



**Economic Development**

# **Business Incentives for Growth (BIG) Program Webinar**

Alaina Santizo | Program Manager  
Iowa Economic Development Authority

# High Quality Jobs Program Transition to BIG

- High Quality Jobs Program sunset – December 31, 2025
- Business Incentives for Growth (BIG) Program
  - Effective January 1, 2026
  - Administrative rules effective in late January 2026
  - Applications accepted in January for February consideration

# BIG Program Purpose

Helps qualifying businesses offset some of the costs of locating, expanding or modernizing a facility in Iowa. Offered by the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA), BIG supports growth in key industries:

- Advanced manufacturing
- Bioscience
- Insurance and Finance
- Technology

## Not eligible for BIG

- Retail businesses
- Service providers
- Data centers
- Businesses not engaged advanced manufacturing, bioscience, insurance/finance, or technology as their primary business
- Routine projects such as deferred maintenance, repairs or basic equipment replacement

# Tax Incentives

Only projects that demonstrate extensive economic impact will be awarded the maximum amount of tax incentives

- Maximum 5% of Qualified Investment - County population > 20,000
- Maximum 7.5% of Qualified Investment - County population < 20,000
- Type of Tax Incentives
  - Investment tax credit — performance-based, earned when qualifying assets are placed in service, and spread over five years. If the credit exceeds Iowa income taxes owed, the difference is refunded.
  - Refund of sales tax paid on construction materials.
  - Local property tax exemption, if approved by the city or county

# Qualifying Investment

- Capital investment in real property
- Purchase of land and buildings
- Site preparation
- Building construction
- Major renovation
- Long-term lease costs
  - 10-year term

## Qualified Jobs

- Created at least 100% of the local laborshed wage
- Retained jobs at least 120% of the local laborshed wage
  - Wage established at the time of the application approval
- Wage requirements can be searched by city or zip code on the IEDA website.

## Additional Economic Impact Factors

- Having a high proportion of, or growing, number of in-state suppliers
- Diversifying the state's economy
- Has few in-state competitors
- Increasing skills and wages for existing workers
- Increasing capacity, productivity, efficiency, and competitiveness through adoption and integration of smart technologies.
- Increasing the state's GDP

## **City or County participation**

- Municipality (city or county) sponsor by resolution
- Local match not prescribed or required
- BIG statute authorizes local exemption
  - At the discretion of municipality
  - Up to 100% over 10 years

## Additional BIG Provisions

- Sufficient benefits package to all full-time employees
- Projects initiation prohibited (includes starting construction, acquiring a building, executing a lease agreement, or installing equipment)
- Relocating or reducing operations in one part of the state, cannot simultaneously seek incentives
- A pattern or record of violations of the law or of rules, including but not limited to antitrust, environmental, trade, or worker safety may be ineligible.
- Additionally confidential payroll and financial documentation will be required with applications and throughout the contract compliance.

# Water Conservation and Waste Reduction Plan

Projects that will result in elevated water consumption by the business, the BIG application shall be accompanied by a water conservation plan

- Elevated water consumption will be assessed using the following factors:
  - The total anticipated water consumption and wastewater discharge
  - The capacity of the water provider facilities that will serve the project
  - Information provided by the water provider about the ability or inability to accommodate the anticipated water consumption
  - Information provided by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources

## Application fee for BIG applications

- 0.5% of the total tax incentives awarded, up to \$10,000
- Due at application approval
  - Contract will be issued after fee is paid

# BIG Contract

- Terms of the agreement will be based on the incentives awarded.
  - The contract will be in place for as long as the company is claiming credits.
- Flexibility on time to make investment and create jobs.
  - Three-year assumption for investment completion
  - If the company completes the investment prior to that date, they can proceed with documenting the investment and claiming credits.
- Annual Reports will be required for all open contracts
  - Confirm that the business is at or above base employment
  - Employee benefits meet the sufficient benefit requirement
  - Status of project
- The job verification will be done following the contract end date, at close out.
  - The base employment established at the application must be maintained throughout the contract period.

# Application Process

- **Submit a pre-application** — a confidential check of eligibility and estimate incentives.
- **Complete the application** (if invited). Applications are due by the 15th of the month and must be signed by month's end for review at the next month's IEDA Board meeting.
- **IEDA Board review.** The board meets monthly on the third Friday. Awards and application details are public, though payroll and financial records remain confidential under Iowa law.
- **Submit through the online portal.** Both pre-applications and applications are managed online.



---

Funding Opportunities ▾

## Sign in with **ID.me**

You will be redirected to the **ID.me** website to sign in to your account. After signing in, you will be redirected back to the **Funding Management Portal**.

[Sign in with \*\*ID.me\*\*](#)

- **An organization must be created by an individual with the applying business**
- **Additional individuals can be added as members to the organization**
- **People outside of the organization can be invited as collaborators in a later step**

Funding Opportunities ▾

My Account ▾

## Organization

Organization Details    Payment Accounts    Members

\* Required

Organization Details		Location	Contact Info
Organization Name *	City of Greene	Enter the primary address of the organization.	Enter the contact information for the primary address.
UEI #		Street Address 1 *	Phone
		202 W South St	Provide a telephone number
Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) *	999999999	Street Address 2	Extension
Type of Organization *	Applicant	City *	
Organization Legal Type	City or Municipal Government	State *	
		IA	
		Zip Code *	
		50636	
		County *	
		Butler	

**Save Changes**



Funding Opportunities ▾

Sign In



## Length of Service Application

The Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP), established under the Iowa Code, recognizes and rewards the dedicated service of volunteer firefighters, emergency medical service providers, and reserve peace officers. Municipalities that choose to establish a LOSAP can provide tax-deferred financial benefits or grants to participants, with the State of Iowa matching funds up to \$500 per participant, to encourage volunteer participation and honor their commitment to community safety.

Name of Business:	<input type="text"/>		
Business Address:	<input type="text"/>		
City:	<input type="text"/>	State:	<input type="text"/>
		Zip:	<input type="text"/>

### PRIMARY CONTACT

Name:	<input type="text"/>		
Phone:	<input type="text"/>	Email:	<input type="text"/>

### PROJECT DETAILS

Address of Investment:	<input type="text"/>		
<input type="radio"/> Expansion of Iowa Company	<input type="radio"/> New Location in Iowa		
Will the project be located on a Certified Site?	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Unsure

NAICS Code for primary business operations:

Describe the company, its products, and the customer base:



Funding Opportunities ▾

My Account ▾

# Applications & Awards

Manage your applications, awards, and reporting activities from this dashboard.

All    Awards    In Process

ID	Funding Opportunity	Organization	Submitted Date
<a href="#">APP-000001433</a>	Length of Service Application	[REDACTED]	11/17/2025
<a href="#">APP-000001429</a>	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	11/17/2025

Maicie Pohlman  
maicie.pohlman@iowaeda.com

Sign out

## My Account

Profile

Organization

Projects

Messages

## My Funding Opportunities

My Applications & Awards

Approved



# Opportunity Iowa Portal Guidance

- User Guide will be on website
- ID.me technical assistance available directly through ID.me
- List of application questions will be on IEDA website for review

  

- IEDA staff can see information entered as a draft, offer guidance and feedback
- Substantial completion due on the 15<sup>th</sup>
- Final submittal due by month end, to proceed with IEDA Board consideration the following month



THANK YOU