



Idaho Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant

Request for Applications
November 2023



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INTRODUCTION

The Idaho Governor's Office of Energy and Mineral Resources (OEMR) is pleased to announce the latest funding opportunity under the State of Idaho Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant Program (Idaho EECBG). Idaho EECBG will provide competitive subawards to cities and counties ineligible for direct grants to enable local governments to promote energy efficiency and conservation practices while continuing to meet the needs of its growing communities, reducing tax burdens, and keeping energy rates low.

The following information serves as OEMR's formal funding opportunity announcement and solicitation letter for Idaho EECBG. Applicants shall refer to the [Administrative and Legal Requirements Document for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program](#) (ALRD) for additional information and other requirements.

Applications for Idaho EECBG are due to OEMR no later than January 17, 2024, at 11:59 PM MST. All applications shall be emailed to Alexa Bouvier, at alexa.bouvier@oer.idaho.gov, with the subject line "Idaho EECBG Program Application [Applicant Name]." OEMR will reject incomplete applications in their entirety.

AWARD INFORMATION

A. Authorizing Statutes

- i. Executive Order 2020-17, Order 6, states OEMR's duties, powers and authorities shall include "assisting state agencies, local government, and stakeholders to secure funding where available for energy conservation projects and renewable energy resources opportunities [and] administering energy loan programs and other forms of financial assistance for eligible projects."
- ii. In 2009, OEMR administered the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).
- iii. The Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021 appropriates funding for the Department of Energy (DOE) to issue formula-based grants to states, U.S. territories, units of local government, and Indian tribes under EECBG. DOE's authorization for this program is set forth in Title V, Subtitle E of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA). 42 U.S.C. §17151 et seq. All subawards made under this program shall comply with applicable laws and regulations including, but not limited to, 2 CFR Part 200 as amended by 2 CFR Part 910 and Section 40552 of IIJA (PL 117-58).



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B. Program Goals

The purpose of Idaho EECBG is to assist eligible applicants in creating and implementing strategies to:

- Utilize funding from other sources including direct grant recipients, utilities, and nonprofit organizations;
- Create the greatest number of sustainable jobs;
- Establish strong and diverse partnerships with cities, counties, and other stakeholders;
- Reduce energy burdens in disadvantaged communities;
- Increase energy resilience;
- Increase energy savings; and
- Promote the acceleration of deployment of advanced energy technologies.

These stated purposes describe the overall intent of Idaho EECBG. Applicants should develop projects that address the above program goals. Each applicant is required to use the funds in a cost-effective manner that is of maximum benefit to their community and in a manner that will yield continuous benefits over time in terms of energy and emission reductions.

C. Award Overview

i. Award type:

- Idaho EECBG subawards will be paid by reimbursement only.
- Pre-award costs are not allowed. Cost match is not required. Applicants are encouraged to seek funding from other sources including internal funding, utilities, and non-profit organizations.
- Applications will undergo review by a review committee using evaluation criteria listed in [Appendix A](#).
- OEMR will notify successful applicants upon approval of their application. Following this notification, OEMR will execute a Subaward Agreement with the subawardee. All subawardees will be subject to the terms and conditions of OEMR's Subaward Agreement. Terms will include, but will not be limited to, various federal requirements outlined in the ALRD. Please refer to [Appendix B-E](#) for a general overview of federal requirements.
- OEMR will obligate competitive subaward funds to cities and counties by April 1, 2024.

ii. Available federal funding: \$1,045,380.

iii. Eligible applicants must complete the Project Narrative in the application and ensure the narrative is aligned with OEMR's goals set forth above in Section B.

iv. Project location: Projects shall be located in the State of Idaho.



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- v. Project duration: OEMR encourages applicants to propose projects that can be completed in 18 months.

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Idaho’s EECBG Program is for rural cities and counties that were not eligible for Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant formula funding from DOE.

- Ineligible cities: Boise, Caldwell, Coeur d’ Alene, Idaho Falls, Meridian, Nampa, Pocatello, Post Falls, Rexburg, Twin Falls
- Ineligible counties: Ada, Bingham, Bonner, Bonneville, Canyon, Jefferson, Kootenai, Latah, Nez Perce, Twin Falls

PROJECTS

A. Eligible Projects

Eligible projects must fall under the following categories:

- Workforce development
- Energy efficiency, such as weatherization, retrofits, energy conservation and energy management
- Capital investment & financing
- Resiliency
- Electric vehicles and infrastructure
- Clean energy/clean energy technology, such as distributed energy resources and on-site renewable energy

B. Project Scoring Criteria

OEMR will conduct an initial review to determine an application’s completeness and eligibility. Then, a review committee will evaluate applications using the evaluation criteria below. For a complete list of evaluation criteria, please see [Appendix A](#).

Energy Conservation (70%)	Community Benefit (25%)	Administrative Compliance (5%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates a strong need for energy improvements • Improves energy efficiency and saves costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generates community benefit • Leads to economic development • Serves low-income Idaho residents to alleviate energy burden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adheres to administrative requirements



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FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

Subawardees are required to comply with applicable requirements. OEMR has listed the following federal requirements as a general overview, but this is not an exhaustive list.

A. Expenditures and Reporting

All expenditures shall be allowable, allocable, and reasonable in accordance with the applicable federal cost principles. Refer to the following applicable federal administrative requirements for more information:

- [Federal Acquisition Regulation \(FAR\) Part 31 for For-Profit entities](#)
- [2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E - Cost Principles for all other non-federal entities](#)
- [2 CFR Part 170-Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation](#)

B. Build America Buy America

Federally assisted projects which involve infrastructure work, undertaken by applicable recipient types, require that:

- All iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States- this means all manufacturing processes, from the initial meeting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States;
- All manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States- this means the manufactured produce was manufactured in the United States; and the cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55% of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard for determining the minimum amount of domestic content of the manufactured product has been established under applicable law or regulation; and
- All construction materials' are manufactured in the United States- this means that all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States. The Buy America requirements only applies to articles, materials, and supplies that are consumed in, incorporated into, or affixed to an infrastructure project. As such, it does not apply to tools, equipment, and supplies, such as temporary scaffolding, brought to the construction site and removed at or before the completion of the infrastructure project. Nor do Buy America requirements apply to equipment and furnishings, such as movable chairs, desks, and portable computer equipment, that are used at or within the finished infrastructure project but are not an integral part of the structure or permanently affixed to the infrastructure project.

Please refer to [Appendix B](#) for a more detailed description of Build America Buy America.



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C. Davis Bacon Act

Projects and subrecipients will be subject to requirements under the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. § 3141 et seq.) and the applicable requirements of 29 CFR part 5. See Appendix C.

D. National Environmental Policy Act

Proposed projects must fall within the categories listed in the Idaho EECEBG Statement of Work for Non-Tribal Applicants Appendix E; see also Appendix D.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

A. System for Award Management (SAM)

Applicants shall maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active award or an application under consideration. Important steps in SAM registration are (1) registering with the SAM at <https://www.sam.gov/> prior to submitting an application in response to this funding opportunity and (2) designating an Electronic Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC) and obtaining a special password called an MPIN. Information about SAM registration for applicants is available at: https://www.fsd.gov/gsafsd_sp?id=gsafsd_kb_articles&sys_id=650d493e1bab7c105465

B. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

Applicants must obtain a UEI from the SAM to uniquely identify the entity. The UEI is available in the SAM entity registration record. Applicants will receive the UEI after registering in SAM.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please see the [Idaho EECEBG webpage](#) to view application forms. Applications must be submitted via email to Alexa Bouvier at alexa.bouvier@oer.idaho.gov by no later than 11:59PM MST on January 17, 2024. Applications shall be submitted with the subject line "Idaho EECEBG Application [Applicant Name]." Before application submittal, please use the following checklist to ensure the application is complete. OEMR will reject incomplete applications in their entirety.

- Registration in SAM
- Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
- Application Form
- Budget Information Form



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Documents and information submitted to OEMR in an application are subject to the Idaho Public Records Act (Idaho Code §§ 74-101 to 74-127). Please avoid submitting information considered to be confidential or privileged unless it is necessary to the application. If such information is necessary, please contact OEMR.

QUESTIONS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Questions shall be submitted in writing via email with the subject line “Idaho EECBG Question.” OEMR will answer all questions within three business days via a public FAQ document that is linked to the [Idaho EECBG webpage](#). All applicants are responsible for checking the Idaho EECBG webpage on a regular basis for updates to the FAQ document and other pertinent updates. OEMR’s technical assistance may consist of (1) application interpretation and clarification, (2) identification of all required documents, (3) budget justification clarification, and (4) reporting compliance. For questions and technical assistance please email Alexa Bouvier at alexa.bouvier@oer.idaho.gov.