



Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)

Support Package for ICLEI USA local government members

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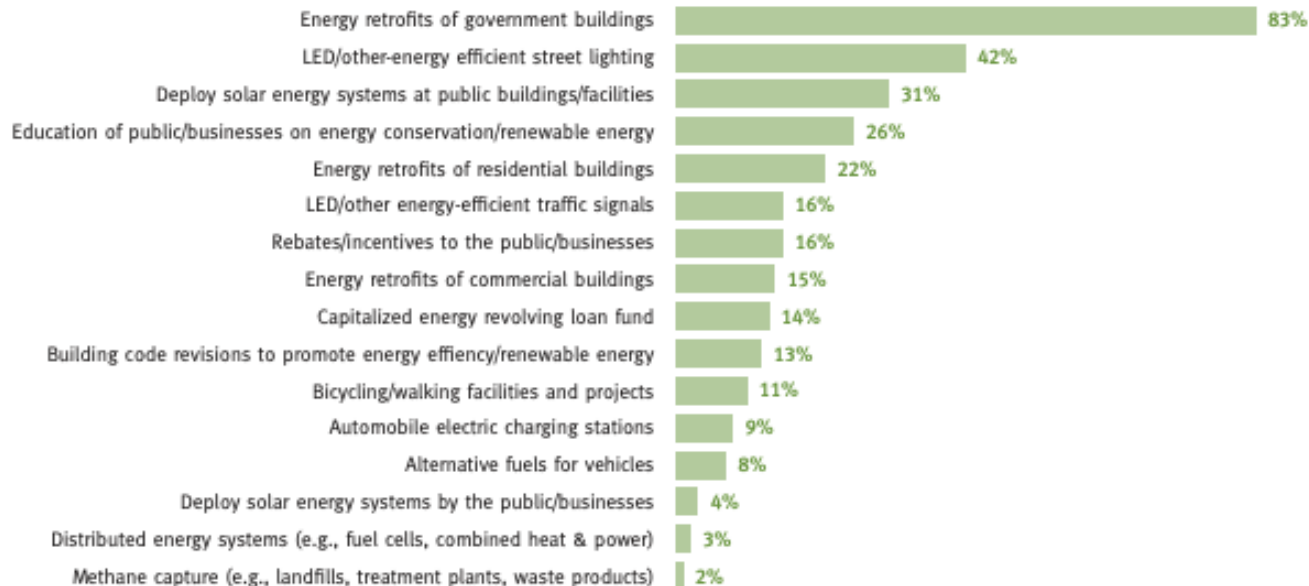
About

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG) is a federal funding source, whose enabling legislation is the [Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007](#). Congress authorized \$3.2B in funding in 2009 under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Government Accountability Office [reports](#) “Grant recipients are using EECBG funds primarily for three activities: energy-efficiency retrofits, financial incentive programs, and building and facilities programs.”

According to [a report](#) of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, city-EECBG recipients invested funds in:

How Did Cities Use EECBG Funds

(percentage of cities)



The Infrastructure and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021 includes \$550M of [EECBG funding](#), which is available through formula and competitive grants. The program is administered by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The remainder of this document pertains to IIJA-related EECBG. DOE has yet to release official program guidance. This document will be updated as information becomes available.

Eligibility - Formula Grants (Direct Recipients)

State Energy Offices

Tribal Nations

Cities with a population of 35,000 or more and Counties with a population of 200,000 or more. In states with fewer than 10 cities or counties of this size, the 10 largest cities or counties in the state receive formula grants

As we wait for DOE to release formula grant amounts, reference [this calculator](#) for an estimate

Eligibility - (Indirect Recipients)

State Energy Offices are responsible for developing programs to benefit smaller local governments that are not direct recipients of EECBG

Competitive

2% of the \$550M allocation is reserved for competitive grants. DOE has not yet released details

Eligible Uses

Broadly, to develop and implement strategies to reduce energy use, to reduce fossil fuel emissions, and to improve energy efficiency.

Guidance

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is the EECBG program administrator. Local Governments should rely only on DOE for official guidance. The guidance provided by ICLEI USA through this document and any other means is not official program guidance, but rather based on our team's prior EECBG experience, best practices, and publicly available materials. To contact DOE, send an email to

eecbg@hq.doe.gov

EECBG Package for ICLEI USA Members

EECBG Package for ICLEI USA Members	Standard ICLEI USA Membership Benefits
<p>This package is an exclusive offer for ICLEI USA members only. For a \$1,000 one-time fee, members will receive, in addition to the Standard ICLEI USA Membership Benefits (see column to the right):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A one-hour EECBG consultation with your ICLEI USA technical assistance provider. ICLEI USA will help local governments (LGs) to avoid delays in the DOE review process and to tap into best practices in other communities • Access to an exclusive Partnership Platform to scout, source and identify resource and access information on pricing and service delivery • A repository of example Request for Proposal (RFP) and budget documents • Exclusive EECBG Peer-Networking 	<p>As an ICLEI USA member, you will receive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ClearPath community and government track to provide LGs with an inventory of energy and greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), target setting, and evaluation of mitigation potential • A science-based target and high-impact actions that can be included in the EECBG strategy (2018 or newer GHG inventory in ClearPath required) • Access ICLEI USA’s Climate and Sustainability Communications Toolkit provides guidance to encourage equitable community engagement

Recipient’s Tasks and ICLEI USA Resources and Services

Gather Your Team	Pre-award	Develop	Create	Deliver	Measure	Learn
<p>Local governments may be unfamiliar with federal funding requirements. Notify your team; including legal, budget, procurement, communications, and project delivery contacts, that this funding is imminent. Set up systems to track and communicate how EECBG projects are identified and how federal funds are spent. Be aware that EECBG funding will be subject to requirements such as “Buy American” historic preservation, and others.</p>						

Develop Your Strategy	Pre-award	Develop	Create	Deliver	Measure	Learn
<p>DOE will provide your local government (LG) with an award notification, which will include the grant amount. Before allocating funds to projects, DOE will</p>						

review and must approve your plan to spend funds. DOE will provide specific guidance for plan elements. In general, the plan needs to quantify current community-wide energy use, the target to reduce energy use and or increase renewable energy deployment, and identify programs or projects to achieve these goals. ICLEI USA recommends that all LGs establish a 2030 science-based target and related high-impact actions to achieve the target. LGs will also need to provide a strategy to engage disadvantaged communities and to measure and communicate results.

EECBG Recipient Task	Cost	ICLEI USA Resources for Services
<p>Development of an energy efficiency and conservation strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● (A) formulation of energy efficiency, energy conservation, and energy usage goals; ● (B) identification of strategies to achieve those goals— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (i) through efforts to increase energy efficiency and reduce energy consumption; and ○ (ii) by encouraging behavioral changes among the population served by the eligible entity; <p>ICLEI USA provides three levels of support to ICLEI USA members LGs are encouraged to initiate this task as soon as possible - even before the DOE award letter is received.</p>	<p>Included in ICLEI USA's \$1,000 EECBG package</p>	<p><u>ClearPath and ICLEI USA technical support (option 1)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ClearPath community and government track provide LGs with an inventory of energy and greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), target setting, and evaluation of mitigation potential ● For LGs with a 2018 or newer GHG inventory in ClearPath, ICLEI USA will provide a science-based target and high-impact actions that can be included in the EECBG strategy ● ICLEI USA's Climate and Sustainability Communications Toolkit provides guidance in equitable community engagement
	<p>\$1,500</p>	<p><u>ClearPath and ICLEI USA technical support (option 2)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LGs that do not have a recent GHG inventory, may choose to develop an emissions profile using the US Community Protocol - Dash ● ICLEI USA will provide an emissions reduction target and transportation and building sector actions that can be included in the EECBG strategy ● ICLEI USA's Climate and Sustainability Communications Toolkit provides guidance in equitable community engagement
	<p>\$7,750</p>	<p><u>ClearPath and ICLEI USA technical support (option 3)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LGs that do not have a recent GHG inventory, have the option to contract with ICLEI USA experts to develop one. ● ICLEI USA will provide a science-based target and high-impact actions aligned with the EECBG strategy ● ICLEI USA's Climate and Sustainability Communications Toolkit provides guidance in equitable community engagement
<p>Communicating your strategy and engaging your community</p> <p>Conduct Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop and implement a public engagement strategy for the planning process using best practices for inclusive 	<p>\$1,500</p>	<p><u>ICLEI USA- led Community Engagement Workshop</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ICLEI USA will develop and facilitate a community-specific workshop (1 hr) to provide LGs with guidance to develop a public engagement strategy using the best climate communication practices

<p>engagement (ICLEI USA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage internal (local government) stakeholders and community members to assess how EECBG funds should be invested in your community 		
<p>Financial Services Evaluation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A strategic and effective use of EECBG is to enable residents, institutions, and businesses to access contractors and funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy retrofits Participation in the ICLEI USA Activation Fund requires LGs to contribute some or all of their EECBG funds to finance retrofits. The exact amount determines the level of program participation for each LG LG will choose the program support mechanism, e.g. rate buy down, Loan Loss reserve, or other incentive LG will choose from a list of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy measures specifically designed for the program 	<p>Cost TBD based on level of participation</p>	<p><u>ICLEI USA's Activation Fund</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICLEI USA's Activation Fund is finance and contractor platform designed specifically for LG EECBG funds and to activate consumer programs available through the Inflation Reduction Act In partnership with the National Energy Investment Fund, ICLEI USA will support a finance program through which community members and businesses can tap local government EECBG investment in clean energy solutions Financial Services may include access to contractor portal for additional services such as rebates, tax credits, home energy scoring, etc.
<p><u>Submit Your Strategy :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LGs must submit their strategies and receive DOE approval of goals and actions prior to proceeding with projects and projects. No funds (other than those approved to develop the strategy) should be spent prior to DOE approval 	<p>Included in EECBG package</p>	<p><u>Strategy Review:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule a one-hour complementary review with your ICLEI USA technical assistance provider. ICLEI USA will help LGs to avoid delays in the DOE review process and to tap into best practices in other communities
<p>Pre-award Procurement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As LGs wait for DOE to approve EECBG strategies, the procurement process can begin Take this time to develop scope documents and conduct RFIs to gather information needed for RFPs 	<p>Included in EECBG package</p>	<p><u>Partnership Platform:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICLEI USA members have access to an exclusive Partnership Platform to scout, source and identify resource and access information on pricing and service delivery ICLEI USA will develop a repository of RFP and budget documents

<p>Implement Your Strategy</p>	Pre-award	Develop	Create	Deliver	Measure	Learn
<p>DOE will provide your local government (LG) with an approval of your strategy and the authorization to spend EECBG funds on the planned activities.</p>						

EECBG Recipient Task	Cost	ICLEI USA Resources for Services
<p>Align climate activities with budget and purchasing processes</p> <p>Leveraging existing resources through municipal and county budgets provide a critical starting point and an immediate opportunity to make critical climate investments and mitigate the accumulating costs associated with weather born events. Alignment of resources could result in identification of the necessary resources to support local government staff to access and manage federal funds.</p>	<p>\$2,500 to participate in learning cohort</p> <p>Toolkits free to ICLEI USA members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Integrated delivery and implementation support ● ICLEI USA and ResourceX convened chief Sustainability; Procurement; and Financial officers to develop a model to integrate climate action in the local government budget and procurement process
<p>Peer Networking and Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More than 2,000 U.S. cities and counties will receive EECBG funds. Contribute your best practices and learn from your peers. ● Submit your projects and or learn from Case Studies of similar work 	<p>Included in EECBG package</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ICLEI USA regional EECBG hubs and thematic working groups and facilitated regional meetings (by geography) ● Case Studies of best EECBG practices
<p>Outreach and Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Implement a public engagement strategy using best practices for inclusive engagement ● Communicate to internal (local government) stakeholders and community members how EECBG funds are invested in your community and their impact 	<p>Ala carte at \$125/hour</p>	<p><u>ICLEI USA Communications Check-up</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ICLEI USA will review a LG’s social media channels and one communication deliverable a provide feedback on effectiveness and alignment with the LG’s Communications strategy (1 hr per social media and 3- 4 hrs for communication deliverable) ● 1-2 infographic designs (e.g., showcase how EECBG funding leads to various climate action initiatives) (1 - 2 hr) ● Copywriting and graphic designs for 3 social media posts per channel (i.e., Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Facebook) (1.5 hr per channel) ● One guest blog highlighting LG’s climate and sustainability initiatives and community engagement programs + marketing promotion (one newsletter opportunity space + 3 social media spotlights) (3 hrs)
<p>Measure Progress</p>	<p>ClearPath access is free to members.</p> <p>Contribution Analysis: \$2,500</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Track EECBG progress in ClearPath ● Complete a contribution analysis when two years of data are available. This analysis of the drivers of change of local GHG emissions provides the ability to address external influences and policy effectiveness, which help decision makers improve target setting, policy development, and communication of results to stakeholders. ● The analysis is ideal for local governments that have completed at

		<p>least two GHG Inventories and want to better understand the impact of EECBG policies and factors driving changes between the two inventory years, such as weather or population growth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As an optional service, ICLEI USA will complete the analysis and provide the results in a spreadsheet and a memo to describe the approach taken, data collected, and results.
<p>Financial Services Evaluation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor your EECBG contribution to the Activation Fund 		<p><u>ICLEI USA's Activation Fund</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In partnership with the National Energy Investment Fund, ICLEI USA will support a finance program through which community members and businesses can tap local government EECBG investment in clean energy solutions

Report and Measure	Pre-award	Develop	Create	Deliver	Measure	Learn
	<p>DOE will require EECBG recipients to report on the implementation of your approved strategy and planned spending. ICLEI and CDP are working to align the CDP-ICLEI track with DOE metrics for ease of reporting.</p>					