

May 14, 2021

Dear Gurnee Business Partner:

Bridge to Phase 5

On Friday, May 14, Illinois enters the Restore Illinois “Bridge Phase” of reopening! Following a 28-day monitoring period, a full reopening of the state - Phase 5 - could occur as early as June 11. The Bridge Phase allows for higher capacity limits and increased business operations, including but not limited to:

SETTING	PHASE 4	BRIDGE	PHASE 5
Dining	Seated areas: Patrons ≥ 6 feet apart; parties ≤ 10 Standing areas: 25% capacity	Seated areas: Patrons ≥ 6 feet apart; parties ≤ 10 Standing areas: 30% capacity indoors; 50% capacity outdoors	N O L I M I T S
Health and fitness	50% capacity Group fitness classes of 50 or fewer indoors or 100 or fewer outdoors *	60% capacity Group fitness classes of 50 or fewer indoors or 100 or fewer outdoors	
Offices	50% capacity	60% capacity	
Personal care	50% capacity	60% capacity	
Retail and service counter	50% capacity	60% capacity	

Full details, by business sector, for the Bridge to Phase 5 may be found [here](https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/bridge-phase) at <https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/bridge-phase>. Also helpful is the Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO) Frequently Asked Questions page, regularly updated, found [here](#).

Gurnee Temporary Outdoor Dining Guidelines

With indoor dining still restricted, the Village will continue facilitating restaurants’ use of outdoor space to accommodate more patrons safely and comfortably. The 2021 Temporary Outdoor Dining Guidelines are [posted here](#). Additionally, the Village will continue to allow liquor-to-go by licensed establishments in accordance with State of Illinois Liquor Control Commission guidelines.

Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF)

The American Rescue Plan Act included an appropriation of \$28.6 billion for the RRF, authorizing the Small Business Administration (SBA) to award funds. The application period for the RRF opened on May 3, and appropriations remain available until expended. Priority in the first 21 days – through May 24 - of the program is being given to restaurants owned by women, veterans, and socially or economically disadvantaged groups. Following the 21-day priority period, all eligible applications will be funded in the order in which they have been received.

In the first week after launching the Fund, the SBA announced that over \$2 billion was awarded, with an average award of \$125,000.

Interested food establishments may apply through SBA-recognized POS vendors or directly via the SBA online application portal: <https://restaurants.sba.gov>. Details on the program, including eligibility, use of funds, how to apply, and more may be found [here](#).

For an SBA Overview of the Restaurant Revitalization Fund, register for any of the following (same content) webinars:

1. [Friday, May 14, 1:00pm](#)
2. [Friday, May 21, 1:00pm](#)
3. [Friday, May 28, 1:00pm](#)

RRF - Highlights:

- Funds may be used for eligible expenses incurred between February 15, 2020 and March 11, 2023
- Eligible uses of RRF funds include:
 - Business Expenses such as payroll, utility payments, supplies, maintenance, food & beverage expenses, covered supplier costs, and operating expenses including insurance, marketing, fees, licenses, legal, Point of Sale equipment, etc.
 - Construction of outdoor seating.
 - Business Debt such as payments on any business mortgage obligation or debt service (including regular principal and interest but excluding prepayment).
- PPP recipients are eligible to apply for RRF; however, any PPP funds received will be subtracted from the RRF final funding amount. Applicants should be sure to use the same EIN, ITIN, or SSN associated with the PPP; if different between First Draw and Second Draw, closely consult RRF program rules.
- Applicants must *not* have a pending application or have received a Shuttered Venue Operators grant.
- Applicants do not need to be registered in SAM.gov, and the SBA will not require a DUNS or CAGE identifier.
- Any business concern operating as a franchise and meeting all other program requirements is eligible; the franchise must be listed on the SBA Franchise Directory.

RRF - What to expect:

1. As outlined by Congress, the SBA will focus its reviews on the priority applications that have been submitted. Applicants who have submitted a non-priority application will find their applications remain in a Review status while the priority applications are processed during the first 21 days. Applicants in this status should not anticipate any outreach from the SBA during this period.
2. Following a successful application submission, all applications will first enter a stage called "IRS verification." This process may take up to seven days and allows the SBA to validate your application submission.
3. If you have questions about the award calculation, see the [program guide](#), pages 7–9.
4. The 4506T form is signed with your application during the e-sign process. You do not need to submit an additional 4506T.
5. If you are entering a state in the address section(s) use the abbreviation in capital letters (e.g. IL for Illinois).
6. For application support, you may submit a message using the platform inbox. For quick answers, this may be your best route.
7. The SBA will continue to fund approved applications until all funds have been exhausted.

The National Restaurant Association has [released a guide](#) for restaurants and bars that applied for the Restaurant Revitalization fund, including records to maintain and keep track of and learning how to address new funds in tax filings.

Shuttered Venue Operators Grant

The Shuttered Venues Operators Grant (SVOG) includes over \$16 billion in grants to shuttered venues. Eligible entities include live venue operators/promoters, museum operators, motion picture theater operators, live performing arts organization operators and more. [Apply now and learn more on the SBA website.](#)

Employer Tax Credits for Providing Paid Leave for Vaccinations

- [Internal Revenue Service Fact Sheet](#)
- [White House Statement/Release](#)
- [Department of the Treasury Snapshot](#)

Guidance for Small Businesses Claiming Deductions from First-Round PPP Loans

The Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service have issued Revenue Procedure 2021-20 for certain businesses that received first-round Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans but did not deduct any of the original eligible expenses because they relied on guidance issued before the enactment of tax relief legislation in December of 2020. [View the guidelines here.](#)

Small Business Community Resources

The [Illinois Small Business Development Center](#) is offering training programs through TAD (Training Assessment and Development) and BizHub through funding from the CARES Act passed last year.

BizHub: BizHub offers Q&A with local entrepreneurs and experts, access to a network for small businesses, a startup knowledge center, and opportunities to share your startup story or get tips from other small businesses.

- Register your business now [here](#)

TAD: CLC offers TAD, an affordable cloud-based integrated system, to employers of any size in Lake County. TAD is a high-quality, results-oriented training designed for any-size organization. They offer training and workshops on a variety of topics including business writing, communication, ESL, leadership, and more.

- Visit clcillinois.edu/solutions to learn more

Six Flags Announces Donation of 50,000 Free Tickets to Encourage Vaccinations

Illinois Governor JB Pritzker was in Gurnee yesterday to announce that the [Restore Illinois: Bridge Phase](#) began Friday, May 14th. Mayor Tom Hood joined Six Flags Great America/Hurricane Harbor President Hank Salemi to introduce the Governor and announce that Six Flags is donating 50,000 free tickets to help encourage Illinois residents ages 12+ to receive their COVID-19 vaccine. Starting the first weekend in June, the Illinois National Guard will be setting up at Six Flags for a mobile clinic to receive your vaccine and visit the park for a day of fun. [Click here to read more on the Six Flags Great America vaccination events and free tickets.](#)

Lake County Vaccination Sites

Vaccination options are rapidly expanding; the Lake County Health Department's "[Find a Vaccine](#)" page provides the most up-to-date list of sites and operational details.

Doctors Test Centers is currently running a pod for restaurant workers who live or work in Lake County. For the Registration Portal, click [here](#).

Many community vaccination sites are now offering walk-in service with no appointment needed.

Lake County Fairgrounds (1060 E. Peterson Rd., Grayslake)

Hours of operation (by [appointment](#) or walk-in):

- Saturday, May 15: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Monday, May 17: 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 19: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Friday, May 21: 7 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Saturday, May 22: 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sunday, May 23: 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Eligibility: Ages 12+, Illinois residents, and residents of other states who work in Lake County, Illinois. Vaccine Supply: Both Pfizer and Moderna are provided at the Fairgrounds site, and Johnson & Johnson vaccine is available by request. Pfizer is guaranteed for ages 12-17 and is the only vaccine authorized for that age group.

Regional Vaccination Site (102 W. Water St., Waukegan)

Hours of operation (by [appointment](#) or walk-in):

- Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This site provides drive-through and walk-in service. Eligibility: Ages 12+, Illinois residents, and residents of other states who work in Lake County, Illinois. Vaccine Supply: Pfizer is currently provided at the Regional Vaccination Site.

Round Lake Beach (Former K-Mart Supercenter, 400 E. Rollins Rd.):

Hours of operation (by [appointment](#) or walk-in):

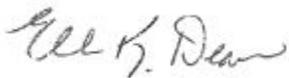
- Tuesdays through Sundays: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Eligibility: Ages 12+, Illinois residents, and residents of other states who work in Lake County, Illinois. Vaccine Supply: Pfizer is currently provided at the Round Lake Beach site.

There are many locations to get the COVID-19 vaccine, including many retail pharmacies now offering walk-ins. Visit www.lakecountyil.gov/vaccine for more information.

We value your partnership and are so pleased to be crossing the "Bridge" with you toward recovery and revitalization!

Sincerely,



Ellen K. Dean
Economic Development Director