



# Grid Resilience Formula Grants for Tribes

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US Department of Energy  
February 9, 2023



# Grid Resilience Formula Grants for Tribes

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# Webinar Goals

1. Provide overview of the Grid Resilience Formula Grants
2. Explore application process & locations of key materials
3. Survey responses to commonly asked questions
4. Answer your questions



# The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides \$13B for grid resilience over the next five years

Program	Funding Amount	Important Dates
<b>Grid Resilience Formula Grants</b> <i>Sec. 40101(d)</i>	\$2.3B	Applications Due: March 31, 2023 (FY22 and FY23)
<b>Grid Resilience Innovation Partnership (GRIP)</b>		
<b>Grid Resilience Industry Grants</b> <i>Sec. 40101(c)</i>	\$2.5B	Concept Papers Submitted: December 16, 2022 DOE Responses: February 2023 Applications Due: April 6, 2023
<b>Smart Grid Grants</b> <i>Sec. 40107</i>	\$3B	Concept Papers Submitted: December 16, 2022 DOE Responses: February 2023 Applications Due: March 17, 2023
<b>Grid Innovation Program</b> <i>Sec. 40103(b)</i>	\$5B	Concept Papers Submitted: January 13, 2023 DOE Responses: March 2023 Applications Due: May 19, 2023

# Grant Highlights

- Non-competitive grant for projects reducing the likelihood and consequences of electrical outages due to extreme weather, wildfire and natural disasters
- Application deadline is **March 31, 2023** for first 2 years of funding (out of five years)
  - Apply by deadline to “secure” funding
  - Applications do not need to identify specific projects. Projects can be specified after funding is awarded
  - Sample application templates and resources available to assist
- Subgrant and cost match requirements



# The Grid Resilience Formula Grant program is driven by four strategic goals



Demonstrate measurable improvements in energy resilience to all hazards in the United States and mitigate climate-related risk



Invest in modernized grid infrastructure that can enable consumer access to lower-cost energy and accommodate increased electrification, increased penetrations of variable renewable electricity and distributed energy resources, and other evolving system needs over the coming decades



Invest in clean energy and decarbonization solutions to achieve a carbon-free power sector by 2035 and net-zero greenhouse gas emissions economy-wide by 2050



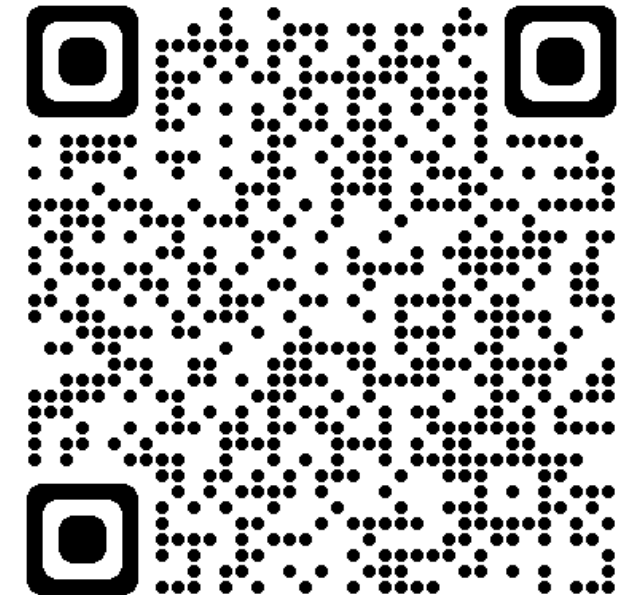
Create good-paying jobs with the free and fair choice to join a union

# Allocations available to Indian Tribes

- \$96 Million available for FY22
- \$85 Million available for FY23-FY26

## Tribal Allocations for FY22 + FY23

\$50-\$100K:	45 Tribal entities
\$100-500K:	660 Tribal entities
\$500K - \$1M:	49 Tribal entities
\$1M - \$5M:	23 Tribal entities



Use the QR code or URL to find your tribe's allocations:  
<https://netl.doe.gov/bilhub/grid-resilience/formula-grants>

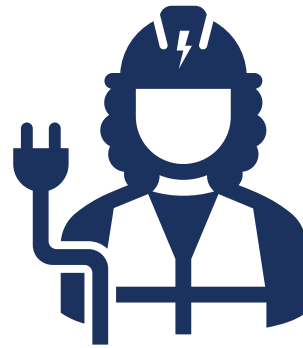


# How are funds allocated?

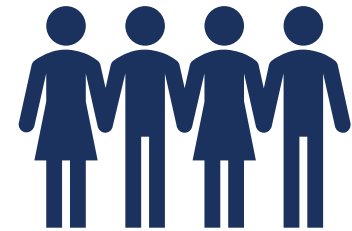
Five funding factors:



Land area



Severity of  
disruptive  
events



Population



Probability of  
disruptive events



Expenditure on  
mitigation efforts

# Resilience investments permitted under the Grid Resilience Formula Grant program

## Potential Investments include:

- utility pole management,
- hardening of power lines, facilities, substations, of other systems,
- undergrounding of electrical equipment,
- replacement of old overhead conductors and underground cables,
- relocation of power lines or the reconductoring of power lines with low-sag, advanced conductors,
- vegetation and fuel-load management,
- weatherization technologies and equipment,
- fire-resistant technologies and fire prevention systems,
- monitoring and control technologies,
- use or construction of distributed energy resources for enhancing system adaptive capacity during disruptive events, including microgrids, and battery-storage subcomponents,
- adaptive protection technologies, and
- advanced modeling technologies

## Ineligible Investments

- Construction of a new electric generating facility
- Large-scale battery storage facilities not being used to supply electricity where needed during disruptive events
- Cybersecurity measures



# Tribes must subgrant to 'eligible entities' to execute grid resilience projects

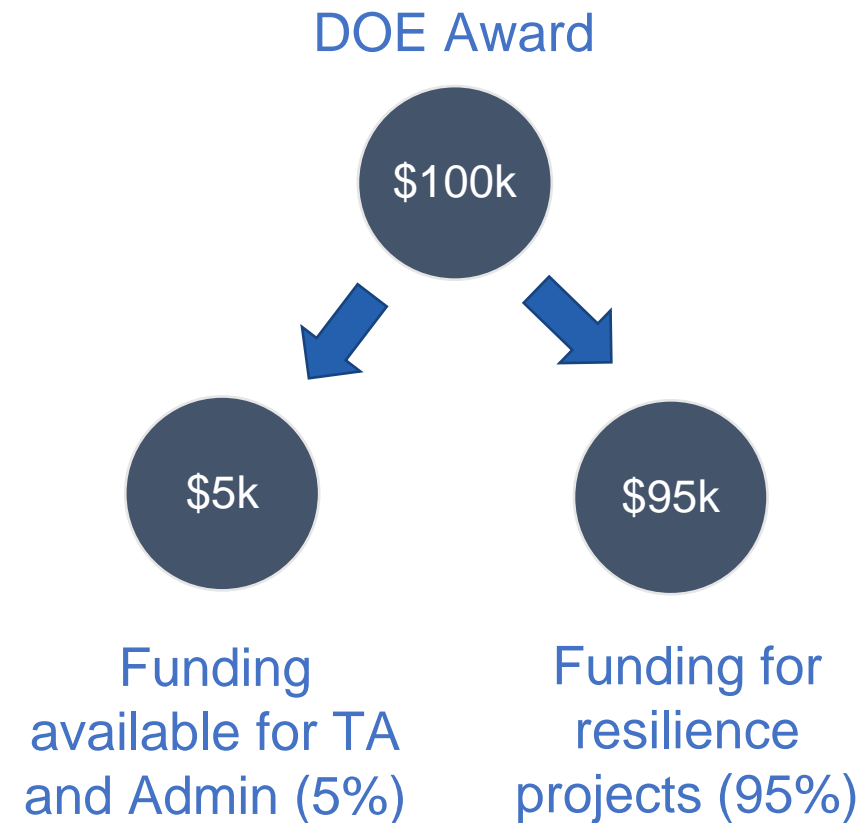
## Eligible Entities

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



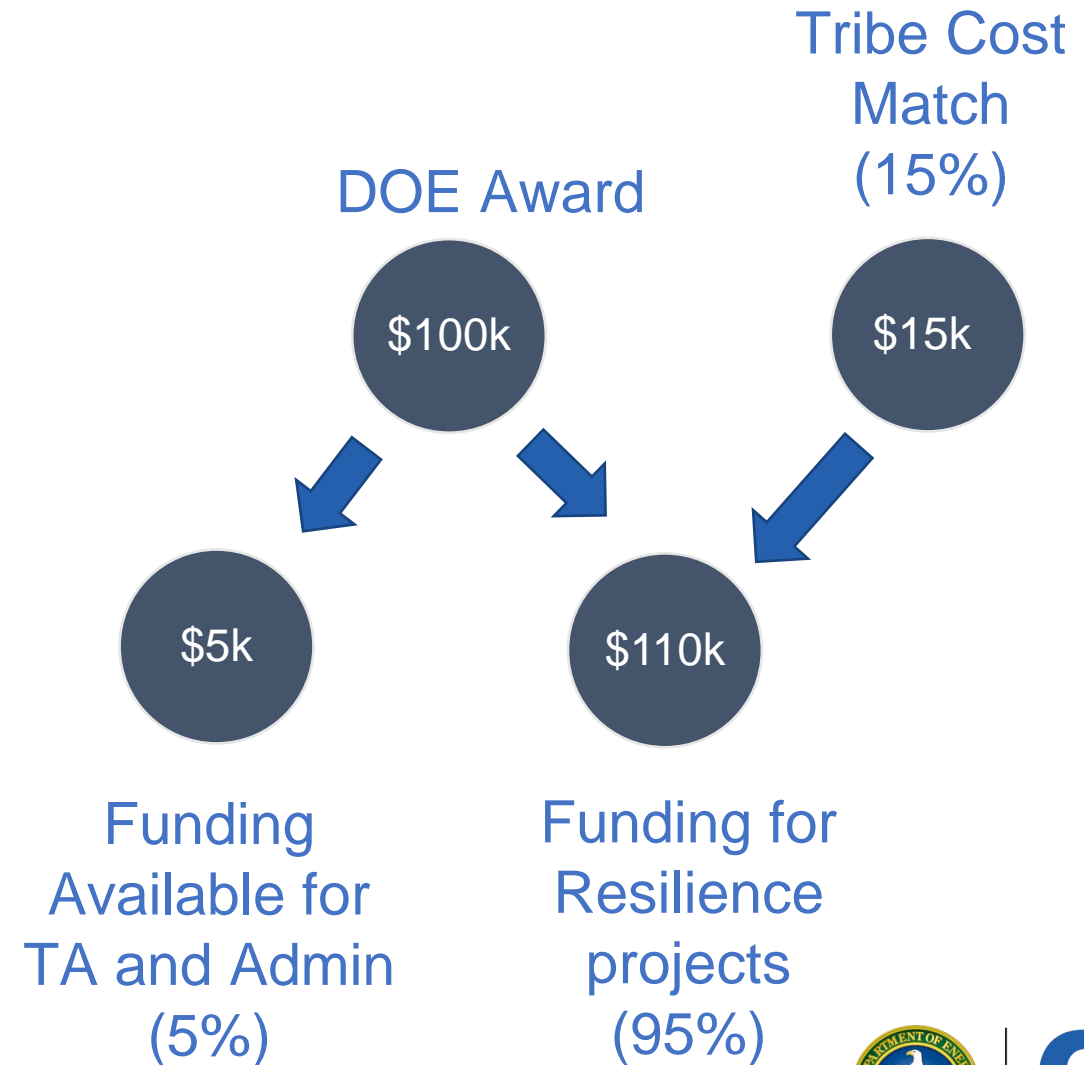
# Up to 5% of federal funding can be used for technical assistance and program administration

- These activities could include:
  - Providing technical assistance
  - Facilitating the distribution of information to reduce the likelihood and consequences of disruptive events
  - Administrative expenses associated with the program.
- This 5% could be given to a third-party to provide administrative and technical support



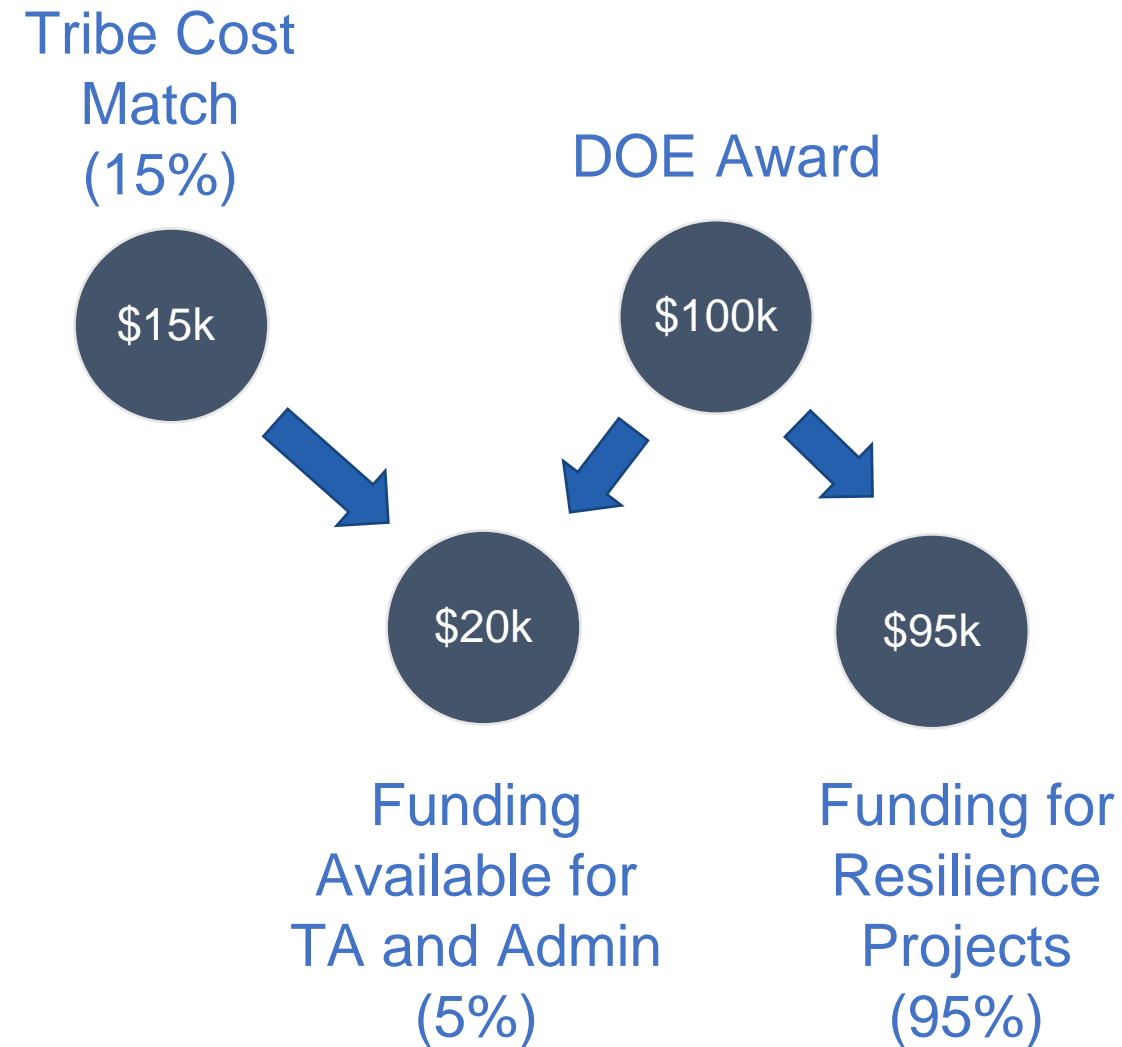
# Grant recipients must provide a 15% cost match

- Cost match can be **in-kind contributions**, such as staff time, or cash.
- Cost match can be provided by other entities.
- With very limited exceptions, federal funding cannot be used as cost match for these federal grants.



# Grant recipients must provide a 15% cost match

- Some or all of the 15% cost match can also be used for technical assistance and program administration



# Subgrantees must also provide a match

- Any eligible entity that receives a subgrant under this program must match 100% of the amount of the subgrant
- However, if the subgrant entity sells  $\leq 4,000,000$  MWh of electricity per year, the required match will be 1/3 of the amount awarded to the subgrantee

## Large Subgrantee:



## Small Subgrantee:



# Two Key Application Components

## Program Narrative

- At a minimum, it should address the anticipated categories of eligible entities the State or Indian Tribe anticipates carrying out these projects through subawards, and the process for selecting those eligible entities.
- *Sample Program Narrative template is available.*

## Head of Government Letter

- Identifies the sole entity within the State or Indian Tribe to apply for, receive, and administer the award.





# Program Narratives should include several key items

## **Objectives and Metrics**

3-5 objectives and metrics that are driving resilience investments in your application

## **Criteria**

The criteria you will use for selecting and determining awards to eligible entities

## **Methods**

A description of the process you will use to solicit, award and distribute the funds (and track the proposed metrics)

## **Funding Distribution**

A description of the proposed funding distributions and categories of subgrant recipients

## **Equity Approach**

A description of how the Tribe will ensure their proposal will incorporate: (a) quality jobs, prioritize the greatest community benefits, and (c) share or maximize project benefits across disadvantaged communities.

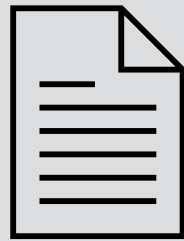
## **Technical Assistance & Administration**

An explanation for how you plan to use the 5% of funds for TA and project administration

## **Public Notice & Hearing**

A description of public notice and hearing activities, as required by 40101(d)(2)(B)(ii)

# Two key actions to complete prior to March 31<sup>st</sup>



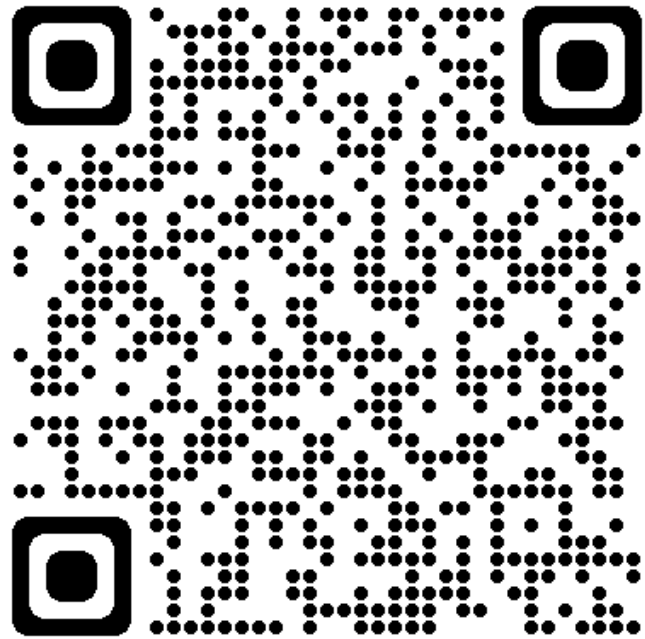
Public Notice



Public Hearing



# Helpful Resources



Apply at: <https://www.energy.gov/gdo/gridresilience>

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## APPLICATION RESOURCES

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- [Application forms and templates](#)
- [Allocation of grants to States and Tribes](#)
- [Administrative and Legal Requirements Document](#)
- [Application and administrative frequently asked questions](#)
- [Application assistance and example Program Narrative](#)

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Visit the [Grid and Transmission Program Conductor](#) to see which financing program is right for you.



# Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF)

- Non-competitive grant available to federally recognized Tribes
- Tribes have broad discretion over how they use these funds
- \$500M for eligible Tribal governments

Application deadline is  
**February 28, 2023**



Use the QR code or URL to find out more:  
<https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/local-assistance-and-tribal-consistency-fund>



# Frequently Asked Questions

# Project-Level Information

**Do applicants need to provide detailed information for the subaward resilience projects, such as a detailed budget, when we submit the application for the grant?**

- Applicants should NOT provide detailed resilience project subaward information in their program narratives.
- After grants have been awarded, Tribes may provide project specifics (e.g., budget) to DOE in accordance with ALRD Section V.G – Resilience Project and Subaward/Subcontract Notification.



# Public Hearings

## What requirements must Tribes meet to satisfy the public hearing requirement ahead of the March 31 deadline?

- The purpose of the public hearing is to foster comments from diverse stakeholders on the criteria and methods being considered by a Tribe for undertaking the Section 40101(d) formula grant program.
- Applicants may issue notice and conduct public hearings in a way that is most appropriate for their Tribe.



# Self-Determination Act Funding

## May Tribes use Self-Determination Act funding for cost match under Section 40101d?

- Yes, Indian Tribes may use Self-Determination Act funding for cost match under Section 40101(d) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) as long as the contract for funding under the Self-Determination Act contemplates use of funds for activities that will be undertaken pursuant to Section 40101(d) of the IIJA.





# Collaborative Projects

**May two or more Tribes combine some or all of their grant funding to collaborate on a project that mutually benefits all participating Tribes?**

- Yes. Multiple tribes can award funding to eligible entities that collaborate on a resilience project by combining allocations and the required cost match, provided:
  - Each Tribe finds that project provides the greatest community benefit in reducing the likelihood and consequences of disruptive events, and
  - The project aligns with the objectives of the Grid Resilience Formula Grant program
- Tribes collaborating on a project should track and report costs to DOE in a manner that verifies no double payments for work done on the full project effort



# Study Eligibility

## Can Tribes use 40101d funding for feasibility studies related to eligible grid resilience measures?

- Formula grant funding can be used for different types of studies. The scope and cost of the studies will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- If the study being performed is more exploratory and studying different options, then only the technical assistance funds could be used (capped at 5% of the federal funding received).
- However, if the study is focused on a specific project to determine project viability, performance specifications, bill of materials, etc. then it could be considered part of project implementation (and not subject to the 5% TA cap).



# Accumulation of Multiple Annual Allocations

**Can tribes receive and accumulate multiple annual allocations until they have enough resources to do a larger project?**

- A Tribe may accumulate annual allocations until it has sufficient funds obligated to the grant agreement to successfully complete the project, provided:
  - The Program Narrative identifies a strategy that requires accumulating multiple year allocations to initiate and complete an identified project.
  - Work is performed within the Period of Performance of the grant agreement (initially, five years).





# Contact Us



[https://www.energy.gov/gdo/  
gridresilience](https://www.energy.gov/gdo/gridresilience)



[GDOTribalAssistance@hq.doe.gov](mailto:GDOTribalAssistance@hq.doe.gov)

**Thank you**

