capital Fund (RECF).....	52
July 2026.....	52
Restaurant Futures Loan Program.....	53
Rolling Application.....	53
Service Workers Action & Relief Fund.....	54
Open Application.....	54
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INSTITUTIONS.....	55
EMPOWER.....	55
Open Application.....	55
Chicago Community Loan Fund.....	56
Open Application.....	56
Community Investment Corporation.....	57
Open Application.....	57

This guide was compiled by



&



C3 Fund	58
Rolling Applications	58
Greenwood Archer Capital	59
Rolling Application	59
Allies for Community Business	60
Rolling Application	60
WBDC Direct Lending Program	61
Open Application	61
Connect2Capital	62
Open Application	62
South Side Community Federal Credit Union	63
Open Application	63
Nonprofit Finance Fund	64
Open Application	64
Community Reinvestment Fund	65
Open Application	65
IFF	66
Open Application	66
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)	67
Open Application	67
Seaway	68
Open Application	68
SomerCor	69
Open Application	69
Other Support	70
IRS Voluntary Employee Retention Credit Disclosure	70
March 22, 2024	70
Good Jobs Institute	71
None	71
Council of Fashion Designers of America	72
None	72
Other Support - Real Estate	73
Utility Bill Payment Assistance, Deferred Payment & LIHEAP	73
August 15, 2024	73
Internal Revenue Service	74
April 15, 2025	74
Residential Solar Energy Program	75

This guide was compiled by



Rolling Yearly Applications.....	75
Housing & Urban Development.....	76
Open Application.....	76
Chicago Business Center.....	77
Open Application.....	77
ChiBlockBuilder.....	78
Open Application.....	78
The Preservation Compact.....	79
Open Application.....	79
Illinois Emergency Home Owners Assistance Fund.....	80
Open Application.....	80
Cook County Legal Aid for Housing Debt.....	81
Open Application.....	81
Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights.....	82
Open Application.....	82
Chicago Cityscape.....	83
Open Enrollment.....	83
Cook County Community Recovery.....	84
None.....	84
Justice Advisory Council Grants Capacity Building Workshop.....	85
Open Application.....	85
LISC - State Farm Small Business Rescue Fund.....	86
Open Application.....	86
City of Chicago - Business Recovery Payment Plan.....	87
Open Application.....	87
Giving Compass Coronavirus & Covid-19 Funds.....	88
Open Application.....	88
Honeycomb Credit - Crowdfunding Loan.....	89
Open Application.....	89
Kiva - Crowdfunding Loan.....	90
Open Application.....	90
Chicago Service Relief.....	91
Rolling.....	91
Eat News.....	92
None.....	92

This guide was compiled by



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Get Prepared to Apply For Assistance

While many of the resources available require less documentation, the following checklist would be helpful for you to start to gather to be able to apply for grants or loans.

- ✓ Document your financial hardship – document communication from government, from your suppliers, communication to your staff or employees
- ✓ Have copies of all payment arrangements for suppliers and vendors
- ✓ Payroll information, number of staff
- ✓ Copy of your business license
- ✓ Articles of organization/incorporation
- ✓ Last 12 months of bank statements
- ✓ 3 years of organizational tax returns
 - If your business is new, funders may ask for personal tax returns
 - If your business is 1 year old, they may ask for 2 years personal, totaling 3 years of tax returns
 - Include all pages/schedules of the return
 - If you do not have the returns, be prepared to request a tax transcript
- ✓ Ensure you're in good standing
 - [Secretary of State Business Search](#)
 - [City of Chicago Business License Look Up](#)
- ✓ Make sure that you don't owe the city of Chicago money
- ✓ No back child support

Check the credit of all owners/principals/partners (N/A for nonprofits) using

AnnualCreditReport.com

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FOR PROFIT FUNDING

Community Development Block Grant Public Infrastructure

Resource Type

Grant ▾

Deadline

January 18, 2024, 5:00 PM CST

Provider

Illinois Charitable Trust

Description

The purpose of grants relative to the Public Infrastructure (PI) Notice of Funding Opportunity is to fund water and sanitary systems and storm sewer construction projects that alleviate public health, safety, and public welfare and help communities with substantial low to moderate-income populations.

Applicant Type

General ▾

For Profit ▾

Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

An entity must be registered in the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act, at the time of grant application. The portal will verify that the entity.

Approved Use of Funds

Improve public infrastructure
Eliminate conditions detrimental to public health, safety, and public welfare

Amount

\$300,000 - \$1,500,000

Application Link

[Community Development Block Application](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

North Shore Exchange Grant

Resource Type

Grant ▾

Deadline

January 19, 2024

Provider

Wish

Description

North Shore Exchange awards grants to organizations that provide human services and education to children and families in the Chicago-land area living below the poverty line.

Applicant Type

Non Profit ▾

For Profit ▾

Eligibility

Must have been in operation for at least three years

Faith-based organizations and charter schools **will not** be considered

Must be an organization that addresses disabilities, domestic violence, education, elderly, healthcare, homelessness, hunger, legal rights, mental health, and social services.

Approved Use of Funds

Organizations can propose a new program, expand or continue to support existing programs, as well as general operations and capital expenditures.

Amount

Grant requests accepted up to \$40,000.

*Larger transformative grant requests that identify a specific need and impactful use of funds will be considered.

Application Link

[North Shore Exchange Grant Application](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Tech Rise

Resource Type

Funders ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

January 31, 2024

Provider

Tech Rise

Description

Tech Rise is a Beta phase digital platform for entrepreneurs seeking equity capital. The \$5 Million fund is non-dilutive Friends & Family capital for Chicago's historically underfunded tech founders.

Applicant Type

Individual ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

- Pitches will be virtual via Zoom and live-streamed to YouTube so friends and family can watch!
- The format will be 4-minute pitches and 4-minute Q&A sections with the judges.
- No matter if you win or not, TechRise works to help you find additional resources to help your business grow.

Financial Products/Services

Incubators
VC Funding
Crowdfunding
Direct Lending
[Learn more about Tech Rises' services and product here](#)

Amount

\$25,000 - \$50,000

Application Link

[Tech Rise Application](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Founders First ChicagoLand Job Creators Grant

Resource Type

Grant ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

February 6, 2024,

Provider

Founders First CDC, Rockefeller Foundation

Description

The Founders First CDC organization aims to build a more inclusive economy. In that interest it has launched the Job Creators Quest Fund to support businesses and job creation.

Applicant Type

For Profit ▾

Eligibility

- Must identify as Latinx, Black, Asian, Women, LGBTQIA+, Military Veteran or live in a middle to low-income area
- Must be a for-profit company (annual revenues \$100K - \$5 million)
- Must be B2B or B2G (G= Government)
- [More information on eligibility](#)

Approved Use of Funds

Requirements for the allocation of the funds are not directly stated but after receiving the funds, the awarded corporation must hire 1-2 new premium hires.

Amount

Grant size will vary, total fund amount is \$100,000

Application Link

[Founders First Job Creator Grant Information and Application](#)

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Equitable Transit-Oriented Development

Resource Type

Grant ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

February 24, 2024, at 11:59 PM CT

Provider

Connected Communities Ordinance and The City of Chicago

Description

The ETOD program will provide funding and technical assistance to support community-led equitable development near transit. Available grant funding will consist of equity-focused funding for capital investments to be awarded over the course of 2 years and paired with technical assistance.

Applicant Type

For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Must demonstrate equitable values in corporate engagement whether BIPOC leadership, employment of disabled persons and or accommodations, etc.

Near at least one public transit stop or providing multiple modes of transport.

Approved Use of Funds

Approved uses of funds include but are not limited to major exterior and interior renovations to existing buildings, build-outs for incoming business acquisition, site preparation, demolition, architectural and engineering fees, roofing, masonry, façade, windows, doors mechanical systems. For more information visit the link below.

Amount

Up to \$250,000

Application Link

[Individual Artist Performance Grant Application](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Restaurant Relief Grant

Resource Type

Grant ▾

DeadlineMarch 29, 2024, 5:00 CDT**Provider**

DoorDash

Description

This grant is for restaurant businesses that have experienced challenges related to a natural disaster.

Applicant Type

For Profit ▾

Eligibility

Be a restaurant, gastropub, or bakery with a brick & mortar location that:

Experienced a loss in revenue as a direct result of a state of emergency or federally-declared natural disaster which occurred within the last 12 months;

Has 3 or fewer total locations;
Has 50 or fewer employees per location;
Has been open for at least 6 months;
Has revenues of \$3M or less per location in 2022;
Is independently-owned.

Approved Use of Funds

N/A

Amount**\$10,000.****Application Link**[Apply Here](#)

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COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Galaxy Grant

Resource Type

Grant ▾

Deadline

March 31, 2024

Provider

Small Business Association

Description

Galaxy of Stars is a great online network for minority and women-owned businesses. They provide free tools to help these businesses succeed. These tools include free websites and free hosting, forums that provide a great, safe place to interact

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Must be a minority or female entrepreneur

Approved Use of Funds

There are no requirements for the use of funds

Amount

\$2,750

Application Link

[Galaxy Grant Application](#)

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COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

American Dream Awards

Resource Type

Grant ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Apr 30, 2024 at 5:00pm CDT

Provider

American Dream Foundation

Description

The American Dream Awards shine a spotlight on small businesses that epitomize the modern American Dream through their innovative solutions, outstanding community contributions, and commitment to sustainable business practices.

Applicant Type

For Profit ▾ General ▾

Eligibility

Must be a for profit organization

Approved Use of Funds

No requirements set forth for the allocation of funds

Amount

\$1,0000

Application Link

[American Dream Awards Grant Application and Info](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Racial Equity & Capital Fund (RECF)

Resource Type

Grant ▾

Supplemental Resource ▾

Funders ▾

Deadline

July 2026

Provider

Exelon Foundation

Description

Expand access to capital to minority businesses so they can create more jobs, grow their companies, and reinvest in their neighborhoods and communities.

Applicant Type

For Profit ▾

Eligibility

Must be a minority-owned business

Approved Use of Funds

N/A

Amount

\$100,000 and \$300,000 Loans and Equity Investments of nearly \$1 million.

Application Link

[Racial Equity Capital Fund](#)

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COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Small Business Improvement Fund (SBIF)

Resource Type

Grant ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Government Tax Credit ▾

Deadline

Monthly deadlines based on TIF Area.

[More Info Here](#)

Provider

SomCor and The City of Chicago

Description

The Small Business Improvement Fund (SBIF) provides grant funding, offered to tenants and owners of industrial and commercial properties.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Business properties must be located in a TIF district where SBIF funds are available and open for applications

Commercial businesses with gross annual sales up to \$9 million on average over the previous three years

Commercial property owners with net worth up to \$ 9 million and liquid assets up to \$500,000

Industrial businesses with up to 200 full-time employees

Approved Use of Funds

Permanent building repairs and improvements

Amount

Grants will cover between 30% and 90% of the cost of remodeling work

Max Grant for Commercial Property: \$150,000

Max Grant for Industrial Properties/ Businesses: \$250,000

Application Link

[Small Business Improvement Fund Application](#)

This guide was compiled by



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Emergency Supplemental Victims Fund

Resource Type

Grant ▾

Deadline

Rolling Application

Provider

City of Chicago

Description

The City of Chicago's Emergency Supplemental Victims Fund (ESVF) pilot provides financial assistance in set amounts to survivors and their families to alleviate the immediate financial impacts of fatal and non-fatal shooting incidents.

Applicant Type

Individual ▾

Eligibility

You must be a City of Chicago resident who has a family member who experienced gunshot injuries in West Garfield Park, East Garfield Park, Englewood, West Englewood, or New City, on or after January 1, 2023, *provided they are not detained by law enforcement.*

Must be someone who lost a loved one to gun violence on or after January 1, 2023 in any of the designated neighborhoods.

Funds available until depleted

Immigrant Status does not affect eligibility*

Approved Use of Funds

Funeral Expenses, Medical recovery,

Amount

Up to \$6,000

Application Link

[Emergency Supplemental Victims Fund Info and Application](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Standard Participation Loan Program (PLP)

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Rolling Application

Provider

There are a number of lenders in the Illinois and greater Chicagoland area are listed below, the full list is [here](#)

Description

The Standard Participation Loan Program was designed to enable small businesses to obtain medium to long-term financing, in the form of term loans, to help scale their businesses. Department participation is at the discretion of the lender and has a “below market” interest rate.

Applicant Type

For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

For businesses to be eligible they must have fewer than 750 full-time employees.

Approved Use of Funds

Start-up costs, working capital, business procurement, franchise fees, equipment, inventory, as well as the purchase, construction, renovation, or tenant improvements of an eligible place of business that is not for passive real estate investment purposes

[Additional information is here](#)

Amount

\$10,000 - \$200,000

Application Link

Apply with individual lenders [here](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Chicago Community Loan Fund

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Chicago Community Loan Fund

Description

CCLF provides flexible loans to support housing, commercial and economic development, social enterprises, and community facility space for retailers and social enterprises.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Entrepreneurs/Small Businesses focused on housing, commercial and economic development, social enterprises, and community facility space.

Financial Products/Services

Flexible Financing Products
Activate Retail
Predevelopment Loans
Construction & Rehabilitation Loans'
Housing Cooperative Loans
Diverse Mortgages

Amount

Resource/Funding

Application Link

[Chicago Community Loan Fund Products and Info](#)

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Connect2Capital

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Funders ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Allies for Community Business

Description

Connect2Capital is an online network serving as a market place to bring mission-driven lenders and referral partners together to help small businesses find the funding they need to flourish.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

This is a marketplace for entrepreneurs, investors, financial institutions, and financial retailers.

Approved Use of Funds

Loans are to be used at your discretion

Amount

\$500 - \$5,000,000.

Application Link

[Connect2Capital Application](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾ Loan ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Local Initiatives Support Corporation

Description

LISC has a variety of flexible lending products designed to help local groups bring development projects to fruition. Our loans cover every phase of development, from predevelopment to permanent financing.

Applicant Type

Non Profit ▾ For Profit ▾ General ▾

Eligibility

Eligibility for loans and services will change depending on the type of funding or service you are looking to receive. See below for more information.

Financial Products/Services

LISC has a variety of loans for enterprises, education, non-profit institutions, commercial real estate, personal real estate, and health. [See here for a full list](#)

Amount

\$10,000 - \$3,000,000

Application Link

[LISC Loan Application and Info](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

SomerCor

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Loan ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

SomerCor

Description

SomerCor offers a unique range of financial solutions to help grow your business. Our objective is to identify the best financial option for your business and guide you through the entire process.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

SomerCor mainly lends to registered small businesses

Financial Products/Services

Real estate purchase Loans, Renovation loans, fixed equipment SBA 7(a) Community Advantage Loans, and SBA 504 Loans

Amount

Up to \$5,500,000

Application Link

[SomerCor Loan Information](#)

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American Express

Resource Type

Funders ▾ Loan ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

American Express

Description

The American Express Working Capital Program is a financial product offered by AMEX to its business card members to seamlessly streamline the payment of vendors. Amex handles the payment processing via ACH to give you access to capital in the form of a revolving short-term line of credit so you can focus on growing your business.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Must be an Amex Business cardholder or client

Financial Products/Services

Credit Lines
Business Credit Lines
Financial Solutions

[AMEX Business Financial Solutions and Products](#)

Amount

\$500 - \$150,000 (Revolving Credit line)

Application Link

[American Express Working Capital Assistance Application](#)

[Late fee & interest waiver](#)

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Honeycomb Credit - Crowdfunding Loan

Resource Type

Funders ▾ Loan ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Honeycomb

Description

Honeycomb is offering 45-day payment free periods, 6-month interest-only periods and reducing posting, success, and investor fees

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

All Businesses

Financial Products/Services

Crowdfunded Small Business Relief Loan

Amount

Varied

Application Link

[Crowdfunding App](#)

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COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Kiva - Crowdfunding Loan

Resource TypeFunders ▾

Loan ▾

Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Kiva

Description

Kiva is a crowdfunding platform that offers zero interest, crowdfunding loans

Applicant Type

General ▾

For Profit ▾

Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

All Businesses

Financial
Products/Services

Crowdfunded Small Business Loan

Amount

Up to \$15,000

Application Link[Kiva Site](#)

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 CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Minority/Women/Disabled/Veteran-Owned Business Advantage Illinois

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Rolling Application

Provider

Approved DCEO Lenders

Description

Businesses – similar to Standard PLP; however, the amount of financial support may range depending on loan term, MWDV majority control/ownership.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Businesses must have fewer than 750 full-time employees

Must be majority-owned and/or controlled by minority persons, women, disabled persons, or veteran-owned

Approved Use of Funds

Start-up costs, working capital, business procurement, franchise fees, equipment, inventory, as well as the purchase, construction, renovation, or tenant improvements of an eligible place of business **that is not** for passive real estate investment purposes.

Amount

\$10,000 - \$200,000

Application Link

Download a list of [lenders](#)

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DishRoulette Kitchen 2 Kitchen Grant

Resource Type

Grant ▾

Deadline

Rolling Application

Provider

Small Business Association

Description

This micro-grant program is aimed at providing monetary relief to the restaurant industry on a micro level.

Applicant Type

For Profit ▾

Eligibility

Applicants must be located in the Chicagoland area, majority minority-owned, less than \$500,000 annual revenue in business for at least one year and show a 25% decrease in revenue due to COVID-19

Recipients will be selected via a scoring system based on **TEAM, NEED, and GROWTH**.

[Click Here for Further Details.](#)

Approved Use of Funds

N/A

Amount

\$1,000

Application Link

[Dish Roulette Kitchen Grant Application!](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Wish Local Empowerment Fund

Resource Type

Grant ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Rolling Application

Provider

Wish

Description

Wish has created a \$2M dollar fund to give roughly 4,000 Wish Local small business partners financial support.

Applicant Type

For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

All of the criteria listed must be met in order to be eligible

You have a Black-owned business
 You are 18+ years of age
 Your store has 20 or fewer employees
 Your store is a brick-and-mortar shop within the United States
 Your store earns an average annual revenue under \$1M
 If selected for the program, you must join Wish Local

Approved Use of Funds

There are no specific requirements on the allocation of the funds, however the sponsor organization would like for the funds to be used to keep your workforce employed, paying rent, operation or inventory costs, marketing, or to provide opportunities for your community

Amount

\$500 - \$2000

Application Link

[Wish Local Empowerment Application](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Cook County Property Tax Incentive Program

Resource Type

Government Tax Credit ▾ Financial Assistance ▾

Deadline

Rolling Application

Provider

Cook County Assessor's Office, City of Chicago

Description

Cook County has designated property tax incentives for real estate and commercial development projects.

Applicant Type

For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾ General ▾

Eligibility

Must be a capital project

Approved Use of Funds

Tax Incentive

Amount

Property Tax Incentives vary by location and affidavit requirements

Application Link

[Cook County Property Tax Incentives Information and Application](#)

This guide was compiled by



Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

Resource Type

Grant ▾ Government Tax Credit ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Rolling Application

Provider

Department of Planning and Development, City of Chicago

Description

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is a special funding tool used by the City of Chicago to promote public and private investment across the city. Funds are used to build and repair roads and infrastructure, clean polluted land and put vacant properties back to productive use, usually in conjunction with private development projects.

Applicant Type

Non Profit ▾ For Profit ▾ General ▾

Eligibility

- Proposed development site must show signs of
- Age
 - Obsolescence
 - Code violations
 - Excessive vacancies
 - Overcrowding of facilities
 - Lack of ventilation, light, sanitary facilities
- [Find more information on TIF eligibility here](#)

Approved Use of Funds

Rehabilitation, Construction, any and all hard cost associated with project.

Amount

TIF projects typically exceed \$1,000,000

Application Link

[Tax Increment Financing Information](#)

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Chicago Neighborhood Opportunity Fund

Resource Type

Grant ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Rolling Application

Provider

Department of Planning and Development, City of Chicago

Description

The Neighborhood Opportunity Fund uses funds to support commercial corridors in Chicago's underserved neighborhoods. Business and property owners may apply for grant funding to pay for the construction or rehabilitation of real estate and projects that support new or expanding businesses or cultural assets.

Applicant Type

Non Profit ▾ For Profit ▾

Eligibility

The Neighborhood Opportunity Fund (NOF) awards grants to projects that have a catalytic impact on the neighborhood and lead to the construction or rehabilitation of new and existing, publicly accessible, commercial spaces (e.g. grocery stores, retail establishments, or restaurants) or cultural establishments.

Approved Use of Funds

- Land acquisition and assembly
- Building acquisition, demolition and environmental remediation
- Security measures
- Roofing, façade repair and mechanical system repairs
- Architectural and engineering fees
- Financing fees (related to securing a loan or other capital)
- Minor site improvements, such as fencing or planters, when a part of an eligible project
- Other soft costs associated with eligible hard costs

Amount

\$250,000 - \$2,500,000

Application Link

[Neighborhood Opportunity Fund Grant Info and Application](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Chicago Recovery Plan Community Development Grant

Resource Type

Grant ▾

Deadline

Rolling Application

Provider

Department of Planning and Development, City of Chicago

Description

DPD is now accepting applications for grant funding to support local commercial, mixed-use, and light manufacturing development. All are welcome to apply. City staff will prioritize projects in areas of Chicago where there is a history of disinvestment or limited private investment.

[See all grants here](#)

Applicant Type

For Profit ▾

Non Profit ▾

General ▾

Eligibility

Grant funding can be used for pre-development, construction, or renovation costs for permanent capital improvement projects.

Open to community developers, business owners and entrepreneurs, and property owners. Site control is preferred, but not required.

Residential-only development is not eligible, but mixed-use projects are eligible.

[More Information on Eligibility](#)

Approved Use of Funds

Local commercial, mixed-use, and light manufacturing development

Amount

The City expects awards to be capped at **\$5 million**

Application Link

[Chicago Recovery Grant Information and Application](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

NON PROFIT FUNDING

Cook County Community Recovery Initiative

Resource Type

Grant ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

January 11, 2024 11:59 CST

Provider

Cook County

Description

Cook County created this rapid response initiative to provide equitable and holistic comprehensive financial relief and critical support services to help suburban Cook County residents and small businesses rebound stronger than ever from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

[For more information on othe services](#)

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Must meet all the requirements to be eligible

[Click here to see all requirements for reference](#)

Approved Use of Funds

Any and all expenses related to business

Amount

Up to **\$30,000**

Application Link

[Cook County Community Recovery Program Application](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Community Development Block Grant Public Infrastructure

Resource Type	Grant ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾
Deadline	January 18, 2024, 5:00 PM CST
Provider	Illinois Charitable Trust
Description	The purpose of grants relative to the Public Infrastructure (PI) Notice of Funding Opportunity is to fund water and sanitary systems and storm sewer construction projects that alleviate public health, safety, and public welfare and help communities with substantial low to moderate-income populations.
Applicant Type	General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾
Eligibility	An entity must be registered in the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act, at the time of grant application. The portal will verify that the entity.
Approved Use of Funds	Improve public infrastructure Eliminate conditions detrimental to public health, safety, and public welfare
Amount	\$300,000 - \$1,500,000
Application Link	Community Development Block Application

This guide was compiled by



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Chicago Region Food System Fund

Resource Type

Grant ▾

Deadline

March

Provider

Small Business Association

Description

The round offers \$3 million in funding for organizations and projects that guide Chicago's food system away from extractive, commercial agriculture and food systems—which reward a small group of corporations and shareholders—and towards cooperative models and sustainability for both land and livelihoods. [Learn More](#)

Applicant Type

Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Must be a 501(c)(3) organization or fiscal sponsor

Community associations such as block clubs or emerging projects that have not yet secured nonprofit status may partner with nonprofits that apply

[More on Eligibility found here](#)

Approved Use of Funds

N/A

Amount

Awarding \$3,000,000 in grants for Evolve the Food System. Grants will range from \$25,000 to \$150,000 in \$25,000 increments.

Application Link

[Chicago Regional Food System Fund](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Nonprofit Finance Fund

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Funders ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Nonprofit Finance Fund

Description

The Nonprofit Finance Fund (NFF) is a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) that provides loans, other financing, and consulting services to help nonprofits and social enterprises expand opportunities in their communities.

Applicant Type

General ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Nonprofits & Social Enterprise

Financial Products/Services

Acquisition & Construction loans, New Market Tax Credits
Working capital
Bridge Loans
Consulting Services
Investing

Amount

Varied

Application Link

[Nonprofit Finance Fund - Loan Interest Form](#)

This guide was compiled by



Chicago Community Loan Fund

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Chicago Community Loan Fund

Description

CCLF provides flexible loans to support housing, commercial and economic development, social enterprises, and community facility space for retailers and social enterprises.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Entrepreneurs/Small Businesses focused on housing, commercial and economic development, social enterprises, and community facility space.

Financial Products/Services

Flexible Financing Products
Activate Retail
Predevelopment Loans
Construction & Rehabilitation Loans'
Housing Cooperative Loans
Diverse Mortgages

Amount

Resource/Funding

Application Link

[Chicago Community Loan Fund Products and Info](#)

This guide was compiled by



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The Charitable Trust Stabilization Fund

Resource Type

Grant ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

March 31, 2024, at 11:59 pm CT

Provider

Illinois Charitable Trust

Description

The Charitable Trust Stabilization Fund (“Fund”) was created in 2007 to help small nonprofits across Illinois.

Applicant Type

Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Open to community developers, business owners and entrepreneurs, and property owners.
Site control is preferred, but not required.
Residential-only development is not eligible, but mixed-use projects are eligible.

Approved Use of Funds

Pre-Development costs, Construction, Renovation, Permanent improvement projects

Amount

Grants up to **\$20,000**

Application Link

[Charitable Trust Stabilization Application](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Honeycomb Credit - Crowdfunding Loan

Resource Type

Funders ▾ Loan ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Honeycomb

Description

Honeycomb is offering 45-day payment free periods, 6-month interest-only periods and reducing posting, success, and investor fees

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

All Businesses

Financial Products/Services

Crowdfunded Small Business Relief Loan

Amount

Varied

Application Link

[Crowdfunding App](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Kiva - Crowdfunding Loan

Resource Type

Funders ▾ **Loan ▾** Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Kiva

Description

Kiva is a crowdfunding platform that offers zero interest, crowdfunding loans

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ **Non Profit ▾**

Eligibility

All Businesses

Financial Products/Services

Crowdfunded Small Business Loan

Amount

Up to \$15,000

Application Link

[Kiva Site](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾ Loan ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Local Initiatives Support Corporation

Description

LISC has a variety of flexible lending products designed to help local groups bring development projects to fruition. Our loans cover every phase of development, from predevelopment to permanent financing.

Applicant Type

Non Profit ▾ For Profit ▾ General ▾

Eligibility

Eligibility for loans and services will change depending on the type of funding or service you are looking to receive. See below for more information.

Financial Products/Services

LISC has a variety of loans for enterprises, education, non-profit institutions, commercial real estate, personal real estate, and health. [See here for a full list](#)

Amount

\$10,000 - \$3,000,000

Application Link

[LISC Loan Application and Info](#)

This guide was compiled by



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Seaway

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾ Loan ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Seaway Bank

Description

A division of Self Help Federal Credit Union
Small Business; Consumer; Commercial and
Residential Real Estate

Applicant Type

Individual ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Seaway accepts smaller loan applications from residents and businesses in Illinois and North Carolina. Applications outside of those states must exceed \$500,000

Seaway prefers to lend to community businesses, community based development projects, and account holders. [More on Seaway enterprise lending](#)

Financial Products/Services

Facilities; facilities improvement; vehicle and equipment; working capital for small businesses

Amount

\$15,000 - \$3,000,000

Application Link

[Seaway Bank Information](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

SomerCor

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Loan ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

SomerCor

Description

SomerCor offers a unique range of financial solutions to help grow your business. Our objective is to identify the best financial option for your business and guide you through the entire process.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

SomerCor mainly lends to registered small businesses

Financial Products/Services

Real estate purchase Loans, Renovation loans, fixed equipment SBA 7(a) Community Advantage Loans, and SBA 504 Loans

Amount

Up to \$5,500,000

Application Link

[SomerCor Loan Information](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

IFF

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Loan ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Intersection of Facilities and Finance (IFF)

Description

With experience in equity and deep sector expertise, IFF helps nonprofits to shape more equitable and vibrant communities through community-centered lending, development, and real estate consulting.

Applicant Type

Non Profit ▾ Government ▾

Eligibility

Must be a Non-Profit organization or have a social investing purpose with proposed projects.

Financial Products/Services

Low interest Loans
Data and Analysis services
Real Estate Consulting

Amount

\$10,000 - \$6,500,000

Application Link

[IFF Applications and Info](#)

This guide was compiled by



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INDUSTRY SPECIFIC FUNDING

Good Jobs Institute

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

None

Provider

Good Jobs Institute

Description

The Good Jobs Institute aims to help companies thrive by creating good jobs and to redefine what it means to run a successful business. They work with leaders across industries interested in bringing the Good Jobs Strategy to their organizations. They have worked with companies across a variety of industries.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

This is a general financial resource for workers and small business owners

Financial Products/Services

Financial resource guide for workers' relief funds and small business relief funds.

Amount

Resource Guide

Application Link

[Good Jobs Institute Information](#)

This guide was compiled by



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Real Estate

Chicago Community Loan Fund

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Chicago Community Loan Fund

Description

CCLF provides flexible loans to support housing, commercial and economic development, social enterprises, and community facility space for retailers and social enterprises.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Entrepreneurs/Small Businesses focused on housing, commercial and economic development, social enterprises, and community facility space.

Financial Products/Services

Flexible Financing Products
Activate Retail
Predevelopment Loans
Construction & Rehabilitation Loans'
Housing Cooperative Loans
Diverse Mortgages

Amount

Resource/Funding

Application Link

[Chicago Community Loan Fund Products and Info](#)

This guide was compiled by



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Your Forte, Our Finance Program

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾ Loan ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Greenwood Archer Capital

Description

The program's mission extends beyond providing micro-financing benefits to primarily African American-owned small businesses, the program empowers entrepreneurs to support economic development within their community, in turn leading the way for a stronger infrastructure.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Business must be black-owned.
Must demonstrate the ability to repay loan as well as meet GAC's other underwriting guidelines.
The commercial portion of the building must be owner-occupied.
Must be currently purchasing real estate for business use.
Mixed-use buildings are allowed if commercial space is occupied by the business borrowing funds.
The borrower must participate in technical assistance offered by program

Financial Products/Services

Commercial Real Estate Loan

Amount

Varied - \$200,000

Application Link

[Your Forte, Our Finance Application and Details](#)

This guide was compiled by



Seaway

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾ Loan ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Seaway Bank

Description

A division of Self Help Federal Credit Union
Small Business; Consumer; Commercial and
Residential Real Estate

Applicant Type

Individual ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Seaway accepts smaller loan applications from residents and businesses in Illinois and North Carolina. Applications outside of those states must exceed \$500,000

Seaway prefers to lend to community businesses, community based development projects, and account holders. [More on Seaway enterprise lending](#)

Financial Products/Services

Facilities; facilities improvement; vehicle and equipment; working capital for small businesses

Amount

\$15,000 - \$3,000,000

Application Link

[Seaway Bank Information](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

IFF

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Loan ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Intersection of Facilities and Finance (IFF)

Description

With experience in equity and deep sector expertise, IFF helps nonprofits to shape more equitable and vibrant communities through community-centered lending, development, and real estate consulting.

Applicant Type

Non Profit ▾ Government ▾

Eligibility

Must be a Non-Profit organization or have a social investing purpose with proposed projects.

Financial Products/Services

Low interest Loans
Data and Analysis services
Real Estate Consulting

Amount

\$10,000 - \$6,500,000

Application Link

[IFF Applications and Info](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Connect2Capital

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾ Loan ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Allies for Community Business

Description

Connect2Capital is an online network serving as a market place to bring mission-driven lenders and referral partners together to help small businesses find the funding they need to flourish.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

This is a marketplace for entrepreneurs, investors, financial institutions, and financial retailers.

Approved Use of Funds

Loans are to be used at your discretion

Amount

\$500 - \$5,000,000.

Application Link

[Connect2Capital Application](#)

This guide was compiled by

Project
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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Racial Equity & Capital Fund (RECF)

Resource Type

Grant ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

July 2026

Provider

Exelon Foundation

Description

Expand access to capital to minority businesses so they can create more jobs, grow their companies, and reinvest in their neighborhoods and communities.

Applicant Type

For Profit ▾

Eligibility

Must be a minority-owned business

Approved Use of Funds

N/A

Amount

\$100,000 and \$300,000 Loans and Equity Investments of nearly \$1 million.

Application Link

[Racial Equity Capital Fund](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Restaurant Futures Loan Program

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Rolling Application

Provider

Ascendus, Restaurant Workers Community Foundation (RWCF)

Description

RWCF has partnered with Ascendus, a national nonprofit small business lender, to distribute \$1.575 million in loans. The program started in February 2021, most of the initial funds have been dispersed, but applications will be processed on a rolling basis as loans are repaid and the fund is replenished.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Qualified loan applicants will be asked to consider their business operations on four dimensions and identify ways to improve upon going forward

- Sustainable wages and career ladders
- Gender equity and sexual violence in the workplace
- Immigrant and racial equity
- Supporting workers with mental health and substance misuse challenges.

*Approved applicants may be eligible for a grant 10% the value of the loan

Financial Products/Services

Grants
Networking & Community Services
Impact Investments

Amount

\$50,000 0% Interest Loans

Application Link

[Restaurant Futures Loan Program Info](#)

This guide was compiled by



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Service Workers Action & Relief Fund

Resource Type

Grant ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

One Fair Wage

Description

Service Workers Action & Relief Fund to support service workers (restaurant workers or other tipped workers) who are organizing their coworkers to make real and lasting change in their workplace!.

Applicant Type

Individual ▾

Eligibility

Service workers (restaurant workers or other tipped workers) who are currently working and thinking about walking off their jobs, and willing to stay in their jobs and undergo training to fight for higher wages and better working conditions

Service workers (restaurant workers or other tipped workers) who have walked off the job in the last two months (since April 1, 2021), who are willing to get trained to organize their peers in the service sector to demand higher wages and be able to return to a more sustainable industry.

Approved Use of Funds

No requirements for the allocation of funds

Amount

Up to \$6,000

Application Link[Service Worker Action & Relief Fund](#)

This guide was compiled by


 Project Forward

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 CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INSTITUTIONS

EMPOWER

Resource Type

Funders ▾ Financial Assistance ▾ Loan ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Greenwood Archer Capital (GAC), Business Services Collective (BSA)

Description

EMPOWER is a transformative partnership model investing in construction entrepreneurs by providing back-office support services, equitable access to business capital, and projects that lead the way for community autonomy, stronger infrastructure, and wealth creation.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

This program is tailored for Construction Entrepreneurs and General Contractors

Financial Products/Services

Bookkeeping
Accounting
Service Estimation
Flexible Capital

Amount

Up to **\$100,000**

Application Link

[Schedule Meeting Here](#)

[Learn more about EMPOWER](#)

This guide was compiled by



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Chicago Community Loan Fund

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Chicago Community Loan Fund

Description

CCLF provides flexible loans to support housing, commercial and economic development, social enterprises, and community facility space for retailers and social enterprises.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Entrepreneurs/Small Businesses focused on housing, commercial and economic development, social enterprises, and community facility space.

Financial Products/Services

Flexible Financing Products
Activate Retail
Predevelopment Loans
Construction & Rehabilitation Loans'
Housing Cooperative Loans
Diverse Mortgages

Amount

Resource/Funding

Application Link

[Chicago Community Loan Fund Products and Info](#)

This guide was compiled by



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Community Investment Corporation

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Funders ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Community Investment Corporation (CIC)

Description

For more than 30 years, multifamily lending has been CIC's core business. Get expert construction advice and personalized, hands-on customer service.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾

Eligibility

Must have five or more units in the property for which the loan is to be applied.

Financial Products/Services

1-4 Unit Property Loans
Mezzanine Loans
Energy Retrofits
TIF Purchase Rehab
[Learn more and CIC Financial Products here](#)

Amount

Loan amounts based on approval

Application Link

[Community Investment Corporation](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

C3 Fund

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Rolling Applications

Provider

C3 FUND

Description

C3 focuses on catalyzing development in low to moderate communities, creating local jobs, and closing the racial and wealth gap– and we do this in part by centering our attention on women in real estate.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Must be BIPOC or a Woman

Financial Products/Services

1-4 unit Rehab financing
Fix and Flip financing

Amount

\$75,000 - \$500,000

Application Link

[C3 Acquisition and Rehab Loan Application](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Greenwood Archer Capital

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Rolling Application

Provider

Greenwood Archer Capital

Description

Greenwood Archer Capital is a Community Financial Development Institution (CDFI) that prides itself on equitable investing by funding promising minority-owned businesses in Chicago.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Greenwood Archer funds Minority-owned businesses

Financial Products/Services

General Lending
Start up capital

Amount

Average loan is **\$23,000**

Application Link

[Greenwood Archer Capital formerly CNI MFG](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Allies for Community Business

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Rolling Application

Provider

Allies for Community Business

Description

Allies for Community Business is a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), SBA micro- lending intermediary, and SBA Community Advantage lender. Allies for Community Business administers several community grants as well.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Loans are approved based on an evaluation of how well you have managed your debts over the past two years and how much cash you have available to make monthly loan payments.

This lender does not use credit scores and will not put liens on your personal assets.

Financial Products/Services

Loans are to be used at your discretion

Amount

Provides loans **\$500 - \$100,000**.

Application Link

[Allies for Community Business](#)

This guide was compiled by



WBDC Direct Lending Program

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾ Loan ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Women's Development Business Center

Description

The Women's Business Development Center, founded in 1986 offers access to coaching, contract consulting, and capital stacks to augment the success and access to capital opportunities for women and other diverse business owners.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Loans are offered to businesses in Northeast Illinois with less than \$1,000,000 in annual revenue.

Financial Products/Services

Capital Consulting
Capital Lending
Debt and Equity Structuring
Kiva Community Lending

[View all financial services/products here](#)

Amount

Varied Amounts and rates

Application Link

[WBDC Direct Lending Program Application](#)

This guide was compiled by



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Connect2Capital

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Allies for Community Business

Description

Connect2Capital is an online network serving as a market place to bring mission-driven lenders and referral partners together to help small businesses find the funding they need to flourish.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

This is a marketplace for entrepreneurs, investors, financial institutions, and financial retailers.

Approved Use of Funds

Loans are to be used at your discretion

Amount

\$500 - \$5,000,000.

Application Link

[Connect2Capital Application](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

South Side Community Federal Credit Union

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

South Side Community Federal Union

Description

Individual Artists Program (IAP) Grants support the creation, development, or presentation of artwork and professional development. Grants support artists across all artistic disciplines including Film and Media Arts, Literary Arts, Music, Performing Arts (Theater/Dance), Visual Arts, and design

Applicant Type

Individual ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Loans are exclusively available to South Side Community Federal Credit Union members.

[Learn about opening an account here.](#)

Financial Products/Services

Auto Loans
Micro Business Loans
Payroll Advance Loans
Checking/Savings
[View all financial services/products here](#)

Amount

\$150 - \$15,000

Application Link

[South Side Community Federal Credit Union](#)

This guide was compiled by



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Nonprofit Finance Fund

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Funders ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Nonprofit Finance Fund

Description

The Nonprofit Finance Fund (NFF) is a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) that provides loans, other financing, and consulting services to help nonprofits and social enterprises expand opportunities in their communities.

Applicant Type

General ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Nonprofits & Social Enterprise

Financial Products/Services

Acquisition & Construction loans, New Market Tax Credits
Working capital
Bridge Loans
Consulting Services
Investing

Amount

Varied

Application Link

[Nonprofit Finance Fund - Loan Interest Form](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Community Reinvestment Fund

Resource Type

Loan ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Community Reinvestment Fund (CRF)

Description

CRF works to complement and amplify the scale and effectiveness of the small business ecosystem with its lending, technology and service solutions.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Corporations
Small Business
Philanthropic organizations
Public sector
CDFIs

[More Information found here](#)

Financial Products/Services

SBA Loans (7a)
Bond agreements
Secondary Loan markets
CDFI Lending

[More Information on all Financial Products and Services](#)

Amount

Up to

Application Link

[Apply Here](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

IFF

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Loan ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Intersection of Facilities and Finance (IFF)

Description

With experience in equity and deep sector expertise, IFF helps nonprofits to shape more equitable and vibrant communities through community-centered lending, development, and real estate consulting.

Applicant Type

Non Profit ▾ Government ▾

Eligibility

Must be a Non- Profit organization or have a social investing purpose with proposed projects.

Financial Products/Services

Low interest Loans
Data and Analysis services
Real Estate Consulting

Amount

\$100,000 - \$6,500,000

Application Link

[IFF Applications and Info](#)

This guide was compiled by



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Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾ Loan ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Local Initiatives Support Corporation

Description

LISC has a variety of flexible lending products designed to help local groups bring development projects to fruition. Our loans cover every phase of development, from predevelopment to permanent financing.

Applicant Type

Non Profit ▾ For Profit ▾ General ▾

Eligibility

Eligibility for loans and services will change depending on the type of funding or service you are looking to receive. See below for more information.

Financial Products/Services

LISC has a variety of loans for enterprises, education, non-profit institutions, commercial real estate, personal real estate, and health. [See here for a full list](#)

Amount

\$10,000 - \$3,000,000

Application Link

[LISC Loan Application and Info](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Seaway

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾ Loan ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Seaway Bank

Description

A division of Self Help Federal Credit Union
Small Business; Consumer; Commercial and
Residential Real Estate

Applicant Type

Individual ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Seaway accepts smaller loan applications from residents and businesses in Illinois and North Carolina. Applications outside of those states must exceed \$500,000

Seaway prefers to lend to community businesses, community based development projects, and account holders. [More on Seaway enterprise lending](#)

Financial Products/Services

Facilities; facilities improvement; vehicle and equipment; working capital for small businesses

Amount

\$15,000 - \$3,000,000

Application Link

[Seaway Bank Information](#)

This guide was compiled by

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

SomerCor

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Loan ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

SomerCor

Description

SomerCor offers a unique range of financial solutions to help grow your business. Our objective is to identify the best financial option for your business and guide you through the entire process.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

SomerCor mainly lends to registered small businesses

Financial Products/Services

Real estate purchase Loans, Renovation loans, fixed equipment SBA 7(a) Community Advantage Loans, and SBA 504 Loans

Amount

Up to \$5,500,000

Application Link

[SomerCor Loan Information](#)

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Other Support

IRS Voluntary Employee Retention Credit Disclosure

Resource Type

Financial Assistance ▾

Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

March 22, 2024

Provider

Internal Revenue Service

Description

The IRS has opened a program that allows businesses owners who wrongfully filed for Employee Retention Tax Credits (ERC) during COVID to repay 80% of those funds received back to the government without penalties or interest.

Applicant Type

General ▾

For Profit ▾

Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Must be a business entity that took wrongfully took advantage of the ERC tax credit

Financial Products/Services

Voluntary Disclosure Portal

Amount

Repayment is dependent upon filings

Application Link

[IRS ERC Voluntary Disclosure Program](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Good Jobs Institute

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

None

Provider

Good Jobs Institute

Description

The Good Jobs Institute aims to help companies thrive by creating good jobs and to redefine what it means to run a successful business. They work with leaders across industries interested in bringing the Good Jobs Strategy to their organizations. They have worked with companies across a variety of industries.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

This is a general financial resource for workers and small business owners

Financial Products/Services

Financial resource guide for workers' relief funds and small business relief funds.

Amount

Resource Guide

Application Link

[Good Jobs Institute Information](#)

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Council of Fashion Designers of America

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

None

Provider

Council of Fashion Designers of America

Description

An organization with a diverse membership of designers – categories, size of business, location, production and supply chain – conducting business globally. With the goal of doing what they can to help designers in these difficult times with their businesses.

Applicant Type

General ▾

For Profit ▾

Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

None

Financial Products/Services

Supportive Resources

Amount

None

Application Link

[Council of Fashion Designers Resource](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Other Support - Real Estate

Utility Bill Payment Assistance, Deferred Payment & LIHEAP

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾

Financial Assistance ▾

Deadline

August 15, 2024

Provider

United States Government

Description

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally administered program that can help you stay warm in winter without upsetting your budget. Whether you rent or own your home, LIHEAP offers financial help to limited-income households to pay heat and electric bills.

Applicant Type

General ▾

For Profit ▾

Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

- You can only apply once a year to the program
- All household income documents will be verified
- You can not apply to both LIHEAP and PIPP in the same year

[More information on eligibility](#)

Financial Products/Services

Utility bill assistance

Amount

Varies by utility bill amount per household

Application Link

[ComEd](#), [People's Gas](#), [North Shore Gas](#), [Ameren](#), [Nicor](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Internal Revenue Service

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾

Government Tax Credit ▾

Deadline

April 15, 2025

Provider

Internal Revenue Service

Description

The IRS has given multiple tax credits through 2025 to help aid Americans after the financial burden of the pandemic Qualified disaster relief payments

Applicant Type

Individual ▾

For Profit ▾

Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

These payments are not subject to any federal withholding obligations and do not need to be reported on a Form W-2 or 1099. In addition, in most cases, the exclusion will also apply for state income tax purposes.

Financial Products/Services

Qualified disaster relief payments

Child Tax credits

See below for more information

Amount

Varied

Application Link

[Internal Revenue Service Tax Credits Information](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Residential Solar Energy Program

Resource Type

Grant ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Rolling Yearly Applications

Provider

City of Chicago, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Description

The Residential Solar Energy Program, is a Green Energy Initiative started by the City of Chicago to increase the adoption of solar energy infrastructure by its residents. The installation of solar energy panels will be fully reimbursed by the program for those that qualify.

Applicant Type

Individual ▾ General ▾

Eligibility

Household income has to be at or below a certain threshold

[For all eligibility requirements](#)

Financial Products/Services

Business License, Public Way Use Permit, and City Resources Support

Amount

Up to full cost of installment

Application Link

Residents interested in participating in the Cook County Sun and Save program will need to complete an application by downloading it below.

[Sun_and_Save_Application-09192023.pdf \(illinois.edu\)](#)

E-mail finished applications to sunandsave@sedac.org.

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Housing & Urban Development

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Grant ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Housing and Urban Development

Description

Housing and Urban Development is a government agency dedicated to ensuring that low to moderate income individuals have access to aid and resources in the event they become victims of unfair lending or housing practices, as well as condensing and simplifying the obscure veil of dense knowledge preventing many from owning a home.

Applicant Type

Individual ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

The Housing Urban Development works with anyone seeking knowledge or aid related to personal and small enterprise lending and real estate investing.

Financial Products/Services

Real Estate Resources
Financial Assistance Resources

[For a list of resources click here](#)

Amount

Resources

Application Link

[Housing Urban Development Services](#)

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Chicago Business Center

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

City of Chicago

Description

The Chicago Business Centers (CBC) Program is a City of Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) initiative to fill the current gap in local business resources and minimize barriers for entrepreneurs and business owners of disadvantaged communities to properly launch, sustain, and/or expand their small businesses.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

All Businesses

Financial Products/Services

Business License, Public Way Use Permit, and City Resources Support

Amount

Resource

Application Link

[Chicago Business center](#)

This guide was compiled by



ChiBlockBuilder

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Cook County

Description

Led by the Chicago Department of Planning and Development (DPD), ChiBlockBuilder streamlines the purchase of City-owned properties across the South and West Sides and increases transparency about the land sales process.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

- Be a business owner, non-profit organization or developer with experience constructing similar projects
- Have a site plan and proposed budget for the project
- Have capacity to finance the project
- Identify proposed tenants
- Please find more details [here](#)

Financial Products/Services

Real Estate Consulting services

Amount

Resource

Application Link

[ChiBlock Builder Information](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

The Preservation Compact

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Cook County

Description

The Preservation Compact brings together the region's public, private, and nonprofit leaders to preserve affordable multifamily rental housing in Cook County.

Applicant Type

General ▾

Eligibility

Please find more details [here](#)

Financial Products/Services

Preservation Initiatives and Support

Amount

Resource

Application Link

[The Preservation Compact Information](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Illinois Emergency Homeowners Assistance Fund

Resource Type

Grant ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

State of Illinois

Description

ILHAF provides up to \$60,000 in mortgage assistance to eligible homeowners paid directly to the servicer, taxing body or other approved entity.

Applicant Type

Individual ▾ General ▾

Eligibility

Please find more details [here](#)

Financial
Products/Services

Mortgage Assistance

Amount

\$60,000

Application Link

[Illinois Emergency Home Owners Assistance Fund Info](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Cook County Legal Aid for Housing Debt

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Cook County

Description

CCLAHD helps residents resolve eviction, foreclosure, debt, and tax deed issues. The ERP provides free legal assistance, counseling, pre-court mediation, and case management for residents and landlords dealing with evictions or delinquent property taxes

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

CCLA can help people dealing with the situations listed below

Renters facing eviction
Landlords seeking the eviction of a tenant
Legal suits for unpaid debt
Legal suits against unpaid debt
Back mortgage or property tax payments

[For more information on Cook County Aid Eligibility](#)

Financial Products/Services

Mortgage Assistance
Eviction Resolution
Foreclosure Aid
Tax Deed Aid

Amount

Legal Resources

Application Link

[Cook County Legal Aid for Housing Application and Details](#)

This guide was compiled by



Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights

Description

The CLCCR is committed to rooting out deeply entrenched systemic racism and injustice by providing high-quality legal assistance to clients and communities in litigation and transactional matters through longstanding partnerships with member law firms.

Applicant Type

General ▾ Non Profit ▾ Individual ▾

Eligibility

The Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights only provides free aid to non-profits and start up small businesses that are unable to pay legal fees.

[More eligibility information](#)

Financial Products/Services

Legal Aid

Amount**Free legal services**Application Link

[Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Application and Info](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Chicago Cityscape

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Enrollment

Provider

Cook County

Description

Chicago Cityscape is a digital platform that makes neighborhood, property, and construction development data accessible to all.

Applicant Type

Government ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

No eligibility requirements other than subscription fee.

Financial Products/Services

Membership

Amount

\$29 - \$100 per month

Application Link

[Chicago Cityscape Member Application](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Cook County Community Recovery

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

None

Provider

Cook County

Description

Recovery resources for Cook County residents and businesses.

Applicant Type

Individual ▾

For Profit ▾

Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Must have been adversely affected by COVID-19 pandemic

Financial
Products/Services

Job Training and Placement Program
[Manufacturing Concierge Program](#)
 Small Business Assistance Program
 Technical Assistance Program

Amount**Resource**Application Link[Cook County Resource](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Justice Advisory Council Grants Capacity Building Workshop

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Justice Advisory Council

Description

Designed to support organizations developing compelling grant proposals and programs.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Must be a business applying for a grant or looking to apply for a grant.

Financial Products/Services

Grant Applications Workshop [Slides](#) and [Recording](#)
Program Design Workshop [Slides](#) and [Recording](#)

Amount

Supportive Resources

Application Link

[Justice Advisory Council](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

LISC - State Farm Small Business Rescue Fund

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾ Loan ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Local Initiative Support Corporation, State Farm

Description

State Farm is helping small businesses succeed by partnering with LISC. State Farm has extended a \$10,000,000 loan to LISC to redistribute in the form of loans to small businesses that need low-interest loans to support their businesses.

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

For more on eligibility email lisc-chicago@lisc.org

Financial Products/Services

Business Loans

Amount

Varied

Application Link

[Local Initiative Support Corporation - State Farm Information](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

City of Chicago - Business Recovery Payment Plan

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾

Financial Assistance ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

City of Chicago

Description

Any debtor holding a license issued by the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) may enroll in a payment plan to resolve business debt associated with their license.

Applicant Type

General ▾

For Profit ▾

Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

Must have a license issued by the BACP

The Business Recovery Payment Plan Program is available for most debt types.

Financial Products/Services

Flexible Financial Repayment

Amount

Financial Assistance

Application Link

[City of Chicago - Payment Plan Portal](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Giving Compass Coronavirus & Covid-19 Funds

Resource Type

Grant ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾ Funders ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Giving Compass

Description

Giving Compass guides donors toward the latest insights, strategies, and volunteering opportunities to create lasting social change.

Applicant Type

Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

- Must be a social impact organization
- Priority is given to BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ organizations
- Must not promote hate or discrimination

Financial Products/Services

Supportive Resources
Fundraising Campaigns

Amount

Varied

Application Link

[Compass Fund Info](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Culinary Hospitality

Honeycomb Credit - Crowdfunding Loan

Resource Type

Funders ▾ Loan ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Honeycomb

Description

Honeycomb is offering 45-day payment free periods, 6-month interest-only periods and reducing posting, success, and investor fees

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

All Businesses

Financial Products/Services

Crowdfunded Small Business Relief Loan

Amount

Varied

Application Link

[Crowdfunding App](#)

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COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Kiva - Crowdfunding Loan

Resource Type

Funders ▾ Loan ▾ Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

Open Application

Provider

Kiva

Description

Kiva is a crowdfunding platform that offers zero interest, crowdfunding loans

Applicant Type

General ▾ For Profit ▾ Non Profit ▾

Eligibility

All Businesses

Financial Products/Services

Crowdfunded Small Business Loan

Amount

Up to \$15,000

Application Link

[Kiva Site](#)

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COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Chicago Service Relief

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾

Funders ▾

Deadline

Rolling

Provider

City of Chicago

Description

A directory of fundraisers for Chicago bars, venues, restaurants, and other service-based businesses that can use our help during the state-mandated shutdown

Applicant Type

General ▾

For Profit ▾

Eligibility

None

Financial Products/Services

Supportive Services

Amount

None

Application Link

[Chicago Service Relief Fundraiser list](#)

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CHICAGO
COMMUNITY
LOAN FUND

Eat News

Resource Type

Supplemental Resource ▾

Deadline

None

Provider

City of Chicago

Description

Up-to-date on all the newest culinary developments, news, and recipes.

Applicant Type

General ▾

Eligibility

None

Financial Products/Services

Supportive Resources

Amount

None

Application Link

[Eat News](#)

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