



## SOCIAL EQUITY CANNABIS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

DCEO has secured assistance from community-based organizations and education institutions to develop and implement technical assistance programs including virtual events, videos and workshops to assist social equity applicants (SEAs) in their quest to procure and retain a cannabis business license in Illinois. This technical assistance is critical for ensuring equitable representation of small and diverse businesses and entrepreneurs in the emerging cannabis industry.

### **The Social Equity Cannabis Initiative – Legal Services, Advising, Business Support**

The Social Equity Cannabis Initiative, designed by the UIC Law Community Enterprise & Solidarity Economy Clinic (the "CESEC") in partnership with DCEO, reduces the legal barriers of entry into the emerging Illinois cannabis market for communities harmed by the war on drugs. CESEC is a legal clinic located within UIC John Marshall Law School that provides the services including but not limited to:

- ✓ Legal Representation  
Apply: <https://jmls.uic.edu/experiential-education/clinics/community-enterprise/contact/>
- ✓ Brief Advising  
Request: <https://jmls.uic.edu/experiential-education/clinics/community-enterprise/special-projects/illinois-social-equity-cannabis-initiative/cannabis-initiative-advising>
- ✓ Legal Technical Assistance Webinars/Workshops  
Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/social-equity-cannabis-initiative-32204398745>

Contact CESEC via phone 312. 427.2737 ext. 144 or email [law-CESEC@uic.edu](mailto:law-CESEC@uic.edu).

### **The Trep School – Pre and Post Licensing Training and Business Support Services**

The Trep School provides training and technical assistance to SEAs that includes, but is not limited to, general business startup support, employment practices, and cannabis industry-specific issues via:

- ✓ Training Webinars
- ✓ One-on-One Technical Assistance

Register for upcoming webinars and one-on-one consulting: <https://trep.school.ecenterdirect.com/events>

Contact the Trep School via phone 217.497.9227 or email [cannabis@thetrep.school.com](mailto:cannabis@thetrep.school.com).

### **Oakton Community College – Cannabis Industry Certificates and Workshops, Business Support**

Oakton Community College provides training that includes, but is not limited to, for-credit courses with the opportunity for SEAs to earn certificates in cannabis industry specialties. Their post-license training plan is geared toward building upon their current cannabis education program by providing:

- ✓ Cannabis dispensary application overview sessions
- ✓ Small Group Workshops focusing on creating business plans and operational agreements
- ✓ One-on-One Consulting for SEAs

Register for upcoming webinars and one-on-one consulting:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/oakton-community-college-cannabis-programs-30469238052>

Contact Oakton via email at [cannabisprograms@oakton.edu](mailto:cannabisprograms@oakton.edu).

### **Women's Business Development Center – Post-Licensing Business Support**

Women's Business Development Center (WBDC) provides post-license training that includes an 8-week CannaBiz Essential series where SEAs learn about starting a cannabis or cannabis-related business in Illinois, including but not limited to:

- ✓ Offering webinars on topics like banking in the cannabis industry, recognizing transferrable skills for the cannabis industry, and recruiting top tier talent
- ✓ Conducting one-on-one consulting

Register for upcoming webinars: <https://www.wbdc.org/events/>

Register for one-on-one consulting: <https://wbdc.scheduling.as.me/Cannabiz>

Contact WBDC via phone at 312.853.3477 x 100 or email [wbdc@wbdc.org](mailto:wbdc@wbdc.org).