



City of
BELOIT, Wisconsin

***INVENTORY OF
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
INCENTIVES***

Direct Developer Incentives

When an individual development or business is located or expands within an existing Tax Incremental Finance District (TIF), the City of Beloit may consider providing a Direct Developer Incentive for projects that generate new increment (new property taxes) and create and/or retain jobs. Direct Developer Incentives are cash payments made to a business or developer which are calculated as a percentage of the property taxes paid by that development for a period of up to ten (10) years following occupancy. Direct Developer Incentive payments are always contingent upon meeting specified job creation or retention criteria specified in a Council approved development agreement.

Provision of Infrastructure

Providing that the development or business is located within an existing and open TIF district, the City may provide industrial quality street, utility services and other required infrastructure improvements.

Transportation Economic Assistance (TEA) Grant

When appropriate, the City will apply for a TEA Grant and/or other Grant from the State of Wisconsin to help finance transportation related infrastructure improvements. The TEA Grant program is a matching grant program with projects capped at \$1 million, and will fund \$5,000 for every FTE created and retained. For more information, please visit www.dot.wisconsin.gov/business/econdev/tea.htm.

Major Development Projects

For major economic development projects that create 100 or more jobs and support or contribute to targeted industry cluster in the State of Wisconsin, the City will provide support and advocate for a forgivable loan and/or other incentives from the Wisconsin Department of Commerce.

Economic Development Tax Credits

Businesses in Wisconsin, or businesses relocating to Wisconsin, are eligible to earn state income tax credits on projects that create jobs or make a capital investment into property or equipment. The tax credits are non-refundable and non-transferable and must be applied against a certified business' Wisconsin income tax liability. In the case of an S-Corporation, LLC, or other pass-through entity, tax credits flow through to the owners the same way as the income. Tax credits can be carried forward for 15 years. Eligible activities include:

1. Job Creation – Tax credits can be earned through the creation of new, full-time positions that pay at least \$10.88 per hour. Businesses must create the jobs within three years and maintain them for at least two additional years. Tax credits will be released on an annual basis, in direct proportion to the number of jobs created.
2. Capital Investment – Tax credits may be earned through capital investment for property and equipment. Expenditures for working capital, employment costs, moving costs, intellectual property and unrelated fees and permits are not eligible. Tax credits will be released on an annual basis, as eligible expenditures take place. Businesses whose primary activity includes such things as retail, commercial development, recreation, entertainment or direct health care are not eligible to earn tax credits through capital investment.
3. Employee Training – Tax credits may be earned through many types of training provided to existing and new employees in full-time positions. Training must be related to a specific project. Eligible training costs include trainee wages, trainer costs, and trainer materials. Tax credits will be released on an annual basis, as eligible training costs are incurred.
4. Corporate Headquarters – Tax credits may be earned by businesses locating global, national, divisional or regional headquarters operations to Wisconsin or by businesses whose existing Wisconsin headquarters are at risk of leaving the state. Credits will be allocated on a per-job basis.

For more information, please visit <http://commerce.wi.gov/BD/BD-ETC.html>.

Beloit Development Opportunity Zone – Gateway

The Gateway project area is able to offer a unique incentive to companies that locate or expand there. Companies are eligible to claim tax credits for job creation for full-time positions that are Wisconsin residents. Credits generally range between \$4,000 and \$8,000 per FTE created. Furthermore, companies located and conducting economic activity in the Development Zone will be eligible to claim state income tax credits for capital investments. These credits can be applied at 3% against the purchase price of real estate, personal property or construction costs. These credits will be able to be carried forward up to fifteen years. These credits are available in Gateway only.

Wisconsin Act 255 High-Tech High-Growth Financial Assistance Programs

The State of Wisconsin recognizes that technology based economic development is a key component of the State's development plan. Therefore, the State has designated Act 255 to provide a series of programs to provide targeted financial assistance. For specific information, contact Sherl Gain at 608.261.7721 or cgain@commerce.state.wi.us.

Industrial Revenue Bonds

The City of Beloit, Town of Beloit, and Town of Turtle can assist in obtaining industrial revenue bonds for your new construction and new equipment purchases for an industrial facility for their communities. Industrial revenue bonds are tax exempt and interest rates typically from 1.5 to 2.5 percentage points below corporate bonds. The terms of the bond issue are negotiable and can be structured to meet the needs of the borrower. The costs of issuing the bonds, which can be sizeable, can be spread out over the term of the bond issue. Companies interested in this program will need to hire a Bond Council. For more information, please visit <http://commerce.wi.gov/BD/BD-IRB.html>.

Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 Financing

If for some reason Industrial Revenue Bonds (IRB) are not a financially feasible option for your use, perhaps we can assist you in obtaining SBA 504 financing for the real estate and depreciable equipment purchases required of such a move. SBA 504 financing requires only a 10% equity ingestion on the part of the company with 50% coming from a primary financing institution, and the balance 40% coming from a federal government issued debenture obtained through the state 504 organization. The 40% debenture takes an automatic second position behind your primary lender and is fixed for up to a 20 year period at interest rates that are comparable to IRB rates. The only caveat with SBA 504 financing is that it usually is not available to start-up companies, but each case is considered differently.

City of Beloit Revolving Loan Fund

The City of Beloit administers a revolving loan fund geared towards businesses that create new jobs and tax base within the City. This program can provide up to 30% of your initial financing needs for real estate and depreciable assets and will take an automatic second position behind your primary financing provider. Rates are 65% - 75% of Wall Street prime rate. Projects that eliminate blight, redevelop property or buildings that have been vacant for a prolonged period of time, and/or support or contribute to one of the City of Beloit's target industry clusters may also be eligible for enhanced credit terms. The terms are dependent on the collateral used to secure the loan but can range from five to twenty years for repayment. Funds are limited.

BEDC Multi Bank Loan Pool

The City of Beloit's Economic Development Corporation has worked with M & I Bank, First National Bank, Blackhawk Bank, First American Credit Union, and Gateway Community Bank to establish a joint economic development Multi Bank Loan Pool. This one million dollar fund was designed to assist in financing projects in Greater Beloit that will result in significant job creations and or

investment. Applications for this fund are required to meet conventional underwriting banking requirements.

Cost of Electrical Power

While without any incentives, the purchase of electrical power will generally be as much as 20% to 40% cheaper in Alliant Energy territory over that of Commonwealth Edison. You and your company will have to negotiate in advance with Alliant Energy to determine what the actual cost of power will be.

Customized Labor Training (CLT)

The CLT program can provide grants to help cover a portion of the costs associated with training employees on new technologies, industrial skills or manufacturing processes. Given the high demand for these grant funds, eligibility is typically limited to those companies that are making capital investments for new technologies that subsequently necessitate the training of existing or new employees. To be eligible, the training must be provided in a classroom setting or on the shop floor during periods of non-production. Costs associated with orientation, basic skills, and on-the-job training are not eligible. Up to 50% of eligible costs can be reimbursed up to a maximum of \$2,500 per employee trained. For more information on this program, please go to <http://commerce.wi.gov/BD/BD-EmpTraining.html>.

Business Employees Skills Training (BEST)

The Business Employees' Skills Training (BEST) program was established by the Wisconsin Legislature to help small businesses (less than 25 employees) upgrade the skills of their workforce. Under the BEST program, Commerce can provide applicants with a grant to cover a portion of the course fees or tuition costs associated with employee training. To be eligible, the training must have a direct and positive impact upon the employee's ability to carry out his or her work assignment. For more information on this program, please go to <http://commerce.wi.gov/BD/BD-EmpTraining.html>.

Dislocated Worker Training Program

The Southwest Workforce Development Board (SWWDB) administers a federally funded dislocated worker-training fund. These funds are separate from any other labor training assistance offered by Commerce. Program funds can be used for both classroom and on-the-job (OTJ) training. Funds cover up to 50% of the employee's hourly wage associated with the aforementioned training. This is a reimbursement program. Existing and new Rock County employers are eligible; pending they hire a dislocated Rock County worker. Fund availability varies, depending on dislocation activities and program interest. Skill assessments are determined and formal contracts are established between the Client and SWWDB on a case-by-case basis. Contact Mr. Dave Shaw, SWWDB, at 608.741.3450.

Wisconsin Permit Primer

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Permit Primer is a web-based system that provides fast accurate information on permitting questions 24/7. Users are asked questions that help determine which permits they need and once identified, users can download permit forms from the site. Visit the site at <http://dnr.wi.gov/permitprimer>.

Barrier Free Development Process

The City of Beloit will "fast-track" all review processes within its control and be ready to issue permits for construction often in less than 3 weeks after final submittals.