



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

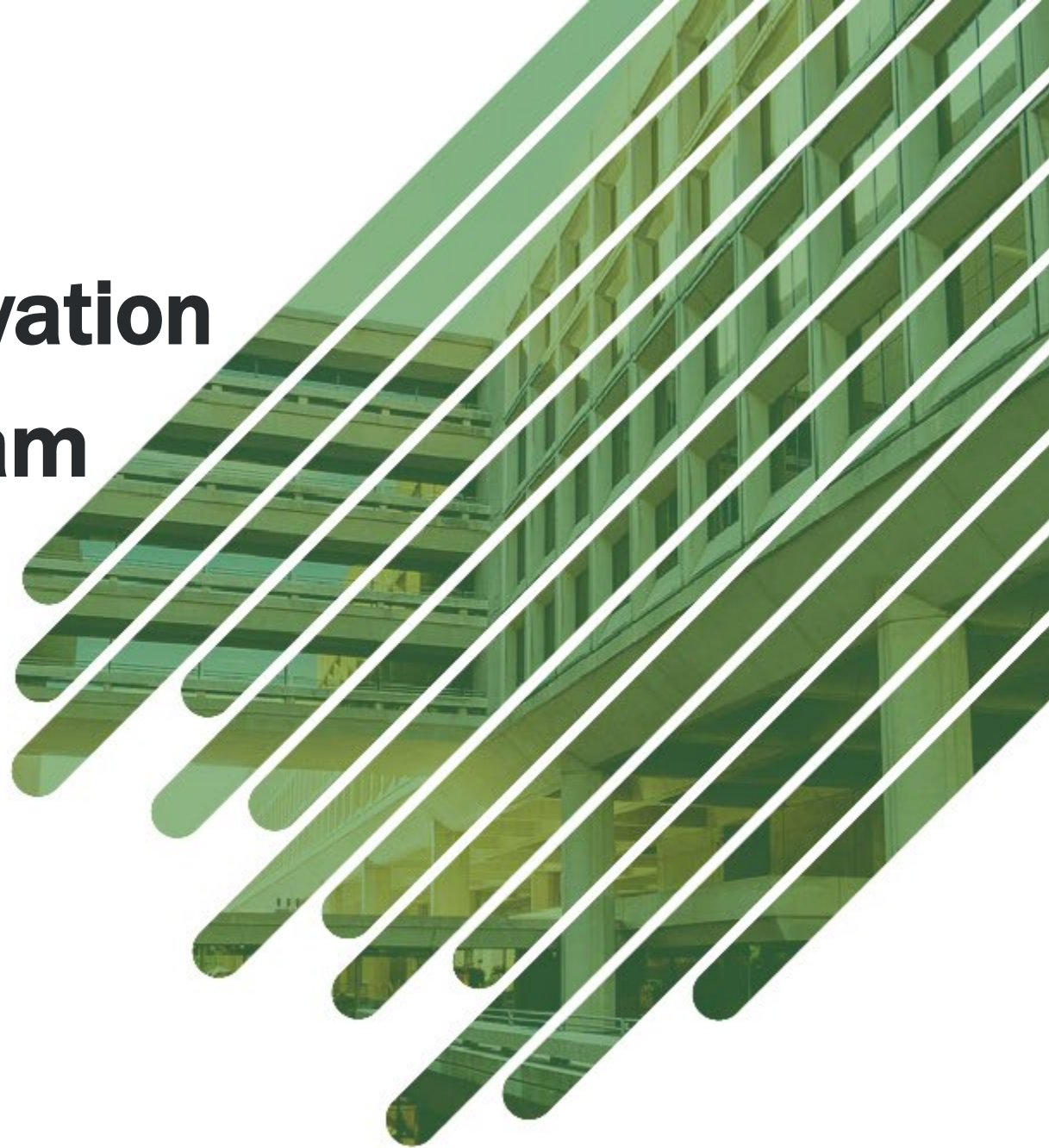
Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program

Introductory Webinar for Local Governments

January 26, 2023

SCEP

STATE & COMMUNITY ENERGY PROGRAMS



Agenda

- **Part 1:** What is the EECBG Program?
- **Part 2:** What do I need to know to apply for formula funding?
- **Part 3:** How can we plan to maximize our funding allocation?
- **Part 4:** What other support will DOE offer?
- **Part 5:** Q&A

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Biden-Harris Administration Priorities

- The Administration knows there is **no greater challenge** facing our nation and our planet than climate change.
- We can turn the threat of climate change into an **opportunity** to:
 - Revitalize the U.S. energy and manufacturing sectors.
 - Create millions of high-quality, good paying jobs throughout the country.
 - Address historic environmental injustices and inequities.
- DOE is working to advance these goals and help the U.S. build a **100% clean energy economy** and reach **net-zero emissions** no later than 2050.



Goals & Priorities

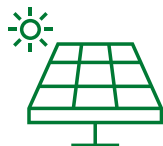
Our goal is to **extend the capacity and capabilities** of states, tribes, local governments, schools, and community-serving organizations **to implement high-impact, self-sustaining clean energy projects** that **center the needs of low-income and Disadvantaged Communities**.

SCEP does this through the management and oversight of **\$16 billion** worth of formula grants, competitive grant awards, consumer rebate grants, and technical assistance.

SCEP Strategic Priorities



Center and deliver on J40 priorities



Deploy clean energy technologies



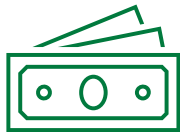
Catalyze local economic development



Create jobs



Avoid pollution through place-based strategies



Reduce energy costs

The Justice40 Initiative: Executive Order 14008



E.O. 14008, Section 223, January 27, 2021

“...the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and the National Climate Advisor, in consultation with the Advisory Council, shall jointly publish recommendations on how certain Federal investments might be made **toward a goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits flow to disadvantaged communities.**”



Over 140 DOE programs are covered under Justice40 Initiative,
including the EECBG Program

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program



EECBG Program Formula Grants Are Now Available!

Eligible state, local, and Tribal governments **can now apply for \$430M** in funding from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program!

Eligible entities can use flexible EECBG Program funding for projects and programs that



Cut Carbon Emissions



Improve Energy Efficiency



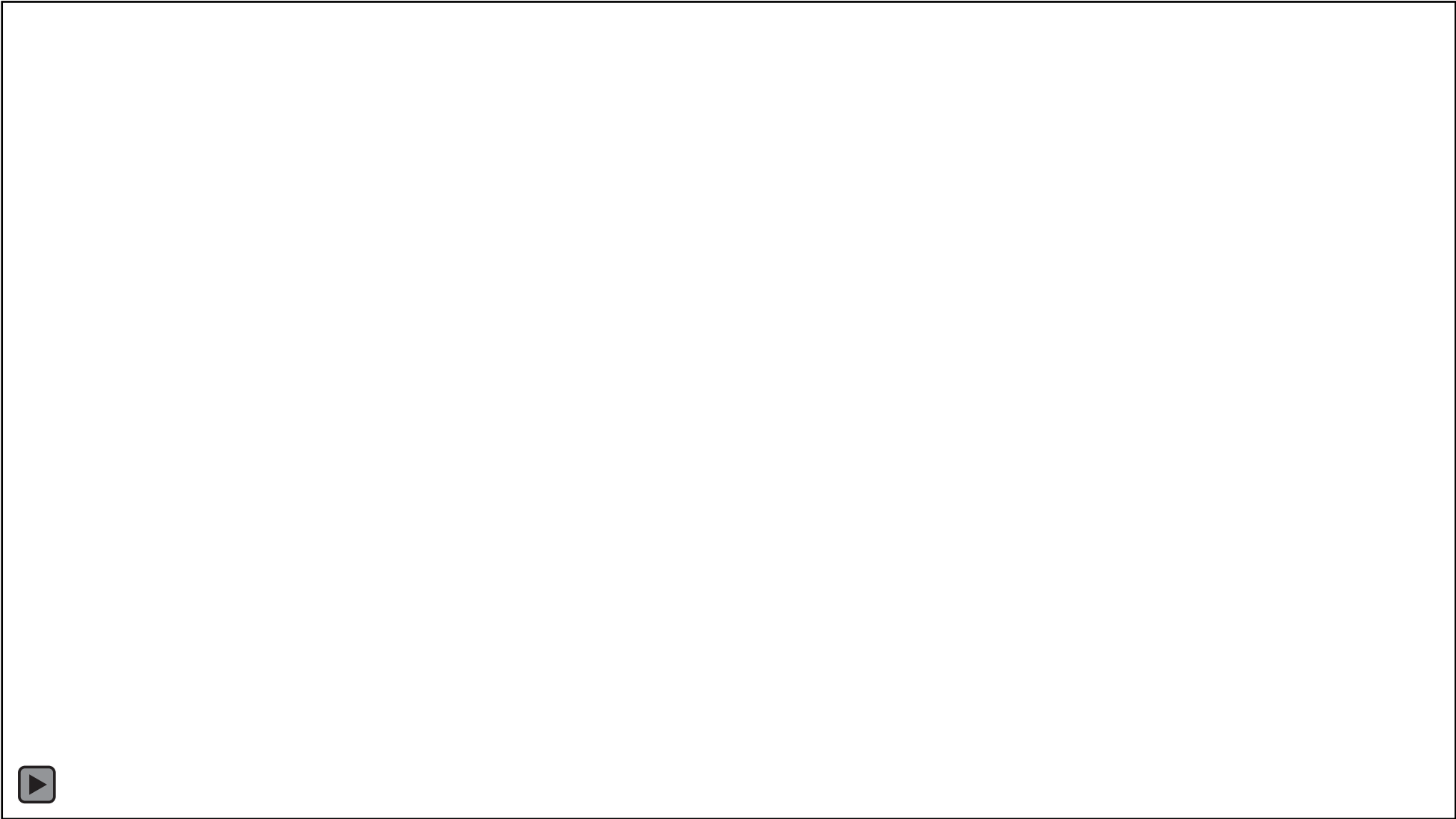
Reduce Energy Use



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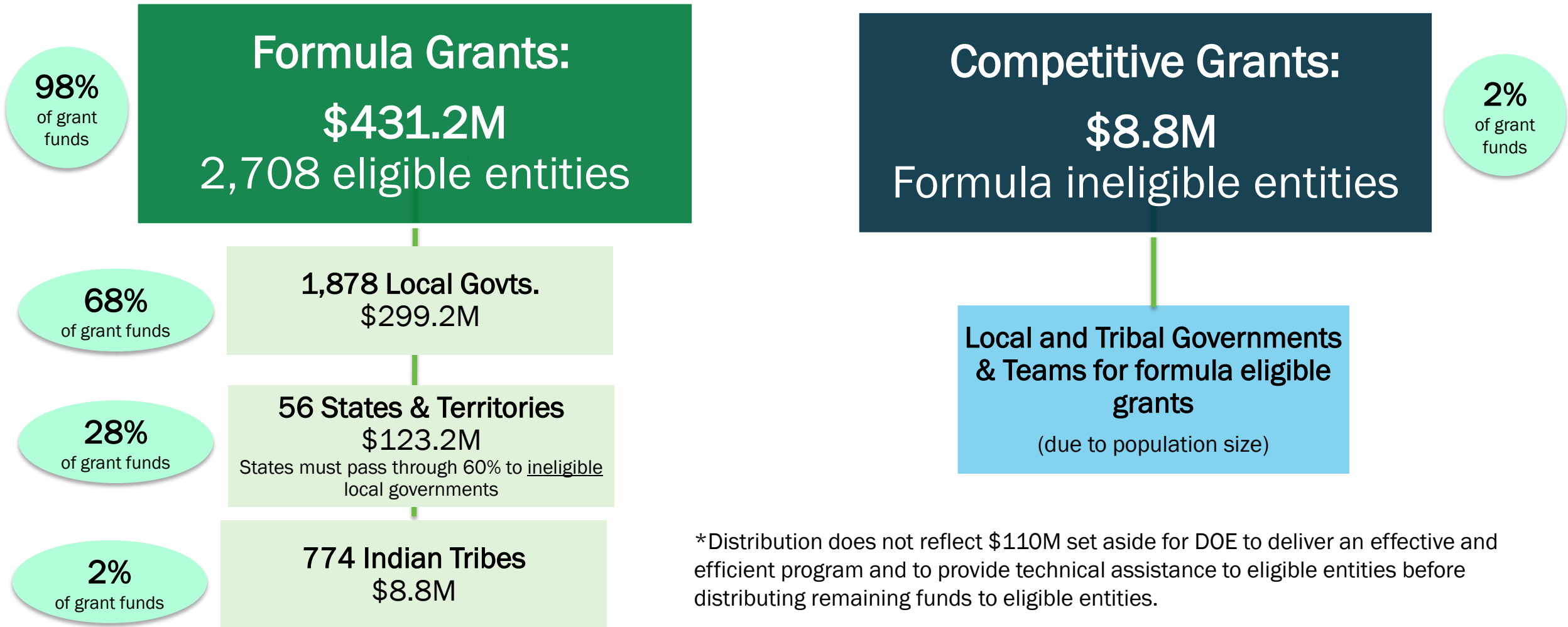
States can apply for EECBG Program formula funding through **July 2023**.
Local governments and Tribes can apply through **January 2024**.

EECBG Program Directly Invests in Over 2,700 Communities Across U.S.



EECBG Program Eligibility & Funding Distribution

Total Appropriation: \$550M



EECBG Program: Who is Eligible?

Formula Grants

Local Governments:

- Cities >35,000 people OR in the top 10 highest populated cities in the state
- Counties >200,000 people or in the top 10 highest populated counties in the state

Tribes:

- Indian Tribes, per section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act

States & Territories:

- 50 States, DC, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, U.S Virgin Islands, and Northern Marian Islands

Competitive Grants

Local Governments:

- Cities NOT eligible for formula grants
- Counties NOT eligible for formula grants

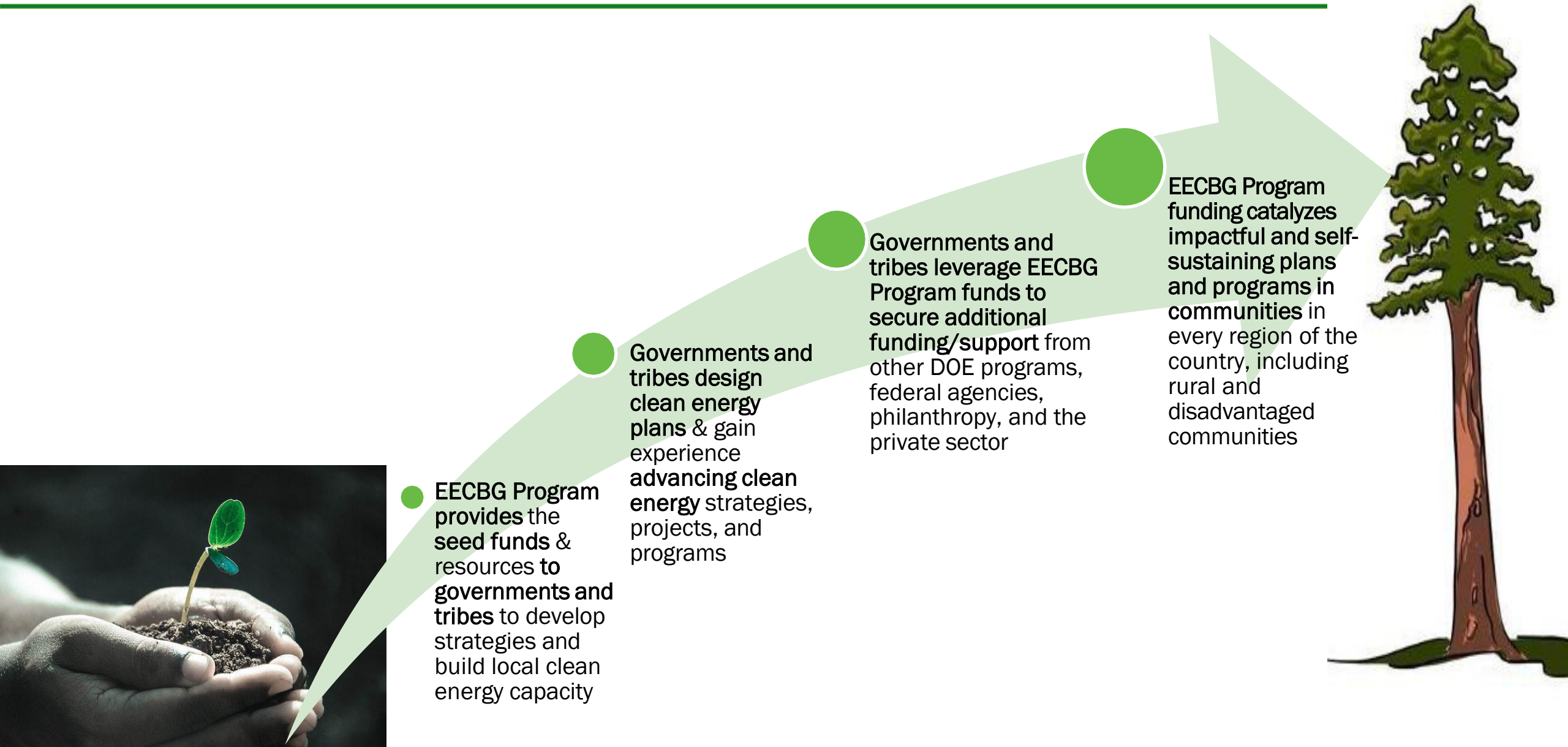
Tribes:

- State-recognized Indian tribes

States & Territories: Not eligible

+Teams of the local and Tribal governments


EECBG Program Funding Can Be Used As a Seed Investment



Flexible Funding Allows Govts. to Choose From Diverse Activities

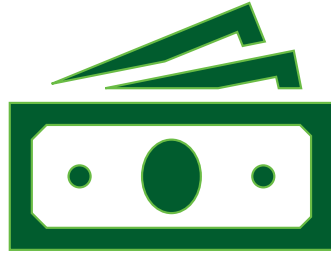
- ✓ Eligible activities range from strategy development to clean energy deployment
- ✓ Funds can be used community-wide; not just for government buildings and facilities
- ✓ Governments can fund clean energy *projects* or launch clean energy *programs*

1. Strategy Development
2. Technical Consultant Services
3. Building Energy Audits
4. Financial Incentive Programs
5. Energy Efficiency Retrofits
6. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs for Buildings and Facilities
7. Development and Implementation of Transportation Programs
8. Building Codes and Inspections
9. Energy Distribution Tech. for Energy Efficiency
10. Material Conservation Programs
11. Reduction and Capture of Methane and Greenhouse Gases
12. Traffic Signals and Street Lighting
13. Renewable Energy Technologies on Government Buildings
14. Programs for Financing, Purchasing, and Installing Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy, and Zero-Emission Transportation (and associated infrastructure) Measures



New activity
added by IIJA

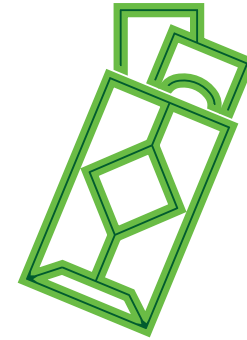
Local Govts. Can Choose Between Formula Grants and Vouchers



OPTION #1:

Grants

Local governments submit an EECBG Program Formula Application and receive their funds as a grant to utilize on an eligible activity of their choice



OPTION #2:

Vouchers

In lieu of a grant, **local governments** can opt-in to a voucher, which covers either:

1. A suite of technical assistance services AND/OR
2. Equipment purchase and installation rebates

This could be particularly beneficial for entities with limited staff resources or small award amounts, as there is a lighter administrative / reporting burden

Why Consider A Voucher Over a Grant?

DOE recommends eligible local and Tribal govts. receiving <\$250K consider the voucher option

- ✓ **Simplified application process.** Governments that choose vouchers will submit a separate application using a streamlined process with reduced documentation compared to applying for a federal grant.
- ✓ **Fewer start-up steps.** Governments that have never managed a federal grant will not be required to establish the financial management systems, including accounting for federal funds, invoicing, and internal audits typically needed to comply with federal grant management requirements.
- ✓ **Faster turnaround time to process application.** DOE can process voucher applications at least 30 days quicker than grant applications.
- ✓ **Significantly less administrative burden over time.** Governments that choose vouchers will have less monitoring and reporting requirements compared to administering a federal grant.
- ✓ **Direct support from technical experts & streamlined path for equipment purchases.** Governments that select vouchers will get direct support from clean energy experts and streamlined path for equipment purchase and installation rebates for a wide range of technologies.

EECBG Program Application Process and Timelines

Application Period	Application Submittal Timeframe	Application Types Accepted
1	Jan. 18, 2023 – Apr. 28, 2023	State, local, & tribal applications in one or more priority categories
2	Jun. 1, 2023 – July 31, 2023	
3	Sept 1, 2023 – Oct 31, 2023	Local and Tribal Applications <i>only</i>
4	Dec. 1, 2023 – Jan 31, 2024	

Priority Categories for Applications:

1. States
2. Entities following blueprints
3. Teams
4. Entities with activities benefiting disadvantaged communities
5. Entities with activities limited to strategy development, technical consultant services, analysis & stakeholder engagement

Application Processing Timeline:

- Vouchers: 30-60 days
- Grants following blueprints: Up to 60 days
- Grants not following blueprints: Minimum 90 days

Don't forget to submit [Pre-Award Information Sheet](#) by **April 28, 2023**

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Topline Information about EECBG Program Application

1. Eligible entities can apply now!

- Application information is available on our [Formula Grant Application Hub](#)

2. Pre-Application Steps (required for eligible entities that select the **grant** option):

1. **Register in the System for Award Management (SAM)** at <https://www.sam.gov/> and obtain Unique Entity ID (UEI) which is assigned by SAM
2. **Register in FedConnect**, which will allow eligible entities to receive and acknowledge their award, at <https://www.fedconnect.net/>
3. **Complete [Pre-Award Information Sheet](#)** and return it to eecbg@hq.doe.gov, which will allow DOE to set up eligible entities in the Performance and Accountability for Grants in Energy (PAGE) System at <https://www.page.energy.gov/default.aspx>

3. Application deadlines:

- **All Applicants:** submit [Pre-Award Information Sheet](#) by **April 28, 2023**
- **Local and Tribal Governments:** submit application by **January 31, 2024**

Local Energy Efficiency & Conservation Strategy (EECS) Requirements

Each local govt. must submit a proposed EECS that includes:

1. A description of the local government's goals for increased energy efficiency and conservation; and
2. A plan for the use of the grant in achieving those goals in accordance with the eligible use of funds

Each local govt. shall:

1. Develop a strategy that takes into account any plans for the use of funds by adjacent eligible local governments that receive grants under the EECBG Program; and
2. Coordinate and share information with the State in which the eligible local government is located to maximize the energy efficiency and conservation benefits

DOE has provided a streamlined EECS Template that local governments may use when submitting their EECS, but the template is not required.

Local govts. may submit the EECS with their application through the PAGE system when they apply OR not later than 1 year after the effective date of the award

Grants: Required Steps & Documents To Apply

Registration Requirements:

1. Register in SAM (allow several weeks)
2. Register in FedConnect
3. Register in PAGE
4. Obtain DUNS number for all prime and sub awardees
5. Obtain EIN and UEI number (via SAM)

Templates and Resources

- Visit the [EECBG Application Hub](#) for all application materials and instructions, including the following templates:
 - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy (submit online, in PAGE)
 - EECBG Program Activity file (submit online, in PAGE)
 - NEPA Statement of Work (downloadable PDF)
 - SF-424, Budget Justification templates (submit online in PAGE)

Application Materials (required for grants)

- **Pre-Award Information Sheet (Due April 28, 2023)**
- **Application and Budget files**
 - Standard Form 424 (Application form)
 - Standard Form 424A (Budget summary)
 - Budget Justification:
 - Personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, supplies, contractual, other direct costs, indirect costs
 - Indirect Rate Agreement or Rate Proposal (if applicable)
 - A link to the applicant's latest single audit as required by 2 CFR 200 Subpart F
- **EECS and Activity File**
 - EECS (optional template) and Activity File (proposed activities, including activity area, funding and milestones)
- **Compliance and Assurances**
 - Verify compliance with Intergovernmental Review SPOC list
 - Assurance Letter: Davis Bacon Act
 - Authorized Applicant: (Assurance Letter or Tribal Resolution)
 - NEPA Statement of Work (for expedited reviews)
 - NEPA Environmental Questionnaire (EQ-1), if directed to submit
 - Certifications regarding Lobbying (SF-LLL Disclosure Form)

Vouchers Only: Required Steps & Documents To Apply

Required Activities & Materials:

1. Compile contact information for Principal Investigator and Business Officer
 - Determine teaming partners (if applicable)

Strategic Design

- Pre-Award Information Sheet (**Due April 28**)
- Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy (EECS)
- EECBG Formula Program Voucher Application
- *For TA voucher:* Summary description of the technical assistance request, including a proposed scope of work and budget.
- *For Rebate:* Summary description of the requested equipment, proposed location and facility type (i.e., municipal building, school, commercial or residential building, or site) and estimated cost

Note: there is significantly less paperwork for the voucher option!

See Appendix 1 in the Application Instructions for a comparison of the application materials for grants vs. vouchers

Limitations: For States & Territories Only

- States are **required to sub-grant at least 60 percent of their allocation** to local governments in their state that are not eligible for direct formula grants from DOE.*
 - States are required to provide the subgrants within 180 days of DOE approval of the State's application
- State may not use more than **10 percent** of amounts provided under the program for administrative expenses.

**American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the District of Columbia, Guam, Hawaii, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are exempt from having to provide subgrants.*

Limitations: For Local & Tribal Governments Only

- Up to **10 percent or \$75,000**, whichever is greater, of grant funds may be used for **administrative expenses**, excluding the cost of meeting the reporting requirements of the Program.
- Up to **20 percent or \$250,000**, whichever is greater, of the grant funds may be used for the establishment of **revolving loan funds**.
- Up to **20 percent or \$250,000**, whichever is greater, of the grant funds for the provision of subgrants to nongovernmental organizations for the purpose of assisting in the implementation of the energy efficiency and conservation strategy.

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Utilize EECBG Program Funds to Advance Energy Justice

Step 1: Map Investments to Disadvantaged Communities

- DOE Energy Justice Mapping Tool:
- [Energy Justice Dashboard \(anl.gov\)](https://anl.gov/energy-justice-dashboard)
- CEQ's CEJST Mapping Tool:
- [Explore the map - Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool \(geoplatform.gov\)](https://geoplatform.gov/explore-the-map-climate-economic-justice-screening-tool)

Note: DOE working definition of disadvantaged is based on cumulative burden and includes data for thirty-six (36) indicators collected at the census tract level. These indicators fall within the following four categories (the number in parenthesis provides the number of indicators in each category):

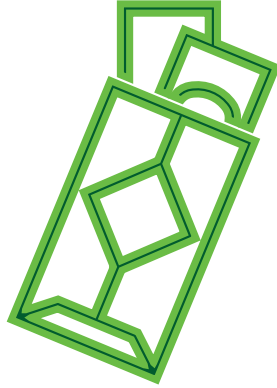
- Fossil Dependence (2)
- Energy Burden (5)
- Environmental and Climate Hazards (10)
- Socio-economic Vulnerabilities (19)

Step 2: Consider Policy Priorities that Align with Justice40 Initiatives

A benefit can be identified as accruing to a disadvantaged community if it achieves or contributes to one or more of the eight policy priorities in and for disadvantaged communities identified below:

1. Decrease in energy burden
2. Decrease in environmental exposure & burdens
3. Increase in access to low-cost capital
4. Increase in job creation, the clean energy job pipeline, and job training for individuals
5. Increases in clean energy enterprise creation and contracting (e.g., minority-owned or disadvantaged business enterprises)
6. Increases in energy democracy, including community ownership
7. Increased parity in clean energy technology access and adoption
8. Increase in energy resilience

Use Vouchers for Technical Assistance and/or Equipment Rebates



Vouchers simplify & streamline process

- Vouchers are equivalent to formula allocation amount
- Entities that opt into vouchers are not required to apply for and administer a direct federal grant
- Instead, they will submit a separate application using a streamlined process with reduced documentation, monitoring and reporting requirements
- Not obligated to establish financial management systems typically required for federal grant management

Example Voucher Applications

Technical Assistance

- Policy, Planning & Program Design
- Building Retrofits Planning and Design
- Engineering and Modeling
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement
- Program Admin. & Implementation Support

Equipment Rebates

- Tech to retrofit buildings (e.g., HVAC, heat pumps, windows, insulation, weatherization materials)
- EVs and EV charging stations and equipment
- Equipment for renewable energy (e.g., wind, solar)
- Metering equipment
- Electric system upgrades to accommodate technology installations

Consider Teaming to Maximize Local & Regional Impact



All eligible entities are encouraged to team up with neighboring or peer eligible governments

- Teaming opportunities are flexible, dependent on local needs
- Each team must opt for either vouchers or grants
- Submit a single joint application to DOE, with one eligible EECBG Program entity as the Prime Applicant
- Entities on a team may choose to jointly fund activities, but each entity will receive its own EECBG Program grant or voucher
- Each entity will be ultimately responsible for accounting and tracking & reporting the use of their own funds and outcomes
- Teams may consist of any number of eligible entities (2 minimum)

Example Teaming Opportunities

- Create a regional clean energy infrastructure strategy
- Stand up an energy efficiency workforce training program serving several communities
- Create a low-interest regional financing program for income-qualified residential energy retrofits
- Pursue energy audits and retrofits of buildings across several communities and hire a shared energy manager to support projects across the communities

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Webinars & Technical Assistance

During application period, DOE will...

Host webinars to support applicants

1. Voucher & Technical Assistance Deep Dive
2. Technical support to submit applications
3. Justice40
4. Learning from past EECBG Program experiences
5. Leveraging EECBG Program funding into more support



During implementation, DOE will...

Provide technical assistance to entities

- Support for comprehensive energy strategy development
- Blueprints and technical assistance to plan and execute high-impact clean energy projects and programs
- Tools and online resources to support project and program implementation
- Access to experts via collective learning sessions to build capacity and knowledge
- Webinars & workshops to promote peer learning opportunities and best practices

The EECBG Program Team is Available To You



EECBG@hq.doe.gov email inbox

- The EECBG Program team monitors the inbox daily
- Aims to return to all questions within a week's time
- A separate inbox, community@hq.doe.gov can help with questions about the competitive grant



Pilot: Bi-Weekly Office Hours

- The EECBG Program will pilot bi-weekly virtual office hours (Fridays @ 1pm ET)
- Format is subject to change based on interest & need



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Q&A
