**Section 640.40 Eligible Applicants**

Any Rural Business or Agribusiness operating in Illinois may make application for financial assistance under the Rural Diversification Loan program. Personal service businesses are not eligible to receive funding.

a) *Agribusiness – Any sole proprietorship, limited partnership, co-partnership, joint venture, corporation, or cooperative which operates or will operate a facility located within the State of Illinois that is related to the:*

1) *Processing of agricultural commodities or*

2) *The manufacturing, production or construction of agricultural buildings, structures, equipment implements or supplies, or any other facilities or processes used in agricultural production* (Section 2(i) of the Illinois Farm Development Act (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1989, ch. 5, par. 1202)).

b) *Rural Business – Any cooperative, proprietorship, partnership, corporation, or other entity:*

1) *Engaged in manufacturing, mining, agriculture, wholesale, transportation, tourism, or utilities or in research and development or services to these basic industrial sectors and;*

2) Is located or will be located in an incorporated area of 20,000 population or less, but not in contiguous incorporated areas (cities, towns or villages) with a combined population greater than 20,000 or in an unincorporated area, of any county with a population of less than 350,000.