



State, Local, and Tribal Energy Newsletter

Twenty-six funding and technical assistance opportunities are available for state, local, and tribal governments from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), and others that can be used to support climate and energy initiatives, including economic development, sustainable communities, green infrastructure, and water efficiency. For full eligibility and application details, please visit the links provided below.

In addition, please visit EPA's [Grants website](#) for further grant opportunities, guidance on how to apply, and training.

Funding Opportunities

New! EPA FY22 Guidelines for Brownfield Assessment Grants - \$47 million

Applications Due: December 1, 2021

Eligible Entities: States, Indian tribe other than in Alaska and Intertribal Consortia comprised of eligible Indian tribes. Alaska Native Regional Corporation, Alaska Native Village Corporation, and Metlakatla Indian Community

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended by the Brownfields Utilization, Investment, and Local Development (BUILD) Act (P.L. 115-141), requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to publish guidance for grants to assess and clean up brownfield sites. EPA's Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofit organizations to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites.

Assessment Grants provide funding for developing inventories of brownfield sites, prioritizing sites, conducting community involvement activities, conducting planning, conducting site assessments, developing site-specific cleanup plans, and developing reuse plans related to brownfield sites. A portion of the Assessment Grant funding must be used to conduct site assessments. Assessment Grant funds may not be used to conduct cleanup activities.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

New! EPA FY22 Guidelines for Brownfield Cleanup Grants - \$13 million

Applications Due: December 1, 2021

Eligible Entities: States, local governments, land clearance authorities, regional councils, Indian tribes other than in Alaska, and Alaska Native Regional Corporation, Alaska Native Village Corporation, and Metlakatla Indian Community

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended by the Brownfields Utilization, Investment, and Local Development (BUILD) Act (P.L. 115-141), requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to publish guidance for grants to assess and clean up brownfield sites. EPA's Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofit organizations to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. This Cleanup Grant provides funding to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the applicant.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

New! EPA FY22 State and Tribal Response Program Grants

Applications Due: December 17, 2021

Eligible Entities: States, tribes, and intertribal consortia

State and tribal response programs oversee assessment and cleanup activities at brownfield sites across the country. The depth and breadth of these programs vary. Some focus on CERCLA-related activities, while others are multi-faceted, addressing sites regulated by both CERCLA and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"). Many states also offer accompanying financial incentive programs to spur cleanup and redevelopment of contaminated properties. In enacting CERCLA Section 128(a), 6 Congress recognized the value of state and tribal response programs in cleaning up and reusing brownfield sites. Section 128(a) strengthens EPA's partnerships with states and tribes and recognizes their response programs' critical role in overseeing cleanups.

This funding is intended for states and tribes that have the required management and administrative capacity within their government to administer a federal grant. The primary goal of this funding is to ensure that state and tribal response programs include, or are taking reasonable steps to include, certain elements of an environmental response program and that the program establishes and maintains a public record of sites addressed.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

New! EPA FY22 Guidelines for Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund Grants - \$8 million

Applications Due: December 1, 2021

Eligible Entities: States, local governments, land clearance authorities, regional councils, Indian tribes other than in Alaska, and Alaska Native Regional Corporation, Alaska Native Village Corporation, and Metlakatla Indian Community

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended by the Brownfields Utilization, Investment, and Local Development (BUILD) Act (P.L. 115-141), requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to publish guidance for grants to assess and clean up brownfield sites. EPA's Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofit organizations to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites.

Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants provide funding to a grant recipient to capitalize an RLF program. RLF programs provide loans and subgrants to eligible entities to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites contaminated with hazardous substances and/or petroleum. Site eligibility will be determined by EPA after grant award and prior to expending grant funds at any site.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

Coming Soon! EPA American Rescue Plan - Improving Ambient Air Quality Monitoring to Address Health Income Disparities - \$50 million

Applications Due: EPA plans to open this opportunity in fall 2021

Eligible Entities: State, tribal, and local governments and community groups

On July 7, 2021, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the availability of \$50 million in American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding to improve ambient air quality monitoring for communities across the United States. Learn more about this upcoming opportunity [here](#).

The funding opportunity should be available soon and [will be posted here](#).

EPA 2021 American Rescue Plan Electric School Bus Rebates - \$7 million

Applications Due: November 5, 2021

Eligible Entities: Public school districts listed on the [ARP Electric School Bus Rebates Eligibility List](#), tribal schools, and private fleets that operate school buses under a contract with an eligible entity.

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) appropriated funds to the EPA for "activities that identify and address disproportionate environmental or public health harms and risks in minority populations or low-income populations" under several programs, including the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA). EPA will fund \$7 million for electric school bus rebates in underserved communities. This program has not yet opened to accept applications, but more details and supporting information for this program will be available by the end of September.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

EPA EJ4Climate: Environmental Justice and Climate Resilience - \$2 million

Applications Due: November 14, 2021

Eligible Entities: Tribal nations, indigenous peoples and communities, nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), civil society groups, environmental groups, and community-based associations

The North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation ([CEC](#)) is launching a first-of-its-kind USD \$2 million grant program, EJ4Climate, to support environmental justice and climate resilience for underserved, vulnerable communities, and Indigenous communities across North America. This program will provide funding directly to Indigenous communities and community-based organizations to deliver environmental justice and advance local solutions to adapt to climate change.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

DHS FEMA Fiscal Year 2021 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) - \$1 billion

Applications Due: January 28, 2022

Eligible Entities: U.S territories, states, federally recognized tribal governments, and local communities

The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program makes federal funds available to states, U.S territories, federally recognized tribal governments, and local communities for hazard mitigation activities. It does so with a recognition of the growing hazards associated with climate change, and of the need for natural hazard risk mitigation activities that promote climate adaptation and resilience with respect to those hazards. These include both acute extreme weather events and chronic stressors which have been observed and are expected to increase in the future.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#) .

DOC Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program - \$268 million

Applications Due: December 1, 2021

Eligible Entities: The Act defines an eligible recipient as: a historically Black college or university (HBCU); a Tribal College or University (TCU); a Minority-serving institution (MSI); or a consortium that is led by a historically Black college or university, a Tribal College or University, or a Minority-serving institution. A consortium is eligible for a grant under the Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program if it is led by an eligible institution as defined above.

The Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program provides new federal funding for the Assistant Secretary to make grants for the expansion of broadband internet access, connectivity, and digital inclusion. The Act authorizes new federal funding for the Assistant Secretary to make grants to eligible recipients in anchor communities: for the purchase of broadband internet access service or any eligible equipment, or to hire and train information technology personnel; to facilitate educational instruction and

learning, including through remote instruction; to operate a minority business enterprise (MBE); or to operate a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. The Act also authorizes grants to a consortium, led by an eligible recipient institution (i.e., educational institution), that includes an MBE or a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. See Section I of this NOFO for the full Program Description.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#) .

DOC EDA FY 2021 American Rescue Plan Act Good Jobs Challenge - \$500 million

Applications Due: January 26, 2022

Eligible Entities: State governments, county governments, city or township governments, special district governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), others

Through this American Rescue Plan Act Good Jobs Challenge Notice of Funding Opportunity (ARPA Good Jobs Challenge NOFO), the Economic Development Agency (EDA) aims to assist communities and regions impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. The pandemic has caused, and continues to cause, economic injury to U.S. communities and regions in devastating and unprecedented ways. This ARPA Good Jobs Challenge NOFO is designed to help get Americans back to work by developing and strengthening regional systems to develop and execute sectoral partnerships that will lead to well-paying jobs. The goal of regional workforce training systems is to create and implement effective employer-driven training programs that will connect the existing and emerging skills needs of employers with workers and will help workers find and keep quality jobs and advance along their chosen career path.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

DOC EDA FY 2021 American Rescue Plan Act Economic Adjustment Assistance - \$500 million

Applications Due: March 31, 2022

Eligible Entities: State governments, county governments, city or township governments, special district governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), others

Through this ARPA EAA NOFO, EDA aims to assist communities and regions impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, including historically underserved communities. The pandemic has caused, and continues to cause, economic injury to U.S. communities and regions in devastating and unprecedented ways. EDA's ARPA EAA NOFO is designed to provide a wide-range of financial assistance to communities and regions as they respond to, and recover from, the economic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic, including long-term recovery and resilience to future economic disasters. Under this announcement, EDA solicits applications under the authority of the Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) program, which is flexible and responsive to the economic development needs and priorities of local and regional stakeholders. This is the broadest NOFO EDA is publishing under ARPA and any eligible applicant from any EDA Region may apply. EDA expects to fund a number of projects under this NOFO that support communities negatively impacted by the downturn in the coal economy, supporting transitioning away from coal.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#) .

DOC EDA FY 2021 American Rescue Plan Act Indigenous Communities - \$100 million

Applications Due: March 31, 2022

Eligible Entities: Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)

EDA's American Rescue Plan Indigenous Communities Notice of Funding (NOFO) is designed to support indigenous communities as they respond to, and recover from, the economic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic, including long-term recovery and resilience to future economic disasters. Under this announcement, EDA solicits applications under the authority of its Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) program, which is intended to be flexible and responsive to the economic development needs and priorities of indigenous communities. Competitive applications for funding under this NOFO will propose projects designed to create the conditions for economic growth in indigenous communities and to accelerate economic recovery from the pandemic. These projects can include foundational economic infrastructure projects, such as such as broadband, energy, road, water, and wastewater infrastructure (including community water facilities); vocational and higher education facilities; and community health facilities that are necessary for future job creation. Projects can also include non-construction projects to provide technical assistance to support business development, entrepreneurship assistance, economic development planning, rural prosperity, and workforce training in indigenous communities. Further, EDA seeks to fund projects representing diverse geographies, from rural and urban settings to projects on or near tribal lands.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#) .

DOI BOR Agricultural Water Use Efficiency Grants for Fiscal Years 2021 and 2022 - Fostering District and Farmer Water Saving Partnerships - \$1 million

Applications Due: November 1, 2021

Eligible Entities: State governments, Indian tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, or other organizations with water or power delivery authority located in the Western United States or United States Territories as identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, as amended

Through Agricultural Water Use Efficiency (AWUE) Grants, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) leverages Federal and non-Federal funding to support stakeholder efforts to stretch scarce water supplies and avoid conflicts over water. The AWUE program also supports Reclamation's priorities, including increasing water supplies, leveraging science and technology to improve water supply reliability, addressing ongoing drought, and improving water supplies for tribal and rural communities.

Through this notice of funding, Reclamation provides funding for projects that increase water reliability consistent with Sections 3 and 4 of the October 19, 2018, Presidential Memorandum on Promoting the Reliable Supply and Delivery of Water in the West.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

DOI BOR WaterSMART Environmental Water Resources Projects for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 - \$40 million

Applications Due: December 9, 2021

Eligible Entities: State governments, Native American tribal governments, irrigation or water districts, state, regional, or local authorities. All applicants must be located in the Western United States or United States Territories, including Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

The objective of this notice of funding is to invite eligible applicants (Section C.1. Eligible Applicants) to leverage their money and resources by cost sharing with Reclamation on Environmental Water Resources Projects, including water conservation and efficiency projects that result in quantifiable and sustained water savings and benefit ecological values; water management or infrastructure improvements to mitigate drought-related impacts to ecological values; and watershed management or restoration projects benefitting ecological values that have a nexus to water resources or water resources management.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

DOI BOR WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants for Fiscal Year 2022 - \$15 million

Applications Due: November 3, 2021

Eligible Entities: State governments, Native American tribal governments, irrigation or water districts, state, regional, or local authorities. All applicants must be located in the Western United States or United States Territories, including Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

The objective of this notice of funding is to invite eligible applicants to leverage their money and resources by cost sharing with Reclamation on projects that seek to conserve and use water more efficiently; increase the production of renewable energy; mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict; enable farmers to make additional on-farm improvements in the future, including improvements that may be eligible for Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) funding; and accomplish other benefits that contribute to sustainability in the western United States.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

New! DOI USGS Ground Water and Streamflow Information Program - \$1.7 million

Applications Due: January 20, 2022

Eligible Entities: State governments , city or township governments, county governments, and others

The Groundwater and Streamflow Information Program of the USGS is offering a cooperative agreement funding opportunity to state or local water-resources agencies that collect groundwater data to participate in the National Ground-Water Monitoring Network.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

New! NOAA CPO Regional Integrated Science and Assessments (RISA) FY2022 - \$5.86 million

Applications Due: January 11, 2022

Eligible Entities: State governments , local government, Native American tribal governments

The RISA program builds relationships that help local decision makers and researchers collaborate on adapting to climate change. Through regionally-focused and interdisciplinary research and engagement teams, RISA expands the Nation's capacity to adapt and become resilient to extreme weather events and climate change. RISA teams accomplish this through applied and co-developed research and partnerships with communities. A central tenet of the RISA program is that learning about climate adaptation and resilience is facilitated by and sustained across a wide range of experts, practitioners, and the public. As such, the RISA program supports a network of people, prioritizing wide participation in learning by doing, learning through adapting, and managing risk with uncertain information.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

New! USDA Rural Utilities Service Solid Waste Management Grant Program - \$4 million

Applications Due: December 31, 2021

Eligible Entities: Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), public bodies, nonprofits, academic institutions

The Solid Waste Management Grant Program is designed to assist communities through technical assistance and training provided by grant recipients to qualified organizations. SWM grant funds can be used to help reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources in rural areas, and improve planning and management of solid waste sites in rural areas.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

New! USDA Rural Business Development Grant

Applications Due: February 28, 2022

Eligible Entities: State, county, city or township governments, Native American tribal governments (federally recognized), nonprofits, institutions of higher learning, communities, nonprofit rural cooperatives

The purpose of the program is to promote economic development and job creation projects through the awarding of grant funds to eligible entities. Applications will compete in two separate categories, business opportunity grants and business enterprise grants, for use in funding various business and community projects that serve rural areas.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

USDA NRCS Racial Equity and Justice Conservation Cooperative Agreements - \$50 million

Applications Due: October 25, 2021

Eligible Entities: Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments), individuals, institutions of higher education, and nonprofits

In this Request for Applications (RFA), the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) requests applications for four OPD priority areas through the Racial Equity and Justice Conservation Cooperative Agreements. The goal of this outreach is for NRCS in collaboration with partners to expand the delivery of conservation assistance to historically underserved farmers and ranchers, including socially disadvantaged, limited resource, beginning, tribal and veteran. Proposals should support activities that introduce the concepts of climate-smart agriculture and to assist producers with planning and implementation of conservation practices and principles.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

USDA REAP Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Program - \$100 thousand

Applications Due: February 1, 2022

Eligible Entities: State governments, county governments, city or township governments, and Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized).

This program assists rural small businesses and agricultural producers by conducting and promoting energy audits and providing Renewable Energy Development Assistance (REDA). Assistance provided must consist of: energy audits, renewable energy technical assistance, renewable energy site assessments.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

No-Cost Technical Assistance Opportunities

DOE Communities Local Energy Action Program (LEAP) Pilot

Applications Due: December 17, 2021

Eligible Entities: Communities in the U.S., including tribal nations and territories and multi-stakeholder teams representing communities

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) first-of-its-kind Communities: Local Energy Action Program (Communities LEAP) pilot initiative partners with communities across the nation to build community-driven action plans for clean energy-related economic development. Through Communities LEAP, DOE will provide support from the top experts in clean energy and economic development to 24-36 competitively selected communities while they develop action plans for clean energy transitions. This opportunity is specifically open to low-income, energy-burdened communities that are also experiencing environmental justice concerns, or direct economic impacts resulting from a shift away from historical reliance on fossil fuels.

For more information, visit the [technical assistance description](#).

NASA DEVELOP National Program

Applications Due: December 17, 2021

Eligible Entities: anyone

This request form is for organizations that are interested in engaging with DEVELOP to explore the application of NASA's Earth observations in their decision-making process. Reasonable requests will be responded to by DEVELOP leadership.

For more information and to apply, visit the [technical assistance description](#).

EPA Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities Program

Applications Due: Not Applicable

Eligible Entities: State, local and tribal governments

EPA's Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Communities Program helps communities, states, tribes and others understand risks associated with contaminated or potentially contaminated properties, called brownfields, and learn how to assess, safely clean up and sustainably reuse them. EPA funds three organizations—Kansas State University, the New Jersey Institute of Technology and the Center for Creative Land Recycling—to serve as independent sources of technical assistance. Each of these TABs has an extensive network of partners, contractors and other contacts that provides services across the country. They help communities tackle a variety of challenges related to identifying, assessing, cleaning up and redeveloping brownfields. The technical assistance comes at no cost to communities.

For more information, visit the [technical assistance description](#).

On-Request Technical Assistance from DOE Office of Indian Energy

Applications Due: Not Applicable

Eligible Entities: Tribal governments

The DOE Office of Indian Energy provides federally recognized Indian tribes, including Alaska Native villages, tribal energy resource development organizations, and other organized tribal groups and communities, with technical assistance to advance tribal energy projects at no cost. Technical experts from DOE and its national laboratories, along with other partnering organizations, provide support to assist Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages with energy planning, housing and building energy efficiency, project development, policy and regulation, resilience, and village power.

For more information, visit the on-request [technical assistance description](#).

DOE Clean Cities Coalition Network Technical Assistance

Applications Due: Not Applicable

Eligible Entities: Clean Cities Coalitions

Clean Cities connects transportation stakeholders with objective information and experts to assist with alternative fuels, fuel economy improvements, and emerging transportation technologies. Through these trusted, time-tested resources, Clean Cities has helped fleets and fuel providers deploy hundreds of thousands of alternative fuel vehicles and fueling stations that serve a growing market. Clean Cities continues to support the entry of new transportation technologies into the marketplace.

For more information, visit the [technical assistance description](#).

Grant Writing Basics Blog Series

Learn tips and advice for writing federal grant applications through the Grant Writing Basics Blog Series. The goal of the series is to provide the essential basics to begin writing on a solid foundation.

Topics covered include:

- How to Start Working on Future Funding Opportunities
- Demystifying Funding Opportunity Announcements
- Tips to Avoid Last Minute Problems
- Making Sure You Are Eligible before Writing

[Learn more](#)

About this Newsletter



State and Local Climate
and Energy Program

This newsletter is a service of U.S. EPA's [State and Local Climate and Energy Program](#). We offer expertise about implementing cost-effective energy efficiency, renewable energy, and climate policies and programs to interested state, local, and tribal governments.

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