

DuPage County Small Business Loan Program

Purpose:

The purpose of the loan fund is to provide funding to entrepreneurs who wish to develop or expand a business within DuPage County and who are willing to create employment opportunities.

Financing:

- This is a loan program
- The loan has a fixed rate
- The interest rate charged is 3% and may not exceed 4 points over the national prime rate
- The amount borrowed may not exceed 49% of project costs
- The term of loan is not to exceed 10 years

Eligibility:

- To be eligible a business must meet the size guidelines for a small business
- To be eligible the business must be organized as a for-profit
- To be eligible the business must be located in DuPage County, Illinois

Use of Funds:

- Funds may be used to purchase machinery, equipment, inventory, or to provide working capital (money available to meet current obligations).

Job Creation:

- One job must be created for each \$20,000 borrowed.
- The required hiring must be completed within the first 24 months of the loan
- At least 50% percent of the new employees must be hired in the first 12-month period
- For the purposes of this hiring time frame, the loan is considered consummated on the date the borrower first receives the loan funds
- The jobs created must be retained for at least 24 months from the date of hire
- To ensure that no personnel cuts were made by the business in the anticipation of the pending loan, the state shall have the right to review the borrower's employment verification records at the time of the loan closing

Loan Security:

- Collateral shall be made for the first position on loan security
- Loan agreements shall contain precise listings and assignments of collateral established as security for the loan.

Application Process:

- Application Form
- Business Plan
- Monthly Profit and Loss Statement
- Month Cash Flow Statement
- Personal Financial Statement
- Tax Returns

Approval Process:

- Choose DuPage is the first point of contact for the program.
- Applications will be forwarded to the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) for approval
- Final loan approval rests with the DuPage County Board

