



## GRANTS ALERT for Electricities May 18, 2023

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**Highlight:**

The U.S. Department of Energy opened the [Energy Improvement in Rural or Remote Areas \(ERA\) grant](#) (DE-FOA-0003045) on May 11. This new grant, authorized by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), provides \$50 million in funding to support small community-driven clean energy projects requiring \$500,000 to \$5 million in federal funding. Eligibility is for communities with less than 10,000 inhabitants. Specific grant goals are to:

1. fund replicable energy projects that lower energy costs, improve energy access and resilience, and/or reduce environmental harm;
2. support new rural or remote energy system models using climate-resilient technologies, business structures that promote economic resilience, new financing mechanisms, and/or new community engagement practices; and
3. build clean energy knowledge, capacity, and self-reliance in rural America.

[Technical assistance is available](#) for pre-application preparation. Applicants must submit a pre-application by **July 13, 2023**. Successful pre-applicants will be invited to apply. A webinar on the [Energy Improvement in Rural and Remote Areas \(ERA\)](#) will provide an overview on the ERA program including eligibility, the application process and funding requirements. **Tues., May 30 at 2 p.m. EST**. Register, [here](#).

Upcoming grant deadlines of interest are listed below. *Note, the grant list includes all currently-open grants of interest.* Click on information link or search on [Grants.gov](#) by the notice of opportunity number.

Notice of Opportunity Number	Grant Title	Federal Agency	Deadline	Information
PWEAA2023	FY23 EDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs	DOC-EDA	Rolling	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=346815">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=346815</a> AND <a href="https://www.eda.gov/">https://www.eda.gov/</a>
EDA-DISASTER-2023	FY23 Disaster Supplemental	DOC-EDA	Rolling	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347414">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347414</a> <b>for natural disasters occurring in 2021 and 2022</b>
N/A	Electric Infrastructure Loan & Loan Guarantee Program	USDA	Rolling	<a href="https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/electric-programs/electric-infrastructure-loan-loan-guarantee-program">https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/electric-programs/electric-infrastructure-loan-loan-guarantee-program</a>

				<b>check with a <a href="#">General Field Rep (GFR)</a> to determine rural eligibility</b>
DE-FOA-0002948	Increasing Utilization and Reliability of Electric Infrastructure with Grid-enhancing technologies (GETs)	DOE	<del>5/9/23</del> <b>NEW deadline is 5/23/23</b>	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=346389">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=346389</a> <b>5 awards</b>
DE-FOA-0002962	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Carbon Capture Demonstration Projects Program Funding Opportunity Announcement	DOE	5/23/23	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=346365">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=346365</a> <b>6 awards</b>
DE-FOA-0002988	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Competitive Program	DOE	Concept Papers due 6/5/23; Full applications due 8/8/23	<a href="https://www.energy.gov/scep/articles/energy-efficiency-and-conservation-block-grant-competitive-program-funding?utm_medium=email&amp;utm_source=govdelivery">https://www.energy.gov/scep/articles/energy-efficiency-and-conservation-block-grant-competitive-program-funding?utm_medium=email&amp;utm_source=govdelivery</a>
DE-FOA-0002946	FY23 Conversion Research and Development FOA	DOE	6/16/23	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347030">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347030</a> <b>11 awards</b>
DE-FOA-0002881	BIL: Joint Office of Energy and Transportation Ride and Drive Electric, FY23 FOA	DOE	Concept papers due 6/16/23; full applications due 7/28/23	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=348195">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=348195</a> AND <a href="https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/Default.aspx#F0ald0b80a42a-5380-4459-96a9-f333002ea9b0">https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/Default.aspx#F0ald0b80a42a-5380-4459-96a9-f333002ea9b0</a>
EPAAct 2005 Section 243	Hydroelectric Efficiency Improvement Incentives	DOE	6/20/23	<a href="https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2023-03/Hydroelectric-Efficiency-Improvement-Incentives-Guidance_3.22.23.pdf">https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2023-03/Hydroelectric-Efficiency-Improvement-Incentives-Guidance_3.22.23.pdf</a> AND <a href="https://www.energy.gov/gdo/section-243-hydroelectric-efficiency-improvement-incentives-program">https://www.energy.gov/gdo/section-243-hydroelectric-efficiency-improvement-incentives-program</a>
RUS-BTA-2023	Broadband Technical Assistance	USDA-RUS	6/20/23	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347579">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347579</a>
DE-FOA-0002963	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Carbon Capture Large-Scale Pilot Projects Funding Opportunity Announcement	DOE	6/21/23	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=346366">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=346366</a> <b>10 awards</b>
EPAAct 2005 Section 247	Maintaining and Enhancing Hydroelectricity Incentives (EPAAct 2005 Section 247)	DOE	Letter of Intent due 6/22/23; Full applications due 10/6/23	<a href="https://www.energy.gov/gdo/section-247-maintaining-and-enhancing-hydroelectricity-incentives">https://www.energy.gov/gdo/section-247-maintaining-and-enhancing-hydroelectricity-incentives</a>
DE-FOA-0002970	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Energy Improvement in Rural or Remote Areas	DOE	6/28/23	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=346517">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=346517</a>

	Funding Opportunity Announcement			
DE-FOA-0002888	Small Innovative Projects in Solar: Concentrating Solar Power and Photovoltaic (SIPS: CSP & PV)	DOE	7/1/23	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347787">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347787</a>
DE-FOA-0003045	BIL: Energy Improvement in Rural or Remote Areas (ERA) Fixed Award Grant Program	DOE	Pre-application due 7/13/23; full application due 10/12/23	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=348087">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=348087</a> <b>communities 10,000 or less inhabitants</b>
DE-FOA-0002946	FY23 Conversion Research and Development Funding Opportunity Announcement	DOE	7/16/23	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347030">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347030</a> <b>11 awards</b>
DE-FOA-0002845	BIL: Section 41006(A)(2): U.S. Tidal Energy Advancement	DOE	7/25/23	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=348010">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=348010</a> <b>4 awards</b>
DE-FOA-0002940	BIL: Industrial Assessment Center (IAC) Program – IACs at Trade Schools, Community Colleges, and Union Training Programs; and Building Training and Assessment Centers (BTAC) Program	DOE	7/31/23	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347392">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347392</a>
DE-FOA-0002987	Heat Pump Defense Production Act Program	DOE	8/1/23	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347574">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347574</a>
DE-FOA-0003034	Operation and Planning Tools for Inverter-based Resource Management and Availability for future power systems (OPTIMA)	DOE	8/15/23	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347647">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347647</a> <b>13 awards</b>
DE-FOA-0003009	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - Clean Energy Demonstration Program on Current and Former Mine Land Funding Opportunity Announcement	DOE	8/31/23	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347309">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347309</a> <b>5 awards</b>
RDBCP-REAP-RES-EEI-2023-2024	FY23 and FY24 Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)	USDA-RD	9/30/23 (this will open every three months through 9/30/2024)	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347523">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347523</a> AND <a href="https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/energy-programs/rural-energy-america-program-renewable-energy-systems-energy-efficiency-improvement-guaranteed-loans">https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/energy-programs/rural-energy-america-program-renewable-energy-systems-energy-efficiency-improvement-guaranteed-loans</a> <b>small businesses, including agricultural producers and electric utilities</b>

FR-6700-N-91B	Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRPE) Elements	HUD	3/28/24	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=348062">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=348062</a>
FR-6700-N-91C	Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRP) Leading Edge	HUD	4/30/24	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=348063">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=348063</a>
FR-6700-N-91A	Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRPC) Comprehensive	HUD	5/30/24	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=348061">https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=348061</a>

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

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) offers **planning and local technical assistance** to cities, counties, local governments and others to “undertake and promote effective economic development programs through projects such as feasibility studies, impact analyses, disaster resiliency plans, and project planning.” Applications are taken on a rolling basis. Learn more, [here](#), for the Atlanta region which includes North Carolina.

**NEW (updated deadline)** -- The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) published new [CFI Grant Program Questions and Answers \(Q&A\)](#) on May 5, 2023. The Q&A is a companion document to the CFI Program NOFO and provides additional information for potential applicants. More information on the CFI, [here](#). The deadline to apply for a CFI grant has been extended to **June 13, 2023**.

**NEW (updated)** -- Grants.gov will be down for maintenance from **May 20-22, 2023** and also **June 17-19, 2023**.

The Grid Deployment Office of the U.S. Department of Energy is hosting a webinar on [Application Guidance for Section 247 for Maintaining and Enhancing Hydroelectricity Incentives \(EPA 2005 Section 247\)](#). **May 24 at 1 p.m. EST**. Register, [here](#). The deadline to submit a Letter of Intent is by **5 p.m. EST June 22, 2023**. Full applications are due **October 6, 2023**.

The Joint Office of Energy and Transportation will host a webinar on **designing accessible EV charging stations** on **May 18 from 2 to 3 p.m. EST**. Learn more and to register, [here](#).

The N.C. Department of Information Technology Division of Broadband and Digital Equity, North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, North Carolina League of Municipalities, and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration will host a free event on **Tues., May 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. EST** in Raleigh called **Closing the Digital Divide: Internet for All in NC**. Register, [here](#). Virtual participation is allowed, and registration for that **opens on May 3**.

With funding provided by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) are expanding the [SolSmart Designation Program](#) to include another 500 local governments. SolSmart provides no-cost technical assistance to help local governments and regional organizations meet solar energy best practices.

**NEW** -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will host a series of webinars on two new Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) programs – **The Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) and Empowering Rural America (ERA)**, both of which expand clean, affordable, and reliable energy in rural communities. Funding will be available as loans, grants, loan modifications and partially forgivable loans. The webinars will be held on each of the following dates:

- **Mon., May 22** (register, [here](#))
- **Wed., May 24** (register, [here](#))

- **Wed., May 31** (register, [here](#))
- **Thurs., June 1** (register, [here](#))

**NEW** -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) will host a webinar on the [Energy Improvement in Rural and Remote Areas \(ERA\)](#) providing an overview on the ERA program including eligibility, the application process and funding requirements. **Tues., May 30 at 2 p.m. EST.** Register, [here](#). The deadline to submit a required pre-application for an ERA grant is **July 13, 2023**.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), with funding provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) has a new funding opportunity for clean energy improvements for K-12 public school facilities. While that grant is not open currently, schools can conduct an **energy needs assessment using new tools** and resources provided by DOE. One of these is an [Energy Justice Mapping Tool for Schools](#), and another is the [School Energy Assessment \(SEA\) Form](#). Watch YouTube videos on the tools and access the resources, [here](#).

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has opened the [Energizing Rural Communities Prize](#), offered through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The \$15 million prize “challenges individuals and organizations to develop partnership plans or innovative financing strategies to help rural or remote communities improve their energy systems and advance clean energy demonstration projects.” Applications are due **May 24, 2023**.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is offering more than \$22 million in cash prizes and technical assistance for winning ideas to accelerate widespread, equitable energy efficiency and building electrification upgrades. The [Buildings Upgrade Prize \(Buildings UP\)](#) was developed and funded by the [U.S. Department of Energy Building Technologies Office](#) as part of its overall mission to reduce the carbon footprint of the U.S. building stock while maintaining or improving affordability, comfort, and performance. Phase 1 submissions are due **July 18, 2023**.

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) [Solar Power in Your Community Guidebook](#) serves as a resource to assist government officials and stakeholders in increasing deployment and local access to solar photovoltaics.

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 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will host a webinar on the new [Green and Resilient Retrofit Program \(GRRP\) for Multifamily Housing](#) on **Tues., May 23 at 2 p.m. EST**. Register, [here](#). Additionally, HUD will offer GRRP “office hours” every **Wednesday, May 24 through June 28, 2023 from 3 to 4 p.m. EST**. No registration necessary. [Join using this link](#). The deadlines to apply to a series of three grants are **March, April and May 2024**.

**NEW** ---The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) published a toolkit called “[Charging Forward: A Toolkit for Planning and Funding Urban Electric Mobility Infrastructure](#).” The toolkit serves as a “one-stop resource to help urban communities scope, plan, and identify ways to fund electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure, supporting diverse forms of electric mobility.”

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released an updated version of the [Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator](#). Available in both Spanish and English, the calculator “translates emissions and energy data into real terms, like annual emissions from cars, homes, smartphones, or natural gas fired power plants.” New, the calculator now “includes two options for electricity inputs: estimated emissions equivalencies based on electricity consumed or electricity use avoided. Previously, the Calculator provided estimates only for electricity avoided. By providing this choice, users will be able to access the appropriate emissions factor based on their need.”

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a **Clean Energy Financing Toolkit for Decisionmakers**, which lists financing programs and policies by state and local governments and others that support investments in clean energy. Access the toolkit, [here](#).

### **Recorded Webinars and Other:**

The Energy Communities Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities (IWG) recorded two webinars in a two-part series entitled **“What the Inflation Reduction Act Means for Energy Communities.”** Part 1 can be accessed [here](#), and Part 2 can be accessed [here](#). Both links include slides, the recordings and Q&A.

**NEW** – The Interagency Working Group (IWG) on Coal and Power Plant Communities recorded a two-part webinar on **“What the Inflation Reduction Act Means for Energy Communities.”** Watch the recordings, [here](#).

The Joint Office of Energy and Transportation recorded a number of webinars to help stakeholders **build capacity for electric vehicles and plan for charging infrastructure**, including:

- State of Practice in Electric Vehicle Charging Station Site Design;
- Contracting and Procurement Considerations for EV Station Deployment;
- State of the Practice in DC Charging Station Site Evaluation and Deployment Processes;
- Utilities, Commissions and State DOTs: Working Together to Deploy EV Charging;
- Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program;
- Bridging Transportation and Energy Through Regional Coordination;
- EV Charging Minimum Standards Rule; and more.

Access the recordings on the DriveElectric website, [here](#).

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 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has a series of pre-recorded videos on the new **Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRP)** cohort of three grants (Elements, Leading Edge, and Comprehensive), plus accompanying fact sheets. Go to the main GRRP website to access the information, [here](#). The deadlines to apply are **March, April and May 2024**.

**NEW (updated)** -- The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) recorded a webinar on the [Charging and Fueling Infrastructure \(CFI\) grant program](#). View the webinar, [here](#) (use passcode i#l2b6UV) or access the slide deck, [here](#). The deadline to apply for a grant was extended to **June 13, 2023**.