

## **COVID-19 Update: March 22**

We continue to assemble resources and information for the business community regarding COVID-19. Please visit [www.gpcovid.com](http://www.gpcovid.com) for a complete list of business resources and send any questions to [bizinfo@greaterpeoriaedc.org](mailto:bizinfo@greaterpeoriaedc.org).

### **IRS Extends Tax Filing Deadline to July 15, 2020**

The Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service announced on March 21 that the federal income tax filing due date is automatically extended from April 15, 2020, to July 15, 2020. Taxpayers can also defer federal income tax payments due on April 15, 2020, to July 15, 2020, without penalties and interest, regardless of the amount owed. This deferment applies to all taxpayers, including individuals, trusts and estates, corporations and other non-corporate tax filers as well as those who pay self-employment tax. Read more [here](#). The IRS has also set up a website regarding Coronavirus and taxes [here](#).

### **Essential Business Advice**

Employees, companies or business owners who have questions on what qualifies as an "Essential Business or Operation" under Gov. Pritzker's Stay at Home Executive Order (effective 3/21/20 at 5:00 p.m.) can call the IL Dept. of Commerce Hotline at 1-800-252-2923 or email [CEO.support@illinois.gov](mailto:CEO.support@illinois.gov). Also, listed among the categories for "essential businesses" in our March 22 email was "educational institutions." To be clear, the [Executive Order](#) does not supersede the order to close schools. For purposes of the Stay At Home Order, educational institutions are limited to personnel necessary to delivering distance learning, performing critical research or performing essential functions (i.e. security, maintenance).

### **Workplace Safety**

OSHA has compiled resources and guidance regarding COVID-19 and workplace safety [here](#).

### **Information for Child Care Providers**

Beginning Saturday, March 21st at 5pm, licensed childcare centers and all childcare homes serving more than six children will be closed. The administration is working to expand the availability of childcare in small group sizes for essential workers through a newly available Emergency Child Care Center license. More information [here](#).