

# NON-COMPETITIVE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR TRIBES TO INVEST IN ELECTRIC GRID RESILIENCE

THE DEADLINE FOR THE FIRST TWO YEARS OF FUNDING IS **MARCH 31, 2023**

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) initiated a five-year grid resilience formula grant program aimed to:

- Improve energy resilience to all hazards in the U.S. and mitigate climate-related risk
- Invest in modernized grid infrastructure, clean energy, and decarbonization solutions
- Create good-paying jobs with the free and fair choice to join a union

Under Sec. 40101(d) of the BIL, Indian Tribes, Territories, and States are allocated non-competitive funding, called Grid Resilience Formula Grants. Entities must request these funds annually through an application. All federally recognized Tribes, including Alaskan Native Villages, Alaska Native Village Corporations, and Alaska Native Regional Corporations, are eligible to apply.

## FUNDING AVAILABILITY

**\$2.3 billion** in total program funding

**5 years** of funding

Allocations to Tribes range from **\$50,000 to \$4.3 million** for the first two years



Scan to learn more.

## HOW ARE FUNDS ALLOCATED?

A five-part formula is used for this grant, which accounts for the following:



LAND AREA



PROBABILITY OF DISRUPTIVE EVENTS



SEVERITY OF DISRUPTIVE EVENTS



EXPENDITURE ON MITIGATION EFFORTS



POPULATION

## A PROCESS-ORIENTED APPLICATION

### Before Application Submission

- Send out a public notice
- Hold a public hearing
- Develop a "Program Narrative"
- Complete other required documentation

### Post-Award

- Develop and/or solicit resilience project proposals
- Determine sub-grants

## PROGRAM NARRATIVE

- A plan for the distribution of funds
- Criteria and methods for evaluating grants or projects
- Evidence of notice and a public hearing on the plan

A "Program Narrative" example is available on the website under "Application Resources"

## ELIGIBLE RESILIENCE INVESTMENTS

Funding can be directed towards a wide range of resilience measures including:

- Hardening of power lines, facilities, or other systems
- Vegetation and utility pole management
- Weatherization activities
- Relocation or undergrounding of power lines
- Monitoring and control technologies
- Deployment of distributed energy resources to enhance adaptive capacity

Formula grant funding cannot be used for:

- Construction of a new electric generating facility
- Construction of a large-scale battery storage facility that is not used for enhancing system adaptive capacity during distributive events
- Cybersecurity measures

To find alternate funding opportunities that may support these technologies, visit: <https://www.energy.gov/indianenergy/current-funding-opportunities>

## SUB-GRANTING TO ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

Tribes must subgrant their resilience projects to the following eligible entities:

- Electric grid operators
- Electricity storage operators
- Distribution providers
- Fuel suppliers
- Electricity generators
- Transmission owners or operators

Other entities may be separately approved as eligible.

## Cost Match Requirements

- Grant recipients must provide a 15% cost match.
- Sub-grantees must provide a 100% cost match of the amount of the sub-grant, unless they sell 4,000,000 megawatt hours (MWh) of electricity per year or less, in which case the cost match is reduced to 33%.

In-kind contributions, including staff time, or cash can be used for cost matching as long as the contribution does not come from federal sources.

## Technical Assistance and Program Administration

Up to 5% of the available funds may be used for providing technical assistance, facilitating distribution of information to reduce likelihood and consequences of disruptive events, and administrative expenses associated with the program.

The 15% cost match requirement for Tribes may be used for technical assistance and administrative expenses.

Resilience projects do not need to be specified within the application. Formula grant applicants will be able to accumulate multiple annual allocations until they have enough resources to complete a larger project if specified in the "Program Narrative." The period of performance for the initial award is 5 years. Applicants may use the same application to receive future funding allocations if the public hearing and "Program Narrative" cover multiple years.

NOTE: DOE has reserved funding to provide technical assistance to those receiving grant funding under the formula grant program and would like to hear from you about how we can best serve your needs.

Applications are due **March 31, 2023** for FY22 and FY23 grants.

Visit <https://www.energy.gov/gdo/gridresilience> to apply and for application resources.



Questions/Comments? Contact the Grid Deployment Office at [GDOTribalAssistance@hq.doe.gov](mailto:GDOTribalAssistance@hq.doe.gov)

Updated as of January 2023. Subject to change.