

TCEDA's TRACKING...



TCEDA Regional Map

Tri-County Economic Development Alliance (TCEDA) is a independent, nonprofit economic development corporation that proactively seeks to build business and employment opportunities for the economic growth and social well-being of people.

We lead, advocate, assist and encourage businesses, counties, communities and organizations in Jo Daviess, Carroll, and Whiteside Counties in Northwest Illinois.

Glossary - **What is a Request for Application (RFA)?**

A Request For Application (RFA) is a solicitation notice in which an organization announces that grant funding is available, and allows researchers and other organizations to present bids on how the funding could be used.

The RFA will typically outline what type of programs are

Small Business Jobs Creation Tax Credit

September 17, 2013 - The Illinois Small Business Jobs Creation Tax Credit program provides small business owners and non-profits with an extra boost to grow their businesses in our state. After creating one or more new, full-time positions that meet the eligibility requirements, small businesses can register online to receive a **\$2,500 per job tax credit**. Small businesses are defined as companies with 50 or fewer full-time employees.

New start-ups hiring their first full-time employees in Illinois are eligible to receive the tax credit. Eligible jobs would be those new positions that were created between July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2016. The new positions must pay at least \$10/hour or \$18,200/annually and the position must be sustained for one full year from the hire date.

The Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO) has created an extremely user-friendly website which allows for an applicant to register both their business and their newly created job(s). For complete information and to register both your business and your newly created jobs, visit <https://jobstaxcredit.illinois.gov/default.aspx>.

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National Manufacturing Day

September 17, 2013 - October 4th is National Manufacturing Day - an opportunity to highlight the importance of manufacturing to the nation's economy and our local communities, as well as draw attention to the many rewarding, high-skill jobs in manufacturing fields.

For details on events, resources and ways to get involved, visit www.MFGday.com. Celebrate manufacturing across Illinois all month long!

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Illinois Recycling Grants Program - Traditional Recyclables: Fiber, Plastic, Metal, and Glass

September 17, 2013 - The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Bureau of Energy and Recycling announced its grant opportunities. The Department is seeking applications from qualified entities for traditional recycling (fiber, plastic, metal, and glass) projects. The purpose of this solicitation is to divert recyclable commodities from Illinois landfills by increasing the quantity of materials recycled in Illinois and increasing the self-sufficiency of the

eligible, what the expectations are and how applications are submitted and reviewed.

recycling industry. *Projects that demonstrate public economic benefits, such as job creation, will be given priority.*

Grants are available to assist local governments, for-profit, and not-for-profit businesses or organizations and colleges and universities with their recycling efforts (K-12 schools are not eligible). Grant funds may be used to purchase project-related capital equipment such as collection, processing or handling equipment and project-related expansion and modernization costs.

Grant funds are made available from the Illinois Solid Waste Management Fund. The maximum grant amounts for the grant program are \$100,000 for collection projects and \$225,000 for primary processing projects.

A Request for Application (RFA) can be downloaded at

www.illinoisrecycles.com.

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One-Stop-Shop Website for Affordable Care Act (ACA)

September 17, 2013 - Looking for a one-stop-shop which provides educational materials on how the Affordable Care Act may affect your business? Business.USA.gov/healthcare includes a wizard tool that is tailored based on size and location, so you can learn how the law helps your company provide affordable coverage options to your employees while still meeting your bottom line. The site is a user-friendly hub that connects employers to informational content on tax credits and other provisions of the law from the Small Business Administration, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Treasury Department.

To learn more visit Business.USA.gov/healthcare or HealthCare.gov.

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Turkish American Business Exchange

August 23, 2013 - Did you know that Turkey is one of the fastest growing economies in the world at 6.7 percent; is uniquely positioned as a democracy centrally located between Europe and the Middle East and Africa; and has an incredibly young demographic, opposite of the United States, with half of Turkey's population under the age of 28?

TCEDA hosted the first International Business Exchange with the Turkish American Federation of the Midwest and Turkish American Chamber of Commerce. After introductions presentations were made looking for common interests and common business objectives. Each group learned many new facts about the other. Ideas and invitations were exchanged, including the possibility of a Sister City exchange program.

It was the first time the Turkish American businessmen had been in our region and they described it as "a jewel of the Midwest" and offered to be ambassadors of our region as they travel the country and the world.

Quick Links

www.tcedaonline.com

www.bop.gov/jobs

www.usajobs.gov



Tamer Copuroglu and Bilal Eksili described how they bring groups from Turkey to Chicago and that it would be a nice change for them to bring the groups for a day trip to our area!



From left to right: Turkish American Federation of the Midwest Vice President Bilal Eksili, Galena City Administrator Mark Moran, Turkish American Chamber of Commerce President Tamer Copuroglu, Jo Daviess County Chair Ron Smith and Jo Daviess County Administrator Dan Reimer. Not pictured Catherine Gray, Constituent Advocate for Congresswoman Cheri Bustos and Village of Thomson President Vicky Trager.

The Turkish American Chamber of Commerce is one of the hosts for a Turkish American Business Forum on October 3rd at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Des Moines, IL from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Experts from Turkey will share market knowledge and provide valuable insights on doing business in Turkey. Specialists will draw on their understanding of business and legal practice and the economic and political climate.

The luncheon keynote address will be provided by Iowa Governor Terry E. Branstad. Other featured guests include the Consul General of Turkey in Chicago Hon. Fatih Yildiz, Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey, IEDA Director Debi Durham, Member of the Monetary Policy Committee of the Central Bank of Turkey Abdullah Yavas, and Hakan Tasci, Executive Director, TUSKON.

There will be a panel of companies discussing current opportunities and issues with doing business in Turkey along with Christopher Sackett of Brown Winick Law Firm, sharing the legal perspective for U.S. companies. *Forum participants will also have an opportunity to schedule one-on-one business appointments with Turkish representatives following the conference.*

For more information, contact Kathy Hill at kathy.hill@iowa.gov or 515.725.3141. To register, visit <http://www.regonline.com/turkishamericanbusinessforum>.

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Many thanks to Lee Trotter from Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for visiting with several businesses in our region last week. As businesses are considering expansion and locating in our area, it is important for them to establish a connection with our state DECO representative, and for Lee to see the increasing interest in NW IL as an attractive location for businesses. Lee serves a large territory and we are grateful for his time and appreciate his long drive to visit us.

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As I visit with Mayors and Village Presidents I am in awe of the committed representatives who serve their communities with passion and dignity, oftentimes without much compensation. These leaders care about the future of their communities and want to leave their communities in an increasingly better state.

Northwest Illinois is a tapestry of unique communities, each bringing diverse attributes to our region. One communities' success is not at the expense of another community. Every community can find their unique strengths and let the world (yes, the world) know what makes our region special. Many are willing and proud to share what has worked for their communities with other communities so that our regional fiber is strong. All you have to do is reach out!

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We welcome ideas from members and non-members. Let's execute to succeed!

Sincerely,

Lisa McCarthy
Executive Director, TCEDA
(815) 858-4491
lmccarthy@jocarroll.com