



Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant

Community Fund and Innovation Fund

January 2024

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Iowa Economic Development Authority | Iowa Energy Office

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program

Iowa Energy Office to receive \$2,004,050

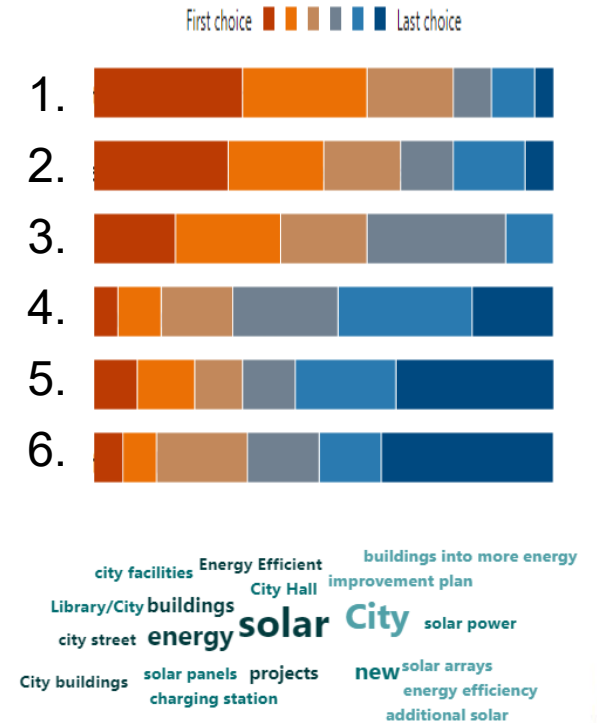
Receiving direct federal allocations:

• Ames	-	\$128,040
• Ankeny	-	\$124,300
• Bettendorf	-	\$76,290
• Cedar Falls	-	\$76,450
• Cedar Rapids	-	\$185,610
• Cerro Gordo County	-	\$76,530
• Council Bluffs	-	\$122,870
• Clinton County	-	\$76,610
• Dallas County	-	\$77,020
• Davenport	-	\$155,580
• Des Moines	-	\$245,640
• Dubuque	-	\$123,070
• Dubuque County	-	\$76,330
• Iowa City	-	\$136,380
• Johnson County	-	\$77,580
• Linn County	-	\$76,710
• Marion	-	\$76,340
• Marshall County	-	\$76,390
• Muscatine County	-	\$76,520
• Polk County	-	\$79,550
• Sioux City	-	\$140,390
• Urbandale	-	\$76,590
• Waterloo	-	\$129,180
• Warren County	-	\$76,660
• West Des Moines	-	\$131,740

Blueprint Topic Areas

1. Energy efficiency (e.g., building audits and retrofits, building electrification campaigns, building performance standards)
2. Renewables (e.g., solar and battery storage power purchasing agreements, solarize campaigns, renewable resource planning for communities)
3. Energy planning
4. Sustainable financing solutions for energy projects and programs
5. Workforce development
6. Transportation (e.g., electric vehicles for fleets, EV charging infrastructure for the community)

Survey results:
96 responses



Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs

Community Fund	\$1,202,430	60% minimum
Innovation Fund	\$601,215	30% minimum
<i>Admin Set Aside</i>	<i>\$200,405</i>	<i>10% maximum</i>

Community Fund

Funds local government led energy efficiency projects. Cities and county governments not eligible for direct federal allocation can apply.

Energy Efficiency

- Building energy assessment or audits plus energy efficiency upgrades
- Energy efficiency upgrades at wastewater or water supply facilities
- Replacement of traffic signals and streetlight lamps to improve energy efficiency

Cost share is 0% of total eligible project costs (any cost share is a boost in score).

Project awards may range from \$50,000-\$300,000.

Innovation Fund

Funds demonstration and innovative energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

Strategic Activities of Interest

- Innovative projects that demonstrate a project, program or technology new or rarely used in Iowa
- Reducing fossil fuel emissions in a manner that is environmentally sustainable and maximizes benefits for local and regional communities
- Reducing the total energy use of the eligible entities
- Improving energy efficiency in transportation sector, building sector, and other appropriate sectors
- Building a clean and equitable energy economy that prioritizes disadvantaged communities and promotes equity and inclusion in workforce opportunities and deployment activities.

Cost share is 50% (1:1) of total eligible project costs. Cost share may be a combination of cash and in-kind but at least 50% of the proposed cost share must be cash. Cash investment into the project at the required ratio over the duration of the project is the preferred form of cost share. In-kind cost share is allowable for applicant personnel performing administration or construction needs of the project.

Award sizes may range from \$50,000 up to \$601,215.

Application Screening Criteria

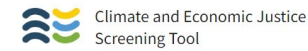
- Application is complete and submitted through IowaGrants
- Applicant is an eligible candidate
- Funding request meets eligible project and eligible expense requirements
- Request is for at least \$50,000 and no more than \$300,000 (\$600,000 for Innovation Fund)
- Project duration does not exceed two years
- Applicant confirmed local match, if applicable, has been secured

Applications must achieve a minimum score of 100 out of 125 to be considered for award. (80%)

Evaluation Criteria	Total Points
Application is complete	Prerequisite
Applicant and proposed activity are eligible	Prerequisite
Request is \geq \$50,000 and \leq \$300,000 (\leq \$600,000 for Innovation Fund)	Prerequisite
Capacity and plan to administer grant in full compliance with federal requirements	Prerequisite
Project benefits a disadvantaged community or low-to-moderate income lowans	20
Project impact on energy use/cost and fossil fuel emissions	15
Innovativeness of project	15
Readiness to proceed and project timeline	10
Does the proposal clearly describe the project goals?	10
Does the proposal demonstrate how the project will benefit the community?	10
Amount of cost share and cost share is secured	10
Proposal supports existing local energy plan	10
Project is NEPA categorically excluded or a Bounded Category	10
Long-term project sustainability	5
Does proposal commit to reinvesting energy savings into future energy efficiency/renewable projects?	5
Project replicability	5

Disadvantaged Communities

- Federal goal 40% of \$ to disadvantaged communities
 - [CEJST mapping tool](#)



[Explore the map](#) [Methodology & data](#) [About](#) [Contact](#)

Explore the map

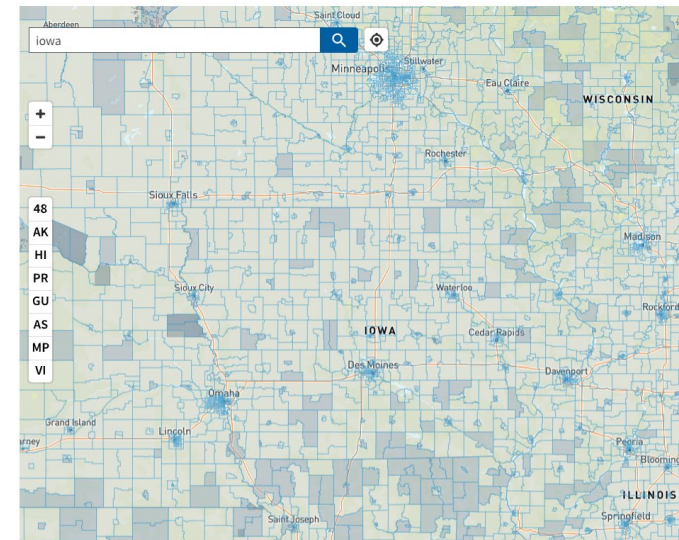
[Share data sources with CEJ](#)

Census tracts that are overburdened and underserved are highlighted as being disadvantaged on the map. Federally Recognized Tribes, including Alaska Native Villages, are also considered disadvantaged communities.

Get the data

Download the data with documentation and shapefile from the [downloads](#) page.

Zooming in and selecting shows information about each census tract.



How to use the map:

Zoom in +, search 🔍, or locate yourself 📍 and select to see information about any census tract.

Things to know:

The tool uses census tracts 🗺️. Census tracts are a small unit of geography. They generally have populations 🧑 of between 1,200 - 8,000 people.

Communities that are disadvantaged live in tracts that experience burdens. These tracts are highlighted 🟦 on the map.

The tool ranks most of the burdens using percentiles 📊. Percentiles show how much burden each tract experiences when compared to other tracts.

Eligible and Ineligible Costs

Eligible Costs

Only expenditures directly related to the implementation of the funded grant activity will be reimbursed. Examples of eligible expenses include, but are not limited to:

- Purchase of materials and equipment
- Developing and installing energy efficiency improvements
- Developing and installing renewable energy projects (Innovation Fund only)
- Contracted project services
- Direct administration costs
- Federal grant requirements administration

Ineligible Costs

Examples of ineligible costs as determined by IEDA include, but are not limited to:

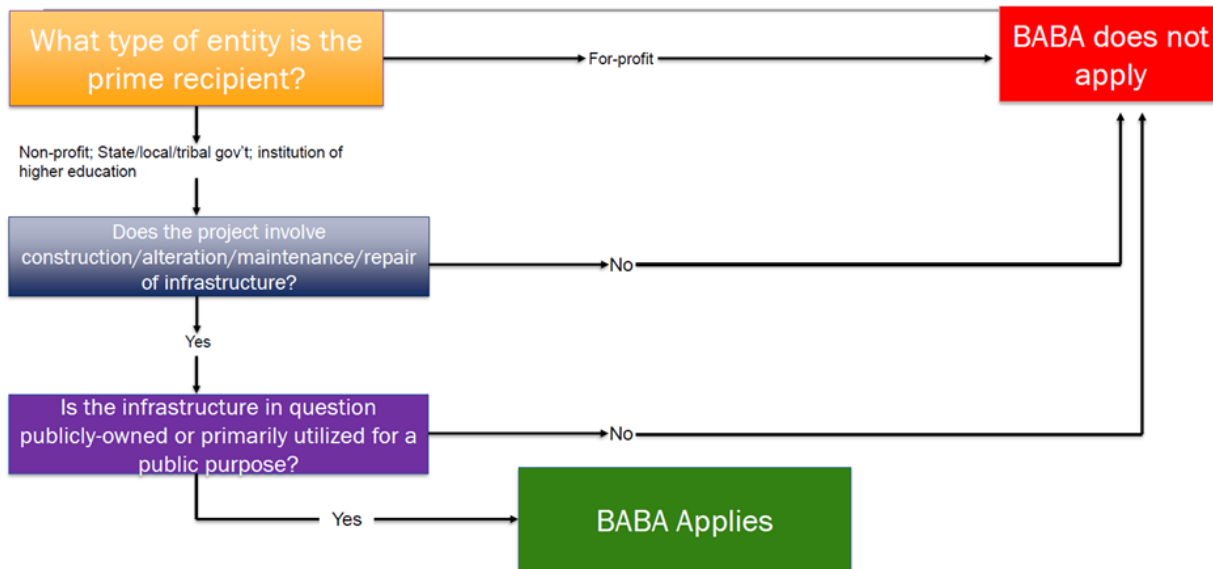
- Purchase or rental of buildings
- Office equipment
- Furniture and fixtures
- Intangible assets
- International travel
- Insurance
- Phone expenses

Federal Requirements

- Federal Procurement ([2 CFR 200.317-327 and 2 CFR Part 910](#))
 - ALL PROCUREMENT MUST FOLLOW FEDERAL & STATE PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS
- Build America/Buy America ([BABA](#))
- NEPA ([Environmental Review](#))
- [NHPA/Section 106 and Programmatic Agreement](#) (extended to 2030)
- Davis-Bacon Wages ([DOE Desk Guide to Davis-Bacon Act](#))
 - Force Account exclusion (not contractor or subcontractor)
- Justice40 ([CEJST Tool](#))

Build America/Buy America

BABA “Does it apply” Flow Chart



- The IIJA’s definition of “infrastructure” encompasses public infrastructure projects. Thus, the term “infrastructure” includes, at a minimum, the structures, facilities, and equipment for, in the United States, roads, highways, and bridges; public transportation; dams, ports, harbors, and other maritime facilities; intercity passenger and freight railroads; freight and intermodal facilities; airports; water systems, including drinking water and wastewater systems; electrical transmission facilities and systems; utilities; broadband infrastructure; and buildings and real property.¹⁷ Agencies should treat structures, facilities, and equipment that generate, transport, and distribute energy - including electric vehicle (EV) charging - as infrastructure. When determining if a program has infrastructure expenditures, Federal agencies should interpret the term “infrastructure” broadly and consider the definition provided above as illustrative and not exhaustive.

Reporting Requirements – Quarterly/Annually

- **Types of building retrofits/energy efficiency improvements made**
- **# of buildings & square feet retrofitted**
- **Streetlights/traffic signals replaced with LEDs/high efficiency lighting**
- **Project costs (currency)**
- **Energy and energy costs saved annually (number)**
- **Amount of renewable energy installed (kilowatt (kW) or megawatt (MW))**
- **Job creation**
- **National Environmental Policy Act Log (only if ground disturbance)**
- **Historic preservation report**
- **Davis-Bacon Act (weekly payroll submittals, work site interviews)**

Summary of Reporting Requirements

Name of Report	Timeline	Reporting Submission	Reporting Due Dates
Davis-Bacon Act (DBA) Payroll Reports	Weekly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sept-Dec: Provide access to CO or send to DOE electronically Dec: DBA tool 	Weekly, when applicable
Davis-Bacon Act (DBA) Assurance Report	Semi-annual	DBA tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apr 21 and Oct 21
Quarterly NEPA logs	Quarterly	Project Management Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jan 30, Apr 30, Jul 30, and Oct 30
Performance Report	Quarterly, Semi- Annually, or Annually	PAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jan 30, Apr 30, Jul 30, and Oct 30; or Apr 30 and Oct 30; or Oct 30
Federal Financial Report (SF-425)	Quarterly, Semi- Annually, or Annually	PAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jan 30, Apr 30, Jul 30, and Oct 30; or Apr 30 and Oct 30; or Oct 30
Jobs Report	Annual	PAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jan 30, Apr 30, Jul 30, or Oct 30
Historic Preservation Reports	Annual	PAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sept 15th
Location Report	One-Time	PAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During first year of reporting

Resources & Technical Assistance

- **DOE EECBG Blueprints**

- Blueprint #2A: Energy Efficiency - Energy Audits and Building Upgrades

- **Grant Administration**

- More complex projects can include contracting \$ for grant administration in grant application
- If contracting for a grant administrator, must use an IEDA certified federal grants administrator

Timeline

Activity	Estimated Date
Program information on Iowa EECBG Program webpage	12/15/2023
Application posted on IowaGrants.gov	1/15/2024
Program application details webinar	1/17/2024
Application deadline	3/18/2024
Preliminary selection by IEDA & 30-day notification to DOE	4/11/2024
Award contracts executed	5/11/2024
Training for award recipients	6/3/2024

Project Examples

1. [Building Energy Efficiency](#) - EECBG funds are utilized to implement recommendations from a building energy audit
2. [Streetlight Efficiency](#) – Replace inefficient streetlight lamps with LED lamps
3. [More Efficient Equipment](#) – Install more efficient, drives, pumps, motors, blowers at wastewater and water treatment facilities

Next Steps

- Visit www.sam.gov to get a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
- Establish IowaGrants.gov login account

Questions?

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