



## GRANTS ALERT for ElectriCities

February 2, 2023

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### Highlights:

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)/Federal Transit Administration (FTA) open the grant process for the **Buses and Bus Facilities Program (FTA-2023-003-TPM-BUS)** to assist in the financing of buses and bus facilities capital projects, including replacing, rehabilitating, purchasing or leasing buses or related equipment, and rehabilitating, purchasing, constructing or leasing bus-related facilities. Almost \$470 million in funding is available and there will be an expected 50 awards. The deadline to apply is **April 13, 2023**.

Links: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=345637> AND <https://www.transit.dot.gov/notices-funding/low-or-no-emission-and-grants-buses-and-bus-facilities-competitive-programs-fy2023>

DOT/FTA also opened the **Low or No Emission Vehicle Grant Program (FTA-2023-002-TPM-LWNO)**, known as the Low-No Program, for the purchase or lease of zero-emission and low-emission transit buses, including acquisition, construction, and leasing of required supporting facilities. The expected total funding for the Low-No Program is over \$1.22 billion; 100 awards are expected. The deadline to apply is **April 13, 2023**.

Links: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=345639> AND <https://www.transit.dot.gov/notices-funding/low-or-no-emission-and-grants-buses-and-bus-facilities-competitive-programs-fy2023>

### Webinars, Blogs, Funding Guides and More:

**NEW** – The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) is hosting a webinar on its **Community Challenge small grants program** to fund quick-action projects that can help communities become more livable. **February 8 at 2 p.m. EST**. Register, [here](#). The deadline to apply for a grant is **March 23**.

**NEW** – The Golden LEAF Foundation has a [list of resources available](#) for the **new round of the SITE Program**. The [SITE Program](#) provides support to communities to identify potential sites for economic development, enable completion of due diligence on sites already identified, or extend public utilities to or conduct grading and clearing of sites for which due diligence has been completed. Applications are due **March 16 by Noon**.

**NEW** – The Milken Institute is launching the **10,000 Communities Initiative** to “ensure that cross-sectoral attention, federal technical assistance funding, and impact capital are effectively deployed to the underserved communities that need it most.” To join the collaboration, or to submit a project (for community-based organizations, utilities, cities, counties, states, and project developers), click, [here](#).

**NEW (updated)** – The North Carolina Department of Transportation is seeking **input on the state’s deployment of the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program** at a series of roundtables, each lasting 90 minutes long. The first roundtable was January 30<sup>th</sup> and the last will be **February 2, 2023**. Registration is required for the roundtables, with attendance limited to utilities, EV equipment suppliers and site hosts. The public may attend an open house which follows each roundtable from **5 to 6 p.m. (no registration required)**. More information and to register, [here](#).

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](#).

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 [new energy-efficiency standards](#) 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, [here](#).

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>.

**NEW** ---The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will host two **webinars focusing on both the Bus and Bus Facilities and the Low-No programs**. Applicants may attend either webinar; the first is a general session and the second will include a Q&A session for rural and tribal applicants. **February 16 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. EST. [Join here](#). February 28 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. EST. [Join here](#)**. The deadline to apply to one or both programs is **April 13**. More information, [here](#).

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).”

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:**

**NEW** -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) posted the **Round One EVGrid Assist webinar series** which includes the following topics: the Importance of Vehicle-Grid Integration; EV Basics; DCFC Charging for Light, Medium, and Heavy-duty Vehicles; Grid Aware Site Selection; Load Forecasting; Rates and Incentives; and Planning for the Future. Watch the webinars, [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](#).