



State, Local, and Tribal Energy Newsletter

17 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. Please double check application deadlines: many are being extended due to COVID-19 disruptions.

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

Funding Opportunities

New! EPA OTAQ 2020 DERA School Bus Rebates Program - \$10 million

Applications Due: October 30, 2020

Eligible Entities: regional, state, or tribal agencies

EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality is accepting applications nationwide for rebates to assist in replacing older, dirtier diesel school buses with new school buses certified to EPA's cleanest emission standards. Selected applicants that scrap and replace their old diesel buses will receive a rebate of **\$20,000-\$65,000 per bus** depending on the fuel type of the replacement bus.

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

EPA Great Lakes Coastal Wetland Monitoring Program - \$10 million

Applications Due: October 26, 2020

Eligible Entities: state agencies, interstate agencies, federally recognized Indian tribes and tribal organizations, local governments

EPA is seeking applications for a project to monitor the status and trends of water quality and wildlife communities in Great Lakes coastal wetlands. The Great Lakes Coastal Wetland Monitoring Program (GLCWMP) monitors the status of and trends in the water quality and wildlife community health by sampling a rotating selection of Great Lakes wetlands locations in each of the Great Lakes during each year.

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

EPA OLEM FY21 Guidelines for Brownfield Assessment Grants - \$32 million

Applications Due: October 28, 2020

Eligible Entities: local government, special districts, city or township governments, state governments, federally recognized tribal governments

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 guidance provides information on applying for Assessment Grants.

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. Assessment Grant funds may not be used to conduct cleanup activities.

Applicants may apply for a Community-wide and/or a Site-specific Assessment Grant, or apply as part of an Assessment Coalition.

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

EPA OLEM FY21 Guidelines for Brownfield Cleanup Grants - \$13 million

Applications Due: October 28, 2020

Eligible Entities: local government, special districts, city or township governments, state governments, federally recognized tribal governments

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 guidance provides information on applying for Cleanup Grants.

Cleanup Grants provide funding to carry out cleanup activities on brownfield sites owned by the applicant. An applicant may request up to \$500,000 to address hazardous substances¹ and/or petroleum² contamination at one or more brownfield sites. If the site is co-mingled with both hazardous substances and petroleum contamination and the hazardous substances and petroleum-contaminated areas of the site are distinguishable, the application must address both eligibility criteria. If the hazardous substances and petroleum are co-mingled and not easily distinguishable, the applicant must indicate which contaminant is predominant and respond to the appropriate site eligibility criteria.

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

EPA OLEM FY21 Guidelines for Brownfield Multipurpose Grants - \$8 million

Applications Due: October 28, 2020

Eligible Entities: local government, special districts, city or township governments, state governments, federally recognized tribal governments

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 guidance provides information on applying for Multipurpose Grants.

Multipurpose Grants provide funding to carry out a range of eligible activities. Applicants can apply for up to \$800,000 per grant under this solicitation. Multipurpose Grant applicants should have the capacity to conduct a range of eligible activities, for example:

- Developing inventories of brownfield sites;
- Prioritizing sites;
- Conducting community involvement activities;
- Conducting environmental site assessments;
- Developing cleanup plans and reuse plans related to brownfield sites;
- Conducting cleanup activities on brownfield sites owned by the applicant;
- Developing an overall plan for revitalization.

Multipurpose Grant funding must be used to conduct both assessment and cleanup activities, and to develop an overall plan for revitalization of the target area if a plan does not already exist.

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

New! DOE NETL Energy Buildings Energy Efficiency Frontiers & Innovation Technologies (BENEFIT) – 2020 - \$3 million

Applications Due: January 20, 2021

Eligible Entities: unrestricted

The objective of this Funding Opportunity Announcement is to research and develop next-generation building technologies that have the potential for significant energy savings and improved demand flexibility, affordability, and occupant comfort. An additional goal is to advance building construction, remodeling, and retrofit practices, and associated workforces.

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

DOE GFO Energy and Technology Deployment on Tribal Lands - 2020 - \$15 million

Applications Due: December 10, 2020

Eligible Entities: tribal governments and tribal organizations (other than federally recognized tribal governments)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is consistent with the principles of tribal sovereignty and self-determination, and with an all-of-the-above energy strategy that recognizes the breadth of energy resources on Tribal Lands, and each Tribe's right to use them as they see fit. Projects sought under this FOA are fuel and technology neutral. Specifically, DOE's Office of Indian Energy is soliciting applications from Indian Tribes, which include Alaska Native Regional Corporations and Village Corporations, Intertribal Organizations, and Tribal Energy Development Organizations to:

1. Install energy generating system(s) and energy efficiency measure(s) for Tribal Building(s) (Topic Area 1); or,
2. Deploy community-scale energy generating system(s) or energy storage on Tribal Lands (Topic Area 2); or,
3. Install integrated energy system(s) for autonomous operation (independent of the traditional centralized electric power grid) to power a single or multiple essential tribal facilities during emergency situations or for tribal community resilience (Topic Area 3); or,
4. Deploy energy infrastructure and integrated energy system(s) to electrify Tribal Buildings (Topic Area 4).

The intended results of the 50% cost-shared projects selected under this FOA are to reduce or stabilize energy costs and increase energy security and resiliency for Indian Tribes and tribal members.

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

New! DOI BOR WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase II - \$2 million

Applications Due: November 17, 2020

Eligible Entities: watershed groups through states, Indian tribes, local and special districts (e.g., irrigation and water districts, conservation districts), local governmental entities

The objective of this FOA is to invite established watershed groups comprised of a diverse group of stakeholders, which have completed a watershed restoration plan, and are capable of promoting the sustainable use of water resources to submit proposals for watershed management projects under Phase II of the CWMP. Funding provided under this FOA may be used to implement on-the-ground watershed management projects, collaboratively developed by members of a watershed group, that will address critical water supply needs, water quality concerns, and restoration needs, helping water users meet competing demands and avoid conflicts over water.

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

New! DOI BOR WaterSMART Drought Response Program Drought Contingency Planning Grants - \$8 million

Applications Due: January 06, 2021

Eligible Entities: state, tribe, irrigation district, water district, or other organization with water or power delivery authority

The WaterSMART Drought Response Program supports a proactive approach to drought by providing financial assistance to water managers to develop and update comprehensive drought plans (Drought Contingency Planning) and implement projects that will build long-term resilience to drought (Drought Resiliency Projects).

The objective of this funding opportunity is to invite states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority to leverage their money and resources by cost sharing drought contingency planning with Reclamation to build resilience to drought in advance of a crisis. Applicants under this funding opportunity may request funding to develop a new drought plan or to update an existing drought plan.

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

NEW! DOI USGS 2021 National-Ground Water Monitoring Network - \$1.8 million

Applications Due: January 21, 2021

Eligible Entities: state or local water-resource agencies which collect groundwater data

The USGS is offering a two-year cooperative agreement opportunity to state and local water resource agencies that collect groundwater data to participate in the National Ground-Water Monitoring Network. This funding opportunity is to support data providers for the National Ground-Water Monitoring Network.

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

DOI BIA Energy and Mineral Development Program (EMDP)- \$2.5 million

Applications Due: December 02, 2020

Eligible Entities: Native American tribal governments (federally recognized)

The Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development (IEED), through its Division of Energy and Mineral Development (DEMD), is soliciting grant proposals from Tribes and Tribal Energy Development Organizations for technical assistance funding to hire consultants to identify, evaluate or assess the market for energy or mineral resources that a Tribe will process, use, or develop. These resources and their uses include, but are not limited to, biomass (woody and waste) for heat or electricity; transportation fuels; hydroelectric, solar, or wind generation; geothermal heating or electricity production; district heating; other forms of distributed energy generation; oil, natural gas, geothermal, and helium; sand and gravel, coal, precious minerals, and base minerals (lead, copper, zinc, etc.).

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

DOI BOR Native American Affairs: Technical Assistance to Tribes for FY20 and FY21 – \$1 million

Applications Due: October 28, 2020 for FY21

Eligible Entities: federally recognized tribes or tribal organizations on the 17 Western States identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902

The objective of this opportunity is to invite federally recognized Indian tribes and tribal organizations to submit proposals for financial assistance for projects and activities that develop, manage, and protect tribal water and related resources.

Through this opportunity, 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](#).

New! NOAA DOC FY21 Effects of Sea Level Rise (ESLR) - \$1.2 million

Applications Due: January 07, 2021

Eligible Entities: state, local, Indian Tribal Governments and U.S. Territories

The purpose of this document is to advise the public that NOAA/NOS/National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS)/Competitive Research Program (CRP) [formerly Center for Sponsored Coastal Ocean Research (CSCOR)/Coastal Ocean Program (COP)], is soliciting proposals for the Effects of Sea Level Rise Program (ESLR). The program name was shortened in 2020, and was formerly known as the Ecological Effects of Sea Level Rise Program (EESLR). This solicitation is to improve adaptation and planning in response to regional and local effects of sea level rise and coastal inundation through targeted research on key technologies, natural and nature-based infrastructure, physical and biological processes, and model evaluation. The overall goal of the ESLR Program is to facilitate informed adaptation planning and coastal management decisions through a multidisciplinary research program that results in integrated models of dynamic physical and biological processes capable of evaluating vulnerability and resilience under multiple SLR, inundation, and management scenarios. Funding is contingent upon the availability of Fiscal Year 2021 Federal appropriations. It is anticipated that projects funded under this announcement will have a September 1, 2021 or September 1, 2022 start date.

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

NOAA OAR Climate Program Office FY2021 - \$10 million

Applications Due: November 30, 2020

Eligible Entities: state governments, local governments, and Indian tribal governments.

Climate variability and change present society with significant economic, health, safety, and security challenges. As part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) climate portfolio within the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR), the Climate Program Office (CPO) addresses these climate challenges by managing competitive research programs through which high-priority climate science, assessments, decision support research, outreach, education, and capacity-building activities are funded to advance our understanding of the Earth's climate system, and to foster the application and use of this knowledge to improve the resilience of our Nation and its partners. Through this announcement, CPO is seeking applications for 6 individual competitions in FY21. Several of these competitions are relevant to high-priority climate risk areas CPO is organizing some of its activities around to improve science understanding and/or capabilities that result in user-driven outcomes in four initial risk areas: Coastal Inundation, Marine Ecosystems, Water Resources and Extreme Heat

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

No-Cost Technical Assistance Opportunities

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
Energy and Environment Program**

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

Please send us your suggestions, comments, or questions!



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