

OHIO

Purpose: To assist eligible entities in creating and implementing strategies to:

- Reduce fossil fuel emissions in a manner that is environmentally sustainable and, to the maximum extent practicable, maximizes benefits for local and regional communities;
- Reduce the total energy use of the eligible entities; and
- Improve energy efficiency in the building sector, the transportation sector, and other appropriate sectors.

Eligibility:

- **States and Territories:** For the purposes of the EECBG Program, an “eligible state” includes the 50 United States, the District of Columbia and the following Territories of the United States : Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
- A Local Government is eligible for funds if the following conditions are met:
 - a. The government is included in the latest available Census of Governments as a currently incorporated government;
 - b. The government has a governance structure with an elected official and governing body;
 - c. The government has the authority to implement the eligible activities under this program;
 - d. The government meets the population thresholds as further defined for a direct allocation.
 - Cities that have a population of at least 35,000, or that are one of the 10 highest populated cities of the state in which the city is located are eligible to receive a direct allocation from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).
 - Counties where population is at least 200,000 or if the county is one of the 10 highest populated counties of the state in which it is located is eligible to receive a direct allocation from the DOE. County populations calculated for eligibility for direct formula grants do not include the populations of any and all cities within them that are eligible for direct formula grants

Program Priorities:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has developed the following core principles to guide entities during the program and project planning process

- Prioritize energy efficiency and conservation first as the cheapest, cleanest, and fastest ways to meet energy demand.
- To maximize benefits over the longest possible terms, entities should look for ways to link their energy efficiency efforts to long-term priorities (especially community economic development, community stabilization and poverty reduction efforts).
- Invest funds in programs and projects that create and/or retain jobs and stimulate the economy while meeting long term energy goals.
- Target programs and projects that will provide substantial, sustainable and measurable energy savings, job creation and economic stimulus effects.
- Give priority to programs and projects that leverage federal funds with other public and private resources, including coordinated efforts involving other Federal programs targeting community development funded through the Recovery Act such as the Community Development Block Grant program, HOME, and job training programs.
- To the extent possible, develop programs and strategies that will continue beyond the funding period.

- Ensure oversight, transparency, and accountability for all program activities.
- Enact policies that transform markets, increase investments, and support program goals.
- Develop comprehensive plans that benchmark current performance and set aggressive goals.

Activities:

1. **Development of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy:** Entities may use a grant received under this part to develop and/or implement a strategy for energy efficiency and conservation and to carry out activities to achieve the purposes of the program. All entities receiving direct formula grants from the DOE are required to submit a proposed strategy for approval.
2. **Technical Consultant Services:** Entities may retain technical consultant services to assist the eligible entity in the development of such a strategy, including formulation of energy efficiency, energy conservation, and energy usage goals; identification of strategies to achieve those goals through efforts to increase energy efficiency, reduce fossil fuel emissions or reduce energy consumption through investments or by encouraging behavioral changes. Entities may develop methods to measure progress in achieving the goals. Entities may develop and publish annual reports to the population served by the eligible entity describing the strategies and goals and the progress made in achieving them during the preceding calendar year.
3. **Residential and Commercial Building Energy Audits:** Entities may support the conduct of residential and commercial building energy audits.
4. **Financial Incentive Programs:** Entities may establish financial incentive programs and mechanisms for energy efficiency improvements such as energy saving performance contracting, on-bill financing, and revolving loan funds.
5. **Energy Efficiency Retrofits:** Grants may be made to nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies for the purpose of retrofitting existing facilities to improve energy efficiency.
6. **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs for Buildings and Facilities:** Entities may develop and implement energy efficiency and conservation programs for buildings and facilities within the jurisdiction of the entity. The range of activities includes the design and operation of the programs; the identification of the most effective methods for achieving maximum participation and efficiency rates; public education; measurement and verification protocols; and identification of energy efficient technologies.
7. **Development and Implementation of Transportation Programs:** Entities may develop and implement programs to conserve energy used in transportation, including but not limited to:
 - Employee flex time programs;
 - Promoting use of satellite work centers;
 - Development and promotion of zoning guidelines or requirements that promote energy efficient development;
 - Development of infrastructure such as bike lanes and pathways and pedestrian walkways;
 - Synchronization of traffic signals;
 - State/locals/regional integrated planning activities (i.e. transportation, housing, environmental, energy, land use) with the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled;
 - Incentive programs to reduce commutes by single occupancy vehicles;

- Improvements in operational and system efficiency of the transportation system such as implementation of intelligent transportation system (ITS) strategies;
 - Idle-reduction technologies and/or facilities to conserve energy, reduce harmful air pollutants, and greenhouse gas emissions from freight movement; and
 - Installation of solar panels on interstate rights-of-way to conserve energy in highway operations and maintenance activities.
8. **Building Codes and Inspections:** Entities may develop and implement building codes and inspection services to promote building energy efficiency.
9. **Energy Distribution:** Entities may implement distributed energy resource technologies that significantly increase energy efficiency, including:
- District heating and cooling systems
 - Combined heat and power systems
 - Cogeneration systems
 - Energy storage systems
 - Absorption chillers
 - Desiccant humidifiers
 - Micro turbines
 - Ground source heat pumps
10. **Material Conservation Programs:** Entities may implement activities to increase participation and efficiency rates for material conservation programs, including source reduction, recycling, and recycled content procurement programs that lead to increases in energy efficiency.
11. **Reduction and Capture of Methane and Greenhouse Gases:** Entities may use grant funds to purchase and implement technologies to reduce, capture, and, to the maximum extent practicable, use methane and other greenhouse gases generated by landfills or similar waste-related sources, such as wastewater treatment plants, operations producing food waste, dairy farms and other animal operations.
12. **Traffic Signals and Street Lighting:** Entities may use grant funds to replace traffic signals and street lighting with energy efficient lighting technologies, including light emitting diodes; and any other technology of equal or greater energy efficiency.
13. **Renewable Energy Technologies on Government Buildings:** Entities may use grant funds to develop, implement, and install on or in any government building of the eligible entity onsite renewable energy technology that generates electricity from renewable resources, including solar energy; wind energy; fuel cells; and biomass.
14. **Any Other Appropriate Activity:** Entities may submit any other appropriate activity for approval in the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy.

Funding Level for Ohio:

- A direct allocation to Ohio city and county units of local government: \$59,203,700; and
- A direct allocation to the State: \$24,979,600, of which 60% (\$14,987,760) has to be provided as subgrants to eligible city and county units of local government that did not receive a direct allocation.
- A competitive portion of \$400,000,000 nationwide (DOE Federal guidance not released yet).

Recovery.ohio.gov Proposals (as of March 30, 2009):

- Number of Proposals Received: 611
- Estimated Stimulus Funds Requested: \$2,377,246,311

Available Program Information

- Energy
- HWAP

Activities Funded by Federal Stimulus Dollars