

(c) The Fund is a nonlapsing, revolving fund, used to assist eligible businesses in fixed asset financing through the provision of linked deposits.

(d) The Fund consists of:

(1) Money appropriated by the State to the Fund, not to exceed \$2,500,000 each year;

(2) Interest received from linked deposits made from the Fund; and

(3) Any other moneys made available to the Fund.

5-603.

The Department may make a linked deposit in accordance with the provisions of this subtitle.

5-604.

(a) To obtain fixed asset financing assisted by a linked deposit under the provisions of this subtitle, an eligible business shall apply to a lender for fixed asset financing of not more than \$500,000.

(b) In addition to the information required by the lender as part of its standard loan application procedure, the applicant shall provide to the lender, in a form prescribed by the Department:

(1) A certification, with supporting documentation, that the applicant is an eligible business; and

(2) A description of the number and kinds of jobs to be created or retained by the loan received from the linked deposit.

(c) (1) On approval of a loan application the lender shall forward to the Department a linked deposit loan package with the information required under this subtitle and in a form prescribed by the Department.

(2) In addition to any other information reasonably required by the Department to carry out the purposes of this subtitle, the linked deposit loan package shall include the information required of the applicant under subsection (b) of this section.

5-605.

In determining whether to accept a linked deposit loan package, the Department shall:

(1) Confirm the eligibility of the applicant; and

(2) Consider and weigh:

(i) The number and kind of jobs to be created or retained as a result of providing the linked deposit;

(ii) The amount of the loan;