

# nrtc **FUNDING ALERT!**

Professional Assistance for Today's Unprecedented Funding Opportunities

## Funding Amount: \$1-2.7 Billion

### Program Name

**Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Program, part of the Inflation Reduction Act**

### Funding Amount

Minimum loan of \$1 million up to Maximum of \$100 million

Loan Type:

- System Loans: only available to currently operating electric utilities; may cover 100%
- Project Loans: applicants not eligible for/or have decided not to pursue a System Loan. To finance projects that will be secured through a senior security interest in the project's assets and revenues; may cover up to 75% of total capitalized costs

RUS will initially allocate a minimum of \$300 million to each Loan Forgiveness Category:

- Category 1: Up to 20% total loan forgiveness if applicant meets the minimum requirements
- Category 2: Up to 40% total loan forgiveness if 50% or more of the population served is in:
  - [Energy Communities](#)
  - Distressed or Disadvantaged Communities
    - Distressed or Disadvantaged Communities can be found [here](#)
- Category 3: Up to 60% total loan forgiveness if:
  - Project area is in U.S. territories or [Compact of Free Association areas \(COFA\)](#)
  - Project area consists of 60% or more of a Tribal area, are owned by a Tribal Government, or serves a [Substantially Underserved Trust Area \(SUTA\)](#)

### Key Dates

- **May/ June Webinar Registration** [here](#)
- **June 30** – Letter of Interest (LOI) Submissions Open at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (ET)
  - LOIs will be evaluated on a rolling basis, with invitations for applications to follow
- **September 29 – LOI Submissions Due at 11:59 a.m. (ET)**
- **Invitation to Proceed** – Applicants have sixty (60) days to submit full application
- **September 2023- December 2025** – Anticipated Award Date

### Eligible Applicants

Entities that generate electricity for resale to residents in both rural and nonrural areas including;

- Corporations, states, and territories, along with their subdivisions and agencies
- Municipalities
- Utility Districts
- Cooperatives
- Nonprofits
- Indian Tribes
- Alaska Native, Regional, or Village corporations
- Limited Liability Companies or other for-profit entities organized under the laws of any U.S. state or territory

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## Eligible Projects

Projects must be in rural areas with at least 50% of the population served located in communities of less than 20,000 people and loan funds must be used for the purchase or construction of power generation projects:

Renewable Energy Resource (RER) systems

- Wind
- Solar
- Hydropower
- Geothermal
- Biomass

Energy Storage Systems (ESS) that support RER projects

- Based on bankable power purchase agreements (PPAs)
- Through a financial guarantee, ensures feasibility of the project
- Energy must be sold for resale to eligible off-takers; utility and non-utility customers

## Application Process

Applicants must submit an LOI

- Eligible applicants will receive an Invitation to Proceed and have sixty (60) days to complete and submit a PACE Application beginning from the date the Invitation to Proceed is emailed
- If the sixty (60) day deadline falls on Saturday, Sunday, or a federal holiday, the application is due the next business day

## Links & Contact

- [PACE Grant Program Announcement](#)
- [PACE NOFO](#)
- [PACE USDA FACTS SHEET](#)
- PACE [FAQ's](#)
- Please submit questions to: [RD.RUS.IRA.Questions@usda.gov](mailto:RD.RUS.IRA.Questions@usda.gov)



[funding@nrtc.coop](mailto:funding@nrtc.coop)

Contact us for Funding Assistance. NRTC's Funding Practice offers key benefits including:

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