



# Illinois Rural Reverse Funding Fair (IRRFF)

Tuesday May 7, 2019 | 8:30 am - 4 pm  
Farm Credit Illinois  
410 Potomac Blvd., Mt. Vernon, IL

## OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS

Rural Reverse is a unique approach to connecting community economic development projects with government and private sector funding and technical assistance – and we invite you to participate in the process!

This event is sponsored by USDA Rural Development in Illinois and the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs (IIRA) at Western Illinois University, in partnership with the Southwestern IL Metropolitan and Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commissions, and with the participation of various federal, state and local resource providers.

Instead of you (public, private or non-profit organization representatives) attending a seminar to listen to multiple federal, state and private sector funding representatives provide detailed information on their program structures, guidelines, maximums and other eligibility criteria – this reverses the process. A panel of funding representatives is convened to listen to you provide information to them on your specific project.

Selected organizations will present a 15-minute project overview, including funding requirements. This will be followed by a 15-minute Q & A session between panel and presenter. The panel will discuss options to coordinate their programs and services to potentially fund the project through loans and/or grants; and will provide comments, recommendations and suggested actions to the presenter. Due to time constraints, the number of project presentations is limited and applications must be submitted. Those demonstrating the greatest value/effect in terms of economic development strategies, regional impacts, and “funding-readiness” will be selected to present; guidelines will also be provided to help ensure all presentations contain essential information.

NOTE: Rural Reverse is an introductory/advisory opportunity to facilitate effective application and potential funding from resource providers. Funding decisions are not made at this event and subsequent application to appropriate resource providers will be required.

## OVERVIEW OF THE APPLICATION

### IMPORTANT DATES:

Thursday April 11 (midnight): Deadline for application submission

Friday April 19: Applicants will be notified of selection status and provided with additional information

Tuesday May 7: IRRFF event

This application must be submitted electronically no later than midnight, Thursday April 11, for the project to be considered for presentation at the IRRFF held May 7, 2019 in Mt. Vernon, Illinois. For your convenience, you may request a PDF or Word document of the application, use it to plan your responses, copy and paste into the actual application, and save the information you provided. However, only applications submitted electronically through this website provide will be accepted for consideration. Projects not selected at this time are offered an educational benefit through technical assistance in project readiness and application preparation, courtesy of Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs (IIRA) at Western Illinois University.

The information collected through this application is part of a preliminary discussion. No funding determinations will be made based on this information. This information will be shared with representatives of federal, state and local government agencies, participating private lenders and local economic development groups.

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT:**

**Kate O'Hara, USDA Rural Development Innovation Center, 217.403.6205 [kate.ohara@usda.gov](mailto:kate.ohara@usda.gov)**  
**Robin Hanna, Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs, Western IL University, 309.298.2372 [rw-hanna@wiu.edu](mailto:rw-hanna@wiu.edu)**

**IDENTIFICATION and CONTACT INFORMATION**

**1. Name of Project:**

**City/Town:**

**2. Project County:**

**3. Contact point for LEAD organization:**

**Name (first, last):**

**Organization Name:**

**Address:**

**City/Town:**

**State:**

**Zip:**

**Email:**

**Phone Number:**

**4. Contact point for PRESENTING organization (*if NOT the Lead organization*):**

**Name (first, last):**

**Organization Name:**

**Address:**

**City/Town:**

**State:**

**Zip:**

**Email:**

**Phone Number:**

**5. Contact point for SUBMITTING organization (*if not the LEAD organization*):**

**Name (first, last):**

**Organization Name:**

**Address:**

**City/Town:**

**State:**

**Zip:**

**Email:**

**Phone Number:**

**PROJECT DETAILS**

**6. In 300 words or less, please provide a summary of this project. This will be shared with resource providers.**

**7. How was the need for this project identified?**

**8. What outcome(s) do you hope to achieve?**

**9. How does this project support business development, workforce development and/or quality of life?**

**10. Is this project included in a community / regional economic development strategy or plan?**

Yes

No

**11. If so, please identify the plan:**

**12. What is the total project cost? \$**

**13. What percentage of funds has been committed to date? %**

**14. What is the amount of funds still needed? \$**

**15. What is the source of repayment for any non-grant funding obtained?**

**16. With funding, when could this project start?**

**17. If applicable, what necessary design/engineering documents have been completed?**

**18. Have capital and operation financial plans for the project been completed?**

Yes

No

**19. Have programmatic / operating plans been developed?**

Yes

No

**20. Is there a plan for the project's sustainability?**

Yes

No

**21. Please describe the sustainability plan.**

**22. Please detail the financial commitments currently secured in support of this project, including source and amount.**

**23. Please describe the extent of collaboration and in-kind contributions for this project from other organizations in your area.**

**24. Please use this space for any additional information you would like to provide.**

**25. From what agency or organization did you hear about this Rural Reverse opportunity?**

**Thank you!**

**Reminder: Only applications submitted through the established website will be considered.**

This form is only for your convenience in planning and saving your responses,  
and to copy/paste your responses into the electronic form.