



PLANNING ALERT!

Professional Assistance for Today's Unprecedented Funding Opportunities

Program Name

Department of Energy Grid Hardening State/Tribal Formula Program

Background

Administrator: Department of Energy (DOE)

Authorizing Legislation: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

Total Fund Size: \$2.3 billion

Allocation Approach: Funds are directly allocated to states, territories, and Tribal governments ("Applicants" or "Recipients")

Program Purpose: To improve the resilience of the electric grid against events that disrupt operations of the electric grid, preventatively shut off, or cannot operate safely due to extreme weather, wildfire, or natural disaster

DOE Grid Hardening State/Tribal Formula Program

\$2.3 billion

Eligible Applicants

- **Funds are directly allocated to States, Territories, and Tribal Governments.**
- **Service providers should engage with their state or territory energy office/agency, Tribal organizations and governments, local communities, and customers**

Allocation Amounts Per Applicant

- **State Allocation Methodology:** 50 states, District of Columbia, and 5 Territories receive a total of \$376.7 million based on population, land area, and the historical precedence for experiencing disruptive events
- **Tribal Governments:** A total of \$82.2 million
- **Allocation Table:** [40101d Formula Grant Funding Allocation.docx \(doe.gov\)](#)

Eligible & Ineligible Uses

Eligible Uses (Per Legislation): Activities, technologies, equipment, and hardening measures to reduce likelihood and consequences of disruptive events, including:

- (A) Weatherization technologies and equipment
- (B) Fire-resistant technologies and fire prevention systems
- (C) Monitoring and control technologies
- (D) Undergrounding of electrical equipment
- (E) Utility pole management
- (F) Relocation of power lines or the reconductoring of power lines with low-sag, advanced conductors
- (G) Vegetation and fuel-load management
- (H) Use or construction of distributed energy resources for enhancing system adaptive capacity during disruptive events, including:
 - (i) Microgrids
 - (ii) Battery-storage subcomponents
- (I) Adaptive protection technologies
- (J) Advanced modeling technologies
- (K) Hardening of power lines, facilities, substations, of other systems
- (L) Replacement of old overhead conductors and underground cable

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Eligible & Ineligible Uses (continued)

Ineligible Uses (Per Legislation): Funding from this program may not be used for:

- (A) Construction of a new:
 - (i) Electric generating facility; or
 - (ii) Large-scale battery-storage facility that is not used for enhancing system adaptive capacity during disruptive events
- (B) Cybersecurity

Key Dates

- **Applications Opened:** July 6, 2022
- **State Applications Due: September 30, 2022**
- **Deadline for Expenditure of Funds:** December 31, 2027 (end of the estimated period of performance)
- **Extensions:** Awards may be extended to span the amount of time necessary for Recipients to complete all subaward project effort (up to 10 years)

Process Overview

Grant and Program Plans: States and Tribal Governments must include a plan that describes the criteria, methods, and funding distributions that will be used by the State or Tribal Government to award grants to eligible entities. Contact your state or tribal energy office to make sure your voice is heard during the public hearings.

- Plan must be adopted after notice and public hearing

Payments: DOE will distribute \$459M, calculated on a formula basis, for FY22-26

Application Sections

Applicants must register with the System for Award Management (SAM), obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), and register with and submit their applications through the FedConnect website: www.fedconnect.net

1. SF-424: Application for Federal Assistance
2. Program Narrative:
 - a. Objectives and Metrics
 - b. Criteria
 - c. Methods
 - d. Funding Distribution
 - e. Equity Approach
 - f. Technical Assistance and Administration
 - g. Public Notice and Hearing
3. Environmental Questionnaire
4. SF-LLL: Disclosure of Lobbying Activities
5. Head of Government Letter or Tribal Council Resolution
6. Pre-Award Information Sheet



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Match Requirement

- Each State and Tribal Government is required to match 15% of grant amount
- Subawardees are required to match 100% of the amount of the subaward as required by Section 40101(h)(1)
 - If the eligible entity sells not more than 4 million MWh of electricity per year, the required match will be one-third of subaward amount as required by Section 40101(h)(2)

Eligible & Ineligible Project Costs

Eligible Project Costs:

- State or Tribal Governments may use not more than 5% for technical assistance and administrative expenses combined

Ineligible Project Costs:

- Awardees and subawardees may not use grant funds, directly or indirectly, to support or oppose union organizing

Selection Criteria

- Priority given to projects that generate the greatest community benefit in reducing likelihood and consequences of blackouts and power shutdowns due to extreme weather or other disruptive events like cyberattacks
- Percentage made available to eligible entities that sell not more than 4 million MWh of electricity per year should not be less than the percentage of all customers in State or Tribe served by those eligible entities

Tasks to be Performed

1. Project Management & Administration

Phase I - Planning

2. Technical Assistance & Planning
3. Resilience Project Approval

Phase II

4. Resilience Project Execution
 - (a) Monitor performance of entity/awardee to assure Terms and Conditions of the subaward
 - (b) Collect necessary information for Recipient to provide measurable progress towards completion of funded activity
 - (c) Collect necessary information for Recipient to verify extent to which its established objectives are being realized

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Deliverables

- **Project Management Plan (PMP)**
 - Due 45 days after start of budget period 1
 - Submitted 90 days prior to the start of subsequent budget period
 - Revised PMP's as a result of major project plan changes
- **Program Narrative**
 - Submitted 90 days prior to start of subsequent budget periods
- **Resilience Project Package**
 - Submitted prior to execution of projects and/or issuance of subawards
- **Subaward Monitoring Reports**
 - Due quarterly with Quarterly Progress Report (QPR)

Links & Emails

- [Program Landing Page](#)
- [Formula Grant Application Forms and Templates](#)
- [Program FAQs](#)
- [Data Source for Formula Grant Allocations](#)
- Please submit questions to: Sheldon.Funk@netl.doe.gov

- Opportunity Evaluation
- Effective Grant Writing
- Track Record of Success