

ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT (ALRD)



**U.S. Department of Energy
Office of the Under Secretary for Infrastructure
Golden Field Office**

**State Energy Program (SEP)
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021**

**Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund Capitalization Grant Program
(EE RLF) IIJA ALRD**

CFDA Number: 81.041, State Energy Program

Issue Date: 11/15/2022

Application Due Date: April 21, 2023

REGISTRATION/SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Registration Requirements: Allow at least 21 days to complete registrations.

If you haven't already registered, there are several one-time actions you must complete in order to receive an award:

Register in the System for Award Management (SAM) at <https://sam.gov>. Applicants who are not registered with SAM should allow several weeks to complete this requirement. It is suggested that the process be started as soon as possible. **Prime awardees must update their SAM registration annually.** Please note, there are new requirements for registering in SAM. Entities registering in SAM must submit a notarized letter appointing their authorized Entity Administrator. Please see SAM website for updates, alerts, and FAQs. For questions, call 866-606-8220 or 334-206-7828.

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM) - Each applicant (unless the applicant is excepted from those requirements under 2 CFR 25.110) is required to: (1) Be registered in the SAM at <https://www.sam.gov> before submitting its application; (2) provide a valid UEI number in its application; and (3) continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a federal awarding agency. DOE may not make a federal award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable UEI and SAM requirements.

NOTE: Due to the high demand of UEI requests and SAM registrations, entity legal business name and address validations are taking longer than expected to process. Entities should start the UEI and SAM registration process as soon as possible. If entities have technical difficulties with the UEI validation or SAM registration process they should utilize the HELP feature on SAM.gov. SAM.gov will work entity service tickets in the order in which they are received and asks that entities not create multiple service tickets for the same request or technical issue. Additional entity validation resources can be found here: [GSAFSD Tier 0 Knowledge Base - Validating your Entity.](#)

Register in FedConnect to receive and acknowledge your award at <https://www.fedconnect.net/>. See the Quick Start Guide at https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/Marketing/Documents/FedConnect_Ready_Set_Go.pdf For additional questions, email support@fedconnect.net or call 1-800-899-6665.

Register or Login in to Performance and Accountability for Grants in Energy (PAGE) System at <https://www.page.energy.gov/default.aspx> in order to submit your application. For questions regarding PAGE, refer to the Help Menu in PAGE or contact the PAGE hotline at PAGE-Hotline@ee.doe.gov or 1-866-492-4546.

States should contact their respective DOE Project Officer on state-specific questions.

Electronic Signatures: Acknowledgement of award documents by the Grantee's authorized representative through electronic systems used by the Department of Energy, including FedConnect, constitutes the Grantee's acceptance of the terms and conditions of the award. Acknowledgement via FedConnect by the Grantee's authorized representative constitutes the Grantee's electronic signature.

IMPORTANT: The electronically signed Assistance Agreement with attached award documents distributed via FedConnect is the formal authorization and approval from the Contracting Officer. Grantees may not rely on PAGE as the formal authorization and approval. Award documents in the initial award and any modifications to the award must be reviewed and acknowledged by the Grantee in FedConnect.

Table of Contents

<u>Number</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Page</u>
	PART I AUTHORITY	5
	PART II AWARD INFORMATION	5
	A. TYPE OF AWARD INSTRUMENT	5
	B. ESTIMATED FUNDING	5
	C. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE	5
	PART III ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION	5
	A. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS	5
	B. COST MATCHING	6
	PART IV APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION	6
	A. CONTENT AND FORM OF APPLICATION	6
	PART V AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION	6
	A. AWARD NOTICES	6
	B. FUNDING RESTRICTIONS	6
	C. REPORTING	7
	D. ADMINISTRATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS	7
	PART VI OTHER INFORMATION	11
	A. INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW	11
	B. GOVERNMENT RIGHT TO REJECT OR NEGOTIATE	11
	C. COMMITMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS	11
	D. LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS	11
	E. MODIFICATIONS	11
	F. PROPRIETARY APPLICATION INFORMATION	11
	G. PROTECTED PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION	12
	PART VII REFERENCE MATERIAL	13

PART I AUTHORITY

SEP is authorized under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, as amended ([42 U.S.C. 6321](#) et seq.). All grant awards made under this program shall comply with applicable laws including, but not limited to, [2 CFR Part 200](#) as amended by [2 CFR Part 910](#) and Section 40502 of the [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) (IIJA).

PART II AWARD INFORMATION

A. TYPE OF AWARD INSTRUMENT

DOE will award Grants.

B. ESTIMATED FUNDING

The Grantee shall administer DOE funds received under the Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund Capitalization Grant Program (EE RLF Program) in accordance with Federal rules and regulations and state policies and procedures. The Grantee is to manage Federal Funds in a prudent, effective and efficient manner to accomplish program objectives.

Funding Level: Individual state allocations are included as an attachment to this document.

C. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

IIJA awards will consist of a **5-year** Project and Budget Period.

PART III ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

In accordance with IIJA Section 40501 and IIJA Sec. 40502, funding for this program is only available to states that are eligible for funding under the State Energy Program (SEP). Per the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, this SEP funding is only available to states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or any territory or possession of the United States, (42 U.S.C. 6202(4)). No other entity types may be considered for this funding.

Funding for this program is to be allocated to states according to two separate allocation formulas. Per IIJA Section 40502(b)(1), 40% of the total funding is to be allocated to all states eligible for SEP funding according to the allocation formula established under [10 CFR Part 420.11](#). Section 40502(b)(2) provides that the remaining 60% of the total funding is to be allocated to Priority States according to a formula established by the Secretary of the Department of Energy. Per IIJA Section 40501, a Priority State is defined as a state that is:

- Eligible for funding under the State Energy Program; and
- Among the 15 States with the highest annual per-capita combined residential and commercial sector energy consumption, as most recently reported by the Energy Information Administration; or

- Among the 15 States with the highest annual per-capita energy-related carbon dioxide emissions by State, as most recently reported by the Energy Information Administration.¹

B. COST MATCHING

Cost match is not required for these awards.

PART IV APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. CONTENT AND FORM OF APPLICATION

The application must be submitted via the PAGE online system at <https://www.page.energy.gov/default.aspx>. DOE reserves the right to request additional or clarifying information for any reason deemed necessary. Applications will be reviewed for consistency with the EE RLF Program objectives.

The State Application consists of:

- Annual File
- Standard Form 424 (Application form)
- Standard Form 424A (Budget summary)
Budget Justification
- Master File
- Various certifications
- An indirect rate agreement (if applicable)
- An environmental questionnaire (if applicable).

Please see Section 6.0 in the Application Instructions for more detail.

PART V AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

A. AWARD NOTICES

An Assistance Agreement issued by the Contracting Officer is the authorizing award document. The Assistance Agreement normally includes, either as an attachment or by reference: (1) Special Terms and Conditions; (2) Application as approved by DOE; (3) DOE financial assistance regulations at [2 CFR Part 200](#) as amended by [2 CFR Part 910](#); (4) National Policy Assurances To Be Incorporated As Award Terms; (5) Annual File; (6) Master File; (7) Budget Summary; (8) Intellectual Property Provisions; (9) Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist, which identifies the Reporting Requirements; and (10) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Determination. These documents are sent to the Recipient via [FedConnect](#).

B. FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

Funding for this solicitation can only be used to satisfy the requirements described in IJJA Section 40502, which are also listed in section VII below. All expenditures must be allowable, allocable, and reasonable in accordance with the applicable Federal cost principles. Refer to the following Federal cost principles for more information: [2 CFR Part 200](#) as amended by [2 CFR](#)

¹ Codified at 42 U.S.C. 18791(1).

[Part 910.](#)

Under [2 CFR Part 200](#) as amended by [2 CFR Part 910](#) regulations, the cost principles are contained in Subpart E–Cost Principles within [2 CFR Part 200](#).

C. REPORTING

Reporting requirements are identified on the Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist (FARC), attached to the award agreement.

Awards initiated since 10/1/2010 are subject to the requirement of Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation to comply with the Federal Funding and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA). Additional information about this requirement can be found in the Special Terms and Conditions of the state’s award, at <https://www.fsr.gov>, and in [2 CFR Part 170](#).

D. ADMINISTRATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

1. Administrative Requirements

- The administrative requirements for DOE grants and cooperative agreements are contained in:
 - [2 CFR Part 200](#) as amended by [2 CFR Part 910](#) and [10 CFR Part 420](#)
 - [2 CFR Part 25](#) – Universal Identifier and Central Contractor Registration
 - [2 CFR Part 170](#) – Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation

The Electronic Code of Federal Regulations is found at www.ecfr.gov.

2. National Policy Requirements

The National Policy Assurances to be incorporated as Award Terms are located at <http://www.nsf.gov/awards/managing/rtc.jsp>.

Intellectual Property Provisions. The standard DOE financial assistance intellectual property provisions applicable to the various types of recipients are located at <http://energy.gov/gc/standard-intellectual-property-ip-provisions-financial-assistance-awards>.

3. Environmental Review in Accordance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

DOE’s decision whether and how to distribute Federal funds is subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321, et seq.). NEPA requires Federal agencies to integrate environmental values into their decision-making processes by considering the potential environmental impacts of their proposed actions.

For further information on NEPA, see section 6.3 H. in the Application Instructions.

4. Build America, Buy America Requirements

Federally assisted projects which involve infrastructure work, undertaken by applicable recipient types, require that:

- All iron, steel, and manufactured products used in the infrastructure work are produced in the United States; and
- All construction materials used in the infrastructure work are manufactured in the United States.

Whether a given project must apply this requirement is project-specific and dependent on several factors, such as the recipient's entity type, whether the work involves "infrastructure," as that term is defined in Section 70914 of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and whether the infrastructure in question is publicly owned or serves a public function.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to consult Appendix D of this FOA to determine whether their project may have to apply this requirement, both to make an early determination as to the need of a waiver, as well as to determine what impact, if any, this requirement may have on the proposed project's budget.

a. Definitions

For purposes of the Buy America requirements, the following definitions apply:

Construction materials includes an article, material, or supply—other than an item of primarily iron or steel; a manufactured product; cement and cementitious materials; aggregates such as stone, sand, or gravel; or aggregate binding agents or additives²—that is or consists primarily of:

- non-ferrous metals;
- plastic and polymer-based products (including polyvinylchloride, composite building materials, and polymers used in fiber optic cables);
- glass (including optic glass);
- lumber; or
- drywall.

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. Infrastructure includes facilities that generate, transport, and distribute energy.

In addition to the above, the infrastructure in question must be publicly owned or must serve a public function; privately owned infrastructure that is solely utilized for private use is not considered "infrastructure" for purposes of Buy America applicability. The Agency, not the applicant, will have the final say as to whether a given project includes infrastructure, as defined herein. Accordingly, in cases where the "public" nature of the infrastructure is unclear, DOE strongly recommends that applicants complete their full application with the assumption that Buy America requirements will apply to the proposed project.

² BIL, § 70917(c)(1).

Project means the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of infrastructure in the United States.

b. Buy America Requirements for Infrastructure Projects (“Buy America” Requirements)

In accordance with Section 70914 of the BIL, none of the project funds (includes federal share and recipient cost share) may be used for a project for infrastructure unless:

(1) all iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States--this means all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States;

(2) all manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States—this means the manufactured product was manufactured in the United States; and the cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard for determining the minimum amount of domestic content of the manufactured product has been established under applicable law or regulation; and

(3) all construction materials³ are manufactured in the United States—this means that all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States. The Buy America requirements only applies to articles, materials, and supplies that are consumed in, incorporated into, or affixed to an infrastructure project. As such, it does not apply to tools, equipment, and supplies, such as temporary scaffolding, brought to the construction site and removed at or before the completion of the infrastructure project. Nor do Buy America requirements apply to equipment and furnishings, such as movable chairs, desks, and portable computer equipment, that are used at or within the finished infrastructure project, but are not an integral part of the structure or permanently affixed to the infrastructure project.

The Buy America requirements only apply to articles, materials, and supplies that are consumed in, incorporated into, or affixed to an infrastructure project. As such, it does not apply to tools, equipment, and supplies, such as temporary scaffolding, brought to the construction site and removed at or before the completion of the infrastructure project. Nor does the Buy America requirements apply to equipment and furnishings, such as movable chairs, desks, and portable computer equipment, that are used at or within the finished infrastructure project, but are not an integral part of the structure or permanently affixed to the infrastructure project.

These requirements must flow down to all sub-awards, all contracts, subcontracts and purchase orders for work performed under the proposed project.

For additional information related to the application and implementation of these Buy America requirements, please see OMB Memorandum M-22-11, issued April 18, 2022:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/M-22-11.pdf>

³ Excludes cement and cementitious materials, aggregates such as stone, sand, or gravel, or aggregate binding agents or additives.

c. DOE Submission Requirements for Full Application

Within the first two pages of the workplan, applicants must provide a short statement on whether the project will involve the construction, alteration, and/or repair of infrastructure in the United States. The ultimate determination about whether a project includes infrastructure remains with DOE, but the applicant's statement will assist project planning and integration of domestic preference requirements, which may impact the project's proposed budget.

d. Waivers

In limited circumstances, DOE may waive the application of the Buy America requirements where DOE determines that:

- (1) applying the Buy America requirements would be inconsistent with the public interest;
- (2) the types of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of a satisfactory quality; or
- (3) the inclusion of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent.

If an applicant is seeking a waiver of the Buy America requirements, it must include a written waiver request with the Full Application. A waiver request must include:

- A detailed justification for the use of “non-domestic” iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials to include an explanation as to how the non-domestic item(s) is essential to the project
- A certification that the applicant or recipient made a good faith effort to solicit bids for domestic products supported by terms included in requests for proposals, contracts, and nonproprietary communications with potential suppliers;
- Applicant /Recipient name and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
- Total estimated project cost, DOE and cost-share amounts
- Project description and location (to the extent known)
- List and description of iron or steel item(s), manufactured goods, and construction material(s) the applicant or recipient seeks to waive from Domestic Content Procurement Preference requirement, including name, cost, country(ies) of origin (if known), and relevant PSC and NAICS code for each.
- Waiver justification including due diligence performed (e.g., market research, industry outreach) by the applicant or recipient
- Anticipated impact if no waiver is issued

DOE may require additional information before considering the waiver request.

Waiver requests are subject to public comment periods of no less than 15 days and must be reviewed by the Made in America Office. There may be instances where an award qualifies, in whole or in part, for an existing waiver described at [link to awarding agency web site with information on currently applicable general applicability waivers].

The applicant does not have the right to appeal DOE's decision concerning a waiver request.

PART VI OTHER INFORMATION

A. INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

Program Subject to Executive Order 12372

This program is subject to [Executive Order 12372](#) (Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs) and the regulations at [10 CFR Part 1005](#).

One of the objectives of the Executive Order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and a strengthened federalism. The Executive Order relies on processes developed by state and local governments for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

Applicants should contact the appropriate State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to find out about, and to comply with, the state's process under [Executive Order 12372](#). The names and addresses of the SPOCs are listed on the Web site of the Office of Management and Budget at [Intergovernmental Review \(SPOC List\) \(whitehouse.gov\)](#).

B. GOVERNMENT RIGHT TO REJECT OR NEGOTIATE

DOE reserves the right, without qualification, to reject any or all applications received in response to this ALRD and to select any application, in whole or in part, as a basis for negotiation and/or award.

C. COMMITMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS

The Contracting Officer is the only individual who can make awards or commit the Government to the expenditure of public funds. A commitment by other than the Contracting Officer, either explicit or implied, is invalid.

D. LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS

By accepting funds under this award, you agree that none of the funds obligated on the award shall be expended, directly or indirectly, to influence congressional action on any legislation or appropriation matters pending before Congress, other than to communicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 U.S.C. 1913. This restriction is in addition to those prescribed elsewhere in statute and regulation.

E. MODIFICATIONS

Modifications to this Administrative and Legal Requirements Document will be processed and disseminated in the same manner as other State Energy Program Notices.

F. PROPRIETARY APPLICATION INFORMATION

DOE will use data and other information contained in applications strictly for evaluation purposes. Applicants should not include confidential, proprietary, or privileged information in their applications unless such information is necessary to convey an understanding of the proposed project.

Applications containing confidential, proprietary, or privileged information must be marked as described below. Failure to comply with these marking requirements may result in the disclosure of the unmarked information under the Freedom of Information Act or otherwise. The U.S. Government is not liable for the disclosure or use of unmarked information and may use or disclose such information for any purpose.

The cover sheet of the application must be marked as follows and identify the specific pages containing confidential, proprietary, or privileged information:

Please be aware that all information provided to DOE (including confidential proprietary or confidential commercial information) is subject to public release under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). (5 U.S.C. § 552(a) (3) (A) (2006), amended by OPEN Government Act of 2007, Pub. L. No. 110175, 121 Stat. 2524). When a FOIA request covers information submitted to DOE by an applicant, and the cognizant DOE FOIA Officer cannot make an independent determination regarding the public releasability of this information, the cognizant DOE FOIA Officer will contact the submitter and ask for comment regarding the redaction of information under one or more of the nine FOIA exemptions. However, the cognizant DOE FOIA Officer will make the final decision regarding FOIA redactions. Submitters are given a minimum of 7 days to provide redaction comments and if DOE disagrees with the submitter's comment, DOE will notify the submitter of the intended public release no less than seven (7) days prior to the public disclosure of the information in question.” ([10 CFR Part 1004.11](#)).

G. PROTECTED PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION

In responding to this ALRD, Applicants must ensure that Protected Personally Identifiable Information (PII) is not included in the application documents. PII is defined by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and DOE as:

Any information about an individual maintained by an agency, including but not limited to, education, financial transactions, medical history, and criminal or employment history and information that can be used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity, such as their name, social security number, date and place of birth, mother's maiden name, biometric records, etc., including any other personal information that is linked or linkable to an individual.

This definition of PII can be further defined as: (1) Public PII and (2) Protected PII.

Public PII: PII found in public sources such as telephone books, public websites, business cards, university listing, etc. Public PII includes first and last name, address, work telephone number, email address, home telephone number, and general education credentials.

Protected PII: PII that requires enhanced protection. This information includes data that if compromised could cause harm to an individual such as identity theft.

Listed below are examples of Protected PII that Applicants must not include in their application.

- Social Security Numbers in any form
- Place of Birth associated with an individual
- Date of Birth associated with an individual
- Mother's maiden name associated with an individual
- Biometric record associated with an individual
- Fingerprint

- Iris scan
- DNA
- Medical history information associated with an individual
- Medical conditions, including history of disease
- Metric information, e.g., weight, height, blood pressure
- Criminal history associated with an individual
- Employment history and other employment information associated with an individual
- Ratings
- Disciplinary actions
- Performance elements and standards (or work expectations) are PII when they are so intertwined with performance appraisals that their disclosure would reveal an individual's performance appraisal
- Financial information associated with an individual
- Credit card numbers
- Bank account numbers
- Security clearance history or related information (not including actual clearances held)

PART VII REFERENCE MATERIAL

Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund Capitalization Grant Program Application Instructions

Notice 22-05

EE RLF IIJA Formula Allocations

EE RLF IIJA Formula Award Application Checklist

EE RLF IIJA Two Year Report Template

EE RLF IIJA Template for Declining Funds