

**WHY
KANE**



**BUSINESS, JOBS
COMMUNITY**

connecting kane county illinois

Economic Opportunities

Business Assistance

Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC)

IMEC was established in 1996 to improve the productivity and competitiveness of Illinois' small and mid-sized manufacturing firms. IMEC will link your long-term plans and related goals with on-site implementation services by identifying performance gaps, solving these gaps, and building a culture to support sustained improvements. IMEC helps optimize operating capacity, implement advanced product and process innovations, increase sales and enter new markets, and improve profitability. Learn more at <http://www.imec.org/>

International Trade Center

Exporting offers the opportunity to open new markets, broaden customer bases and reduce seasonal fluctuations characteristic of domestic sales. ITC offers new and expanded information tools and services make it easier for firms of all size to enter the international marketplace. The specialized and customized advising services include market research for potential global markets, assistance in identifying international competitors, guidance in finding new or additional distribution channels, and assessing export readiness. Visit their website at <http://www.cod.edu/itc>

Metro Chicago Exports (MCE)

Metro Chicago Exports is an unprecedented regional collaboration between the seven counties in Northeastern Illinois and the City of Chicago to increase exports from small and mid-sized enterprises and to support regional job growth. Export activity fosters innovation and supports regional jobs. MCE aims to build a pipeline of export-ready firms, provide concierge services to firms seeking to capture global opportunities, connect firms to international partners and local peer networks, and to reduce the initial business costs to reach new markets. Find more online at <http://www.metrochicagoexports.com/>

Women's Business Development Center – Aurora

The mission of the Women's Business Development Center (WBDC) is to support and accelerate business development and growth, targeting women and serving other underserved communities and veterans, in order to strengthen their participation in, and impact on, the economy. The organization serves clients from all walks of life with a focus on women, minorities, and veterans with the majority from low-to-moderate income areas. More information can be found at <https://www.wbdc.org/about-us/mission-history/>

Job Enrichment

Elgin Community College Workforce Development & Continuing Education

The Workforce Development Department of ECC wants to be your partner, helping you achieve your educational and career goals. There are many free programs and services available to youth and adults who qualify: Individual education, continuing education, and corporate training. To learn more, please visit <http://elgin.edu/students.aspx?id>

Waubonsee Community College Workforce Development

Want a training program customized designed to the needs of your business or industry? We offer a complete range of training topics from Excel training, implementing process improvement plans such as Lean or developing soft skills among your employees and management team. Contact one of [Workforce Development's \(WFD\) dedicated Account Representatives](#) to discuss a program customized to your needs. Visit the [Workforce Development webpage](#) for more information. WFD also partner's with the [Career Development Center](#) at Waubonsee's Sugar Grove campus to provide opportunities to recruit students into open positions as well as career and job search guidance.

Workforce Development at Waubonsee Community College offers a large variety of classes to help you move your career in the direction you want to go. Classes are taught by local subject matter experts who have worked in their chosen industry and are focused on the needs of local students and companies. Take an Open-Enrollment course and network with other students. [Scholarships are available](#) for those who qualify.

Kane County Workforce Development Division

The Workforce Development Division provides services to ready the workforce for employment through federally-funded programs under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). WIOA provides the framework for a unique national workforce preparation and employment system designed to meet both the needs of the nation's businesses and the needs of job seekers and those who want to further their careers. Find more information on <http://www.countyofkane.org/WDD/Pages/Default.aspx>

Kane County Economic Development Staff

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Community Development Connections

Most of Kane County communities employ economic development staff to help interest businesses find success within their community. You will find their websites, as well as Kane County Chambers of Commerce and the utilities that serve Kane County businesses, in the table below:

Kane County Economic Development Organizations	Kane County Chambers of Commerce
Algonquin	Algonquin / Lake-in-the-Hills Chamber of Commerce
Aurora - Invest Aurora	Aurora Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Bartlett	Aurora Regional Chamber of Commerce
Batavia	Batavia Chamber of Commerce
Burlington	Elgin Area Chamber of Commerce
Campton Hills	Geneva Chamber of Commerce
Carpentersville	Greater Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce
East Dundee	Hampshire Chamber of Commerce
Elburn	Hoffman Estates Chamber of Commerce
Elgin - Elgin Development Group	Huntley Chamber of Commerce
Geneva	Northern Kane County Chamber of Commerce
Gilberts	Quad County African America Chamber of Commerce
Hampshire	St. Charles Chamber of Commerce
St Charles	Sugar Grove Chamber of Commerce
Hoffman Estates	Utilities Serving Kane County Businesses
Huntley - Huntley First	ComEd – Electric, Economic Development
Montgomery - Montgomery Economic Development Corporation	Nicor Gas – Gas, Economic Development
North Aurora	Batavia - Electric
Pingree Grove	Geneva – Electric
South Elgin - South Elgin Economic Development (S.E.E.D) Council	St Charles – Electric
Sugar Grove - Sugar Grove Economic Development Corporation	
Virgil	
West Dundee	

Visit Us on the Web!

[Kane County Resource Portal](#)

[Kane County Website](#)

Kane County Economic Highlights

Metro Chicago Exports Export Grant – Kane County Matching Grant

In May 2015, Metro Chicago Exports (MCE) announced the launch of a Grant Program to help small and mid-sized businesses grow in international trade, specifically through exports. The Metro Chicago Exports Grant Program, presented by JPMorgan Chase & Co., awards grants up to \$5,000 to businesses throughout Northeastern Illinois. This innovative and successful grant program was renewed for 2016.

2015 Winners	Municipality	2016 Winners	Municipality
AIR802	Aurora	InFlight Entertainment Products	Carpentersville
Radco Industries, Inc.	Batavia	Riverbank Laboratories, Inc.	Geneva
Micro Products Company	Batavia	Micro Products Company	Batavia
Brasel Products, Inc.	Batavia	Doran Scales, Inc.	Batavia
InFlight Entertainment Products	Carpentersville	Humboldt Manufacturing Co.	Elgin
Riverbank Laboratories, Inc.	Geneva		
Miner Elastomer Products Corp.	Geneva		
SBS Steel Belt Systems USA	Gilberts		

Advancing the Development of Minority Entrepreneurs Program - Supplemental Grant

The Kane County Board Jobs Committee approved a resolution creating an incentive program for Kane County residents to participate in the Illinois Department of Commerce's Advancing Development of Minority Entrepreneurs (ADME) program. Similar to the MCE Exports Grant, Kane County will provide some extra financial assistance to Kane County ADME candidates. Please stay tuned for the announcement of Kane County ADME recipients. More information about ADME can be found at <http://www.admeillinois.org/>

Kane County Manufacturer of the Year Award

Each October the Kane County Board Jobs Committee, in partnership with the Alliance for Illinois Manufacturing and in celebration of Manufacturing Month, selects a manufacturer from Kane County that represents leadership, innovation, and a commitment to the local community as its Manufacturer of the Year.

- **2015 Manufacturer of the Year** – Custom Aluminum Solutions - Batavia
- **2016 Manufacturer of the Year** – Flagsource, Inc. - Batavia