Seed Chicago is Accion Chicago’s Kickstarter page, which is a result of the Mayor’s Plan for Economic Growth and Jobs. It features projects by small business owners and community organizations who create jobs and cultivate economic growth in Chicago’s neighborhoods.

Kickstarter.com/SeedChicago

How do I get started?
Contact Haley Marceau at hmarceau@accionchicago.org or 312.924.2154.

How long do the projects last?
Seed Chicago projects last for 30 days.

How much money can I raise?
Seed Chicago limits its project goals to $10,000. If your project can achieve a higher goal, then submit a letter explaining your goal, what you will accomplish with the funding, and why you should be allowed an exception.

How much does it cost?
FREE! However, if a project is successfully funded, Kickstarter applies a 5% fee to the funds collected.

How does it work?
- Every project is independently created and crafted by its owner, and they are responsible for the project.
- Owners build project pages, shoot videos, and brainstorm rewards to offer supporters.
- Every project creator sets their project’s funding goal and deadline. If people like the project, they can pledge money.
- Funding on Kickstarter is all-or-nothing. If the project reaches its funding goal, all supporters are charged. If the project falls short, no one is charged.

What is the review process?
- You must receive approval by Accion Chicago. All submissions must include a completed questionnaire from the Seed Chicago Project Owner Packet, which will be reviewed by a review committee.
- You must receive approval by Amazon Payments to accept pledges from supporters. This process takes up to 7 business days.
- Once you have approval from Amazon Payments you must submit your completed project to Kickstarter for review. This process takes anywhere from 2-10 business days.