

GRANTS ALERT for ElectriCities January 19, 2023

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Notice of Opportunity Number	Grant Title	Federal Agency	Deadline	Information
N/A	Community Challenge	Foundation- AARP		https://www.aarp.org/livable- communities/community-challenge/ AND https://www.aarp.org/livable- communities/community- challenge/grantees-nebraska-rhode- island/

Webinars, Blogs, Funding Guides and More:

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has opened the process whereby entities may file **bulk challenges to the data in the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric (Fabric)**, which serves as the foundation for the Broadband Data Collection (BDC) fixed availability maps. To learn more about this process and the Fabric, <u>view a recorded</u> webinar or read an article issued by the National Leagues of Cities.

NEW – The **Grants.gov portal will be down** due to scheduled maintenance from January 21 to 25, 2023.

NEW -- The Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization (Energy Communities IWG) has a **centralized clearinghouse of existing federal funding sources geared towards energy communities** interested in funding for infrastructure, environmental remediation, job creation, and community revitalization efforts. Peruse the clearinghouse, here.

The Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization (Energy Communities IWG) is hosting a three-part webinar series highlighting **federal and non-federal technical assistance opportunities to benefit energy communities**. The first two webinars will focus on READY Appalachia, Rural Partners Network, plus the Thriving Communities and environmental justice programs administered by the DOT and EPA, respectively. The first and second webinars have concluded. The third webinar features non-federal technical assistance opportunities and is on January 24 from 1 to 2 p.m. EST. Register for one, or all webinars, here.

NEW – The Local Infrastructure Hub is hosting a webinar on how **federal funding streams from the Bipartisan**Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act can be integrated or complement one another in different types of infrastructure projects, particularly green infrastructure projects. The webinar is on January 31 at 2 p.m. EST.
Register, here.

The National Association of Counties (NACo) will host a virtual meeting of the **Building Resilient Economies in Coal Communities (BRECC) National Network, including a discussion about resources available through the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Just Transition Fund.** Register, here, for the webinar on Thurs., January 26 from 3 to 4 p.m. EST.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) published an **interactive map which shows program progress by state and territory for the BEAD (Broadband Equity, Access, and Development) program**, as well as state and federal contacts. Access the map and contact list, <u>here</u>.

The **SAM.gov website** has a tool that allows registrants the option to check their "entity status." Additionally, if you need to register, update your registration, or get a UEI (Unique Entity Identifier), a webinar has been recorded by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA). Watch the webinar, here.

SAM.gov is reporting that there are **issues and delays** (seven to 10 days or longer) with users who are requesting a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) through the SAM.gov portal or validating your entity. Watch a video on how to validate your entity, here.

NEW -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is hosting a **webinar series on the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program,** which is designed to assist states, local governments, and Tribes in implementing strategies to reduce energy use, to reduce fossil fuel emissions and to improve energy efficiency. Eligible local governmental entities can apply for \$430 million in EECBG Program formula funding through January 2024. More information about the formula grant, here.

- Introduction to the EECBG Program for States Wed., January 25 from 1 to 2 p.m. EST. Register, here.
- <u>Introduction to the EECBG Program for Local Governments Thurs., January 26 from 1 to 2 p.m. EST.</u> Register, here.
- Introduction to the EECBG Program for Tribal Governments Wed., February 1 from 1 to 2 p.m. EST.
 Register, here.

NEW -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), in conjunction with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), launched a new \$50 million program called the **Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) program** that will provide three levels of technical assistance to local governments, electric utilities, community-based groups and others across renewable power, grid mobility, and building sectors. Deadlines to apply and eligibility vary for each of the three levels of assistance offered. Learn more, here.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposed <u>new energy-efficiency standards</u> for three categories of distribution transformers to improve the resiliency of America's power grid, lower utility bills, and significantly reduce domestic carbon-dioxide (CO2) emissions. A webinar on Thursday, February 16, from 1 to 4 p.m. EST will take public feedback on the rule. Register, <u>here</u>.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) **updated the FAQs on the \$10.5 billion Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership Program (GRIP)** to enhance grid flexibility and improve the resilience of the power system against growing threats of extreme weather and climate change. The FAQs will continue to be updated so visit this page often: https://www.energy.gov/gdo/frequently-asked-questions-grid-resilience-and-innovation-partnerships-grip-program.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) published an RFI Preparing Workers and Businesses to Deliver Energy Efficiency and Building Electrification Measures (DE-FOA-0002885). The deadline to submit comments is January 26, 2023.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released two new chapters in its publication "State Energy and Environment Guide to Action" which was first published in 2006, then updated in 2015 and again in 2022. The "Overview of Electric Utility Policies" chapter provides an overview of the U.S. power system, the roles of utility and environmental regulators, and "themes across the Guide to Action's utility policy chapters, including the accelerated deployment of distributed energy resources, an emerging state focus on environmental justice and equity, and the alignment of utility policies with state environment, energy, and equity goals."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released two new chapters in its publication "State Energy and Environment Guide to Action" which was first published in 2006, then updated in 2015 and again in 2022. The "Maximizing Grid Investments" chapter provides state policymakers, regulators, and stakeholders with "technical background and examples of established, near-term opportunities for grid investments that support a modern electric distribution system, such as the deployment of clean and distributed energy resources (DERs)."

NEW – The White House will host a webinar on Fri., January 20 at 10:30 EST on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), the CHIPS and Science Act and more. Register, here.

NEW -- The White House released the "Version 2" edition (dated January 2023) of a new guidebook entitled "Building a Clean Energy Economy: A Guidebook to the Inflation Reduction Act's Investments in Clean Energy and Climate Action" which provides descriptions of the law's tax incentives and funding programs to build a clean energy economy, lower energy costs, tackle climate change, and reduce harmful pollution.

Recorded Webinars and Other:

The Bipartisan Policy Center recorded a discussion with Administration officials, elected Members of Congress and others entitled "Risk to Resilience: Cyber & Climate Solutions Bolstering America's Power Grid." Watch the recording here.

The Energy Storage Technology Advancement Partnership (ESTAP), which is a federal-state funding and information sharing project, recorded a webinar called "New Federal Money for Energy Storage: The Inflation Reduction Act." Watch it, here.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) recorded a broadband 101 webinar entitled "Introduction to Broadband and High-Speed Internet," which covered how it works, definitions of terminology, types of technologies, economics of a network and how the BEAD and other grant programs fit in. The webinar will be posted soon to the BroadbandUSA website, here.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) hosted a webinar on the \$10.5 billion **Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership Program (GRIP)** to enhance grid flexibility and improve the resilience of the power system against growing threats of extreme weather and climate change. Access the recording, here.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recorded a webinar on the **Transmission Facilitation Program (TFP)**. View the slide deck, <u>here</u>. Under the TFP, the DOE is authorized to borrow up to \$2.5 billion through three financing tools: capacity contracts, loans, and public-private partnerships. Currently, the only option for funding is through capacity contracts and a <u>DOE Request for Proposals (RFP) process (GDO-TFPFY23CAP)</u>. The deadline to submit an application is February 1, 2023