

Energy Innovation Grant Program (EIGP) 2022 Application Instructions Webinar

November 15, 2022

11:00am

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Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation

Agenda

- ▶ Program Overview
 - ▶ Quick Facts
 - ▶ Background
 - ▶ Strategic Objectives
 - ▶ Program Timeline
- ▶ Eligibility
 - ▶ Eligible Applicant Types
 - ▶ Eligible Activities and Funds Available
 - ▶ Eligible Project Activity Categories
- ▶ Application
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- ▶ American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA Federal Funds)
- ▶ Resources to Prepare Your Application
- ▶ Questions?

Quick Facts

- ▶ Application Instructions:
 - ▶ Issued October 31 2022.
 - ▶ Due January 30, 2023, by 4pm CT
 - ▶ NO LATE APPLICATIONS!
 - ▶ \$10 million available
 - ▶ Docket #: 9709-FG-2022
 - ▶ Link to ez-Subscribe for All Official Communications regarding EIGP 2022 (<https://apps.psc.wi.gov/ERF/ERF/ERFhome.aspx>)
- ▶ Online Grants Management System (Application Instructions Section 1.5)
- ▶ Reimbursement Based Program
- ▶ 12 Month Project Performance Periods (different start dates)
- ▶ Expanded Eligible Project Activity Categories
- ▶ Expanded Eligible Applicant Types under MUSH Market



Background

- ▶ The EIGP 2022 program design and budget were established by the Public Service Commission in an open meeting on September 8, 2022.
- ▶ Commission has awarded 109 projects totaling \$22 million
- ▶ **Federally Funded** through U.S. Department of Energy by the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

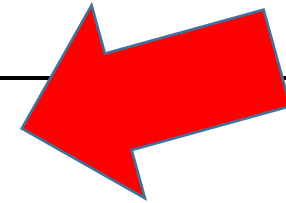
2022 Strategic Program Objectives

Advance energy innovation in Wisconsin through:

- ▶ Investing in the adoption of innovative energy technologies and processes
- ▶ Expanding access to clean energy, efficiency, and preparedness to Wisconsin communities that are otherwise unable to adopt these and for whom these are innovative approaches

Program Timeline (Application Instructions Section 1.7)

DATE	EVENT
October 31, 2022	Date of issue of the 2022 Application Instructions
January 30, 2023	Applications due by <u>4:00 pm CT on Monday January 30, 2023</u>
February 2023	Screening committee evaluation
March 2023	PSC determination of 2022 Energy Innovation Grant Program Awards
Spring 2023	Contract negotiations and applicable next steps related to NEPA review, etc.
Spring 2023 – Spring 2024	Project performance period







***Depending on Federal Review Times! Fall start dates possible!**

Eligible Applicants (Application Instructions Section 1.2.2.1)

- ▶ Municipalities, Universities, Schools, Hospitals, and Like Entities (MUSH Market): cities, villages, towns, counties, K-12 school districts, tribes, municipal water and wastewater utilities, municipal electric utilities, municipal natural gas utilities, University of Wisconsin System campuses and facilities, Wisconsin Technical College System, public or nonprofit hospitals, **electric cooperatives, 501(c)(3) nonprofits.**
- ▶ Manufacturers as defined by Wis. Stat. § 77.51(7h)1



Eligible Activities and Funds Available (Application Instructions Section 1.2.2.2)

Activity	Maximum Grant Request	Available Funds per Activity
1. Renewable Energy and Energy Storage	See below	\$4,473,684
Solar PV Systems	\$250,000	
Renewable Energy Systems [other than Solar PV Systems]	\$500,000	
Energy Storage System	\$250,000	
Renewable Energy Systems with Energy Storage	\$500,000 (Solar PV) \$750,000 (all other Renewable Energy)	
Level 3 Microgrid Implementation 	\$750,000	
2. Energy Efficiency and Demand Response	\$1 million	\$4,473,684
3. Comprehensive Energy Planning & Feasibility Studies for Microgrids	See below	\$1,052,632
Planning Efforts	\$50,000 for Single Eligible Applicant \$100,000 for Two Eligible Applicants \$150,000 for Three Eligible Applicants \$200,000 for Four or More Eligible Applicants 	
Feasibility Studies for Microgrids 	\$50,000 for Level 1 & Level 2 Microgrids \$100,000 for Level 3 Microgrid	
		

Activity 1: Renewable Energy and Energy Storage

Includes applicant-owned projects to install a solar photovoltaic (PV) system, a renewable energy system other than solar PV, a standalone battery storage system, or a project that will combine a battery storage system with solar PV or another renewable energy system.

- ▶ **Solar PV Systems –\$250,000 max. grant request**
- ▶ **Renewable Energy Systems [other than PV Systems] - \$500,000 max. grant request**
- ▶ **Energy Storage System - \$250,000 max. grant request**
- ▶ **Renewable Energy Systems with Energy Storage System- \$500,000 (Solar PV) \$750,000 (all other Renewable Energy) max. grant request**
- ▶ **Level 3 Microgrid Implementation-\$750,000 max. grant request**

Activity 1: Renewable Energy and Energy Storage (Continued)

Renewable Energy Systems and PV

- ▶ **Solar PV Systems –\$250,000 max. grant request**
 - ▶ Installation or upgrade of a solar PV system.
- ▶ **Renewable Energy Systems [other than PV Systems] - \$500,000 max. grant request**
 - ▶ Installation or upgrade of a biogas, biomass, geothermal, solar thermal, wind, or other renewable resource system.

Activity 1: Renewable Energy and Energy Storage (Continued)

Energy Storage Systems

- ▶ **Energy Storage System - \$250,000 max. grant request**
 - ▶ Installation or upgrade of a battery storage system.

- ▶ **Renewable Energy Systems with Energy Storage System- \$500,000 (Solar PV) \$750,000 (all other Renewable Energy) max. grant request**
 - ▶ Installation of a battery storage system combined with installation or upgrade of a solar PV or other renewable energy system.

Activity 1: Renewable Energy and Energy Storage (Continued)

Microgrid Implementation

- ▶ **Level 3 Microgrid Implementation-\$750,000 max. grant request**
 - ▶ Installation of a Level 3 Microgrid or Community Resilience Center.

Microgrid Definition (Activities 1 and 3)

- ▶ **Microgrid;** A group of interconnected loads and distributed energy resources within clearly defined electrical boundaries that acts as a single controllable entity with respect to the grid. A microgrid can connect and disconnect from the grid to enable it to operate in both grid-connected or island-mode.
 - ▶ Level 1 or single customer: a single Distributed Energy Resource (DER) or multiple DERs serving one customer through one meter. Example: a single facility (such as a hospital) using an on-site microgrid to provide backup power.
 - ▶ Level 2 or single customer or campus setting (partial feeder microgrid): a single DER or multiple DERs serving multiple facilities, controlled by one meter at the interconnection point (also known as Point of Common Coupling or PCC). Example: a microgrid sited on a University campus connected to multiple buildings.
 - ▶ Level 3 or multiple customers (advanced or full feeder microgrid): a single DER or multiple DERs serving multiple facilities or customers on multiple meters. The DER(s) may be located on a different site from the facilities or customers. While the advanced microgrid has one PCC, the individual facilities or customers within the advanced microgrid may have their own individual connections to the distribution grid.

Activity 2: Energy Efficiency and Demand Response

Maximum Grant Request - \$1,000,000

Includes projects to conduct energy efficiency, process efficiency, demand response improvements, beneficial electrification or any combination thereof.

- ▶ **Energy Efficiency (Buildings and other assets)**
- ▶ **Process Efficiency**
- ▶ **Demand Response**
- ▶ **Beneficial Electrification**

Activity 2: Energy Efficiency and Demand Response (Continued)

▶ **Energy Efficiency**

- ▶ Reduction of electric and thermal (gas, fuel oil, propane etc.) energy use in buildings and other assets which may include the installation of efficient technologies and the application of building science and improved management techniques, such as more efficient lighting, improved heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, and water conservation systems.

▶ **Process Efficiency**

- ▶ Addressing unique needs of large energy users or others in improving the energy intensity of their processes (for example, processes related to manufacturing, waste or wastewater treatment) by automation or other means.

Activity 2: Energy Efficiency and Demand Response (Continued)

▶ **Demand Response**

- ▶ Installation of commercial demand response technology that reduces or shifts electricity usage during peak periods in response to time-based rates, or other demand response projects.

▶ **Beneficial Electrification**

- ▶ Use of electricity for energy services that would otherwise consume fossil fuels (e.g., propane, heating oil, gasoline, diesel) in a way that reduces overall emissions and energy costs.

Activity 3: Comprehensive Energy Planning & Feasibility Studies for Microgrids

This category will fund projects undertaking a number of energy planning efforts and feasibility studies for microgrids.

- ▶ **Planning Efforts: Up to \$200,000 depending on number of applicants**
 - ▶ \$50,000 for Single Eligible Applicant, \$100,000 for Two Eligible Applicants, \$150,000 for Three Eligible Applicants, \$200,000 for Four or More Eligible Applicants
- ▶ **Comprehensive Energy Planning.**
- ▶ **Investment Grade Audit.**
- ▶ **Technology Transfer and Market Transformation Planning.**
- ▶ **Data Efforts that Contribute to Comprehensive Energy Projects or Plans.**

Activity 3: Comprehensive Energy Planning & Feasibility Studies for Microgrids (Continued)

▶ **Comprehensive Energy Plans**

▶ Planning that includes the evaluation of current energy use and sources, determination of the entity's potential for generating energy locally, and creation of goals for energy savings and generation.

▶ These efforts should include: community-wide and stakeholder engagement, and public availability of the plan.

▶ **Investment Grade Audits**

▶ A comprehensive energy audit that seeks to identify all cost-effective investment opportunities through a combination of engineering analysis of energy-using systems and economic analysis of possible energy-saving measures.

Activity 3: Comprehensive Energy Planning & Feasibility Studies for Microgrids (Continued)

▶ **Technology Transfer and Market Transformation Planning**

▶ Planning that relates to an applicant's efforts as it transitions a key component of its existing technology use, and which may serve as a model for other entities in the applicant's sector.

▶ Examples: Electric vehicle planning, beneficial electrification studies, and more.

▶ **Data Efforts that Contribute to Comprehensive Energy Projects or Plans**

▶ Projects that improve the awareness of energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, and that provide baseline information for future planning for other complex energy projects.

Activity 3: Comprehensive Energy Planning & Feasibility Studies for Microgrids (Continued)

- ▶ **Feasibility Studies for Microgrids:**
 - ▶ \$50,000 for Level 1 and Level 2 Microgrids
 - ▶ \$100,000 for Level 3 Microgrids

Required Accounts – START TODAY! (Application Instructions Section 1.5)



NEW!

▶ PSC Grants System Account and ERF Account

- ▶ Applicants must create an account with the PSC Grants System where the electronic application form will be completed and submitted. (PSC Grants System Login page: [Online Grant System Login PSC Grants \(wi.gov\)](#))
- ▶ The PSC Grants System is connected to the ERF system, therefore an account is required for both.
 - ▶ If you have an ERF account, from the PSC Grants System Login page, follow the link to validate your ERF Account.
 - ▶ If you do not have an ERF account, from the PSC Grants Login page, follow the link to create an ERF Account, then return to the login page and follow the link to validate your ERF Account.

Required Accounts – START TODAY! (Application Instructions Section 1.5) (Continued)

▶ **System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Registration**

- ▶ Applicants must register with SAM.gov and obtain a Universal Entity Identifier (UEID) prior to receiving a grant award and are encouraged to do so as soon as possible, to provide the UEID number with the application.
 - ▶ A UEID number is a unique twelve-character alphanumeric ID used to identify your organization. This has changed from the use of the DUNS Number as per the Federal governments discretion.
 - ▶ SAM is a web-based, government-wide application that collects, validates, stores, and disseminates business information about intended federal grant recipients and other partners. Instructions for registering with SAM and obtaining a UEID are available here: [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) | [Home](#)

Application Narrative (Application Instructions Section 3.1)

- ▶ **Application Executive Summary**
 - ▶ **Key Partners and Stakeholders**
 - ▶ **Project Objectives and Metrics**
 - ▶ **Reference Materials List**

Application Narrative and Merit Review Criteria

- ▶ **Application Narrative and Merit Review Criteria**
- ▶ Eligibility and ability to achieve the objectives
- ▶ Budget Justification and Cost Share (“Match”)
- ▶ Savings and Payback
- ▶ Energy Savings and Environmental Impact
- ▶ Equity and Energy Justice
- ▶ Financial Leverage and Economic Impact
- ▶ Existing Energy Planning Efforts
- ▶ Energy Resiliency
- ▶ Education and Awareness
- ▶ Innovation

Cost Share (“Match”) (Application Instructions Section 3.3.2)

- ▶ **Budget Justification and Cost Share (“Match”)** Provide a cost basis for each line item on which costs were entered. Identify what costs or portions thereof are anticipated to be grant-funded or funded by the applicant’s share of the project cost (“cost share” or “match”).
- ▶ **Match** is encouraged, but optional, and **cannot** include other federal funding.
- ▶ Matching fund sources should be identified, e.g. Focus on Energy funding, state, local, or private funds, etc.

ARRA Requirements (Application Instructions Section 1.3)

- ▶ **Application Instructions Section 1.3**
- ▶ **Buy American Provisions**
- ▶ **Davis- Bacon Wage Rate Requirements**
- ▶ **National Environmental Policy Act Review**
- ▶ **State Historic Preservation Office**

Buy American Provisions (Application Instructions Section 1.3.1)

- ▶ Buy American Provisions [APPLICABLE ONLY TO PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC WORKS₄]:
- ▶ The Buy American provisions of the 2009 Recovery Act require that all iron, steel and manufactured goods used in projects funded by the Recovery Act for the construction, alteration, maintenance or repair of a public building or public work be produced in the United States, with some limited exceptions.
- ▶ A Desk Guide to the Buy American Provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009:
https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2016/07/f33/buy_american_desk_guide.pdf
- ▶ U.S. Department of Energy Buy American website: <https://www.energy.gov/gc/action-centeroffice-general-counsel/faqs-related-recovery-act/buy-american>

Davis Bacon and Related Acts (Application Instructions Section 1.3.2)

- ▶ A Davis-Bacon “Related Act” will often include language further defining work that must be covered by the Davis Bacon Act prevailing wage requirements. The Recovery Act is an example of a DBRA statute. **It requires that all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors on projects** funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by and through the Federal Government pursuant to the Recovery Act shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on projects of a character similar in the locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor.
- ▶ Wages for specific locations by county and construction type can be found on <https://sam.gov/content/wage-determinations>
- ▶ A Desk Guide to The Davis-Bacon Act (including DBRA): <https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2017/04/f34/DOE%20DBA%20Desk%20Guide%200Rev.%202.%20April%2010%202017.pdf>

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (Application Instructions Section 1.3.4)

NEPA BOUNDED CATEGORIES APPLICABLE TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICE OF ENERGY INNOVATION (“STATE ENERGY OFFICE”) IN 2022

DOE has determined Bounded Categories of activities that are funded by SEP-ALRD-2022, or ARRA Financing Programs and/or funds repurposed from ARRA Financing Programs, are categorically excluded from further NEPA review, absent extraordinary circumstances, cumulative impacts, or connected actions that may lead to significant impacts on the environment, or any inconsistency with “integral elements” (as contained in 10 C.F.R. Part 1021) as they relate to a particular project.

The National Environmental Policy Act and Historic Preservation Training Website for the Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs Office | Department of Energy:

<https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/national-environmental-policy-act-and-historicpreservation-training-website>

State Historic Preservation Programmatic Agreement (Application Instructions Section 1.3.3)

For project activities that involve **historical, archeological or cultural resources** (includes listed and eligible resources over 50 years old or of cultural significance), a review of the undertaking may be required. However, a number of energy related activities have been previously identified that do not have the potential to cause effects on historic properties, even when historic properties may be present. They are covered by an existing programmatic agreement between the U.S. Department of Energy, the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office and certain State agencies.

https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2014/01/f7/state_historic_preservation_programmatic_agreement_wi.pdf

Resources to Prepare your Application

- ▶ Focus on Energy: <https://focusonenergy.com/solutions-for-business>

**Focus on Energy empowers
the people and businesses
of Wisconsin to make smart
energy decisions with
enduring economic benefits.**



Resources to Prepare your Application

- OEI Technical Assistance Page provides access to Partners and Resources [PSC Technical Assistance \(wi.gov\)](#)
- EIGP Story Map: [2020 Energy Innovation Grant Program \(wi.gov\)](#)
- Previous Energy Innovation Grant Program Filings on ERF
 - Grant applications and reports are publicly filed under EIGP Dockets:
 - [9709-FG-2021](#)
 - [9709-FG-2020](#)
 - [9709-FG-2018](#)

Questions?

- ▶ Submit Questions to: oei@wisconsin.gov
- ▶ Frequently Asked Questions Document updated periodically:
<https://psc.wi.gov/Pages/Programs/OEI/EnergyInnovationGrantProgram.aspx>
- ▶ OEI Newsletter Sign Up: [Signup Form \(constantcontactpages.com\)](http://constantcontactpages.com)