



State, Local, and Tribal Energy Newsletter

Twelve 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 Tribal and Insular Area Grants: Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) - \$5 million

Applications Due: July 9, 2021

Eligible Entities: Tribal governments, Alaska Native Villages, and insular area government areas

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the availability of grant funding available to Tribal and certain insular area governments, to implement projects aimed at reducing emissions from the nation's existing fleet of older diesel engines. EPA anticipates awarding approximately \$5 million in Diesel Emissions Reduction Program (DERA) grants to eligible applicants, subject to the availability of funds. Older diesel engines emit large amounts of NO_x and PM_{2.5}, which contribute to serious public health problems, including asthma, lung disease, and various other cardiac and respiratory diseases.

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

EPA Environmental Justice Small Grants Program - \$7.3 million

Applications Due: June 1, 2021

Eligible Entities: Incorporated non-profit organizations—including, but not limited to, community-based organizations, grassroots organizations, environmental justice networks, faith-based organizations and those affiliated with religious institutions, US Territories, and Tribal governments (must be either federally-recognized or state-recognized) including Alaska Native Villages, and Tribal organizations

The Environmental Justice Small Grants (EJSG) Program provides funding directly to eligible applicants for projects that help residents of underserved communities understand and address local environmental and public health issues. For purposes of this announcement, the term “underserved community” refers to a community with environmental justice concerns and/or vulnerable populations, including people of color, low income, rural, tribal, indigenous, and homeless populations that may be disproportionately impacted by environmental harms and risks. In general, the EJSG program awards grants that support community-driven projects designed to engage, educate, and empower communities to better understand and address local environmental and public health issues. Community-driven projects are projects that include activities where community residents and/or representatives are integrally involved in the thinking behind and execution of those activities. Therefore, applying organizations should have a direct connection to the underserved community impacted by environmental harms and risks.

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

EPA Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving (EJCPS) Cooperative Agreement Program - \$9.2 million

Applications Due: June 1, 2021

Eligible Entities: Incorporated non-profit organizations—including, but not limited to, community-based organizations, grassroots organizations, environmental justice networks, faith-based organizations and those affiliated with religious institutions, US Territories, and Tribal governments (must be either federally-recognized or state-recognized) including Alaska Native Villages, and Tribal organizations

The Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving (EJCPS) Cooperative Agreement Program provides funding to support community-based organizations in their efforts to collaborate and partner with local stakeholder groups (e.g., local businesses and industry, local government, medical service providers, and academia) as they develop community-driven solutions that address environmental and/or public health issues for underserved communities. For purposes of this announcement, the term “underserved community” refers to a community with environmental justice concerns and/or vulnerable populations, including people of color, low income, rural, tribal, indigenous, and homeless populations. Eligible projects must demonstrate use of the Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Model to support their collaborative efforts during the project period. Applying organizations should have a direct connection to the underserved community impacted by the environmental harms and risks detailed in the workplan.

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

New! DOE SolSmart Program Management - \$10 million

Applications Due: August 17, 2021

Eligible Entities: State governments, Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments), Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized), Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities, City or township governments, Special district governments, County governments

The activities to be funded under this FOA will support the government-wide approach to the climate crisis by driving the innovation that can lead to the deployment of clean energy technologies, which are critical for climate protection. Specifically, this funding program will help to reduce the soft costs of solar energy deployment—those costs not associated with the hardware—which account for up to 64% of the upfront cost of a residential solar installation. This FOA seeks an entity to manage and expand DOE's SolSmart program, which supports and recognizes local governments that reduce soft costs and expand access to solar energy. This community designation and technical assistance program was launched in 2016 and has recognized almost 400 communities from Florida to Alaska. Now, DOE is expanding the program to incorporate new solar-related technologies and respond to the evolving needs of local governments. The chosen entity will manage the program for the next five years.

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

NPS Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant - \$5 million

Applications Due: September 24, 2021

Eligible Entities: States, whether on behalf of themselves or eligible urban jurisdictions, plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Marianas, and the U.S. Virgin Islands)

The Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Program is a competitive grant program. Its goal is to provide new or significantly improve recreation opportunities for economically-disadvantaged communities in larger urbanized areas (as designated by the Census Bureau) that are under-served in terms of parks and other outdoor recreation resources. The program enables urban communities to create new outdoor recreation spaces, reinvigorate existing parks, and form connections between people and the outdoors in economically underserved communities.

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

DOI FWS National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program - \$18 million

Applications Due: June 25, 2021

Eligible Entities: State governments

The Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (Title III, Section 301, Public Law 101-646, 16 U.S.C. 3951-3956) established the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant (NCWCG) Program to acquire, restore, and enhance wetlands in coastal areas through competitive matching grants to eligible State, Commonwealth, and Territory agencies. The NCWCG Program is funded by revenues collected from excise taxes on sport fishing equipment, electric motors and sonar, import duties on fishing tackle, yachts and pleasure craft, and a portion of gasoline tax attributable to motorboats and small engines. The primary goal of the NCWCG Program is the long-term conservation of coastal wetland ecosystems.

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

DOI FWS Coastal Program - \$13 million

Applications Due: September 30, 2021

Eligible Entities: Tribal, state, county governments, tribal organizations, city or township governments, independent school districts, and others

The Coastal Program is a voluntary, community-based program that provides technical and financial assistance through cooperative agreements to coastal communities, conservation partners, and landowners to restore and protect fish and wildlife habitat on public and private lands. The Coastal Program staff coordinates with partners, stakeholders and other Service programs to identify geographic focus areas and develop habitat conservation goals and priorities within these focus areas. Geographic focus areas are where the Coastal Program directs resources to conserve habitat for Federal trust species.

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

DOI OIA FY 2021 Energizing Insular Communities Grant Program - \$8.5 million

Applications Due: June 30, 2021

Eligible Entities: local government entities, independent authorities, and educational institutions located in the U.S. territories of Guam, American Samoa, U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

The Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) is requesting proposals for its Energizing Insular Communities (EIC) Program which provides grant funding for sustainable energy strategies that mitigate climate change, reduce reliance and expenditures on imported fuels, develop and utilize domestic energy sources, and improve the performance of energy infrastructure and overall energy efficiency in the territories.

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

New! USDA FS GLRI Forest Restoration 2021 - \$4.5 million

Applications Due: July 8, 2021

Eligible Entities: State governments, City or township governments, County governments, Special district governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities, Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments).

The interagency Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) targets improvements to address the most significant environmental problems within the Great Lakes Basin. Through an agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (Forest Service) anticipates receiving funds to support competitive projects that implement strategic, priority actions within Forest Service authorities to restore, protect, and maintain the Great Lakes ecosystem. Successful projects will implement reforestation and other forest restoration activities to address invasive species, nonpoint source pollution impacts on nearshore health, and habitat restoration in coastal and riparian areas. Anticipated funds will be distributed across three specific Program Areas:

1. Mitigate Forest Insect and Disease Impacts—Implement targeted reforestation and forest protection actions to minimize invasive forest insect and disease impacts on watersheds.
2. Reduce Runoff from Degraded Sites through Green Infrastructure – Capture or treat stormwater runoff by planting trees and other vegetation as an integral component of green infrastructure.
3. Restore and Connect Coastal and Riparian Forest Habitats– Protect, restore, and enhance high-quality coastal zone and connecting riparian ecosystems where trees are an important component.
- 4.

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 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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