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JB PRITZKER Governor

MARIO TRETO, JR. Secretary

**CECILIA ABUNDIS** Director

March 10, 2023

## **Announcement Extending the Application Deadline for the Social Equity Criteria Lottery**

The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, as part of the Pritzker Administration, is committed to placing social equity at the forefront of the adult use cannabis industry in Illinois. To ensure the greatest number of qualified applicants may participate in the Social Equity Criteria Lottery ("SECL") for 55 new adult use cannabis dispensary licenses this year, the deadline to apply has been extended to 5pm Central Time on Friday, April 21, 2023.

While the initial application deadline was previously extended to address technical issues, the application process has been working correctly since those issues were addressed. This second deadline extension is intended to increase the opportunity for all potential applicants to participate in the SECL.

In order to help increase the opportunity to apply, IDFPR has published Spanish language resources to assist prospective applicants (including a mock application, list of social equity criteria applicants selected in the SECL will need to meet to receive a conditional dispensary license, and a list of approved documents that can be used to meet the social equity criteria). All resources for prospective applicants may be found on IDFPR's Adult Use Cannabis Program webpage: https://idfpr.illinois.gov/PROFS/AdultUseCan.asp.

Additionally, the Department has attended recent town halls to help explain the SECL application process to prospective applicants. If you are interested in hosting a town hall with IDFPR, please contact IDFPR at FPR.AdultUseCannabis@illinois.gov and we will do our best to attend.

Applicants who have already applied but wish to withdraw and re-submit their application may do IDFPR: by completing and submitting this form to https://idfpr.illinois.gov/Forms/AUC/F2492.pdf.