



U.S. Department of Energy State Energy Program August 2024 Monthly Bulletin

The State Energy Program is pleased to share the August 2024 Monthly Bulletin! The purpose of this email is to consolidate our communications and provide states with key deadline reminders, information about trainings and webinars, and updates about new tools and resources from the U.S. Department of Energy's State Energy Program. Please reach out with any questions.

SEP Office Hours on Friday, August 16th

SEP's next monthly office hours is taking place on Friday, August 16th from 12:00 pm – 2:00pm ET. Topics discussed will include updates to the [Low-Income Energy Affordability Data \(LEAD\) Tool](#) and use cases. Please reach out to StateEnergyProgram@hq.doe.gov if you do not have a Teams calendar invitation for the event.

PAGE Update

This is an important reminder that DOE is launching a new mandatory authentication requirement in PAGE. The existing multi-factor authentication (MFA) method will be retired effective, Sunday, August 18th, 2024, and the new authentication application, OneID, will take its place beginning **Monday, August 19th**. DOE will require all PAGE users to authenticate using either **Login.gov or ID.me**.

We highly recommend setting up a Login.gov or ID.me account as soon as possible to be set with your new login well before August 18th. The good news is if you already have a Login.gov or ID.me account, **you do not need to set up a new one for PAGE**. Your current established Login.gov or ID.me account can be used on all websites requiring this type of secure authentication (e.g., PAGE, Social Security, IRS). Once you set up your Login.gov or ID.me account, you can start using the OneID immediately in PAGE by selecting the Login with SSO button. **Reference the attached files for more information.**

Please review the following instructions for setting up and using Login.gov ([Login.gov Instructions](#)) and/or ID.me ([ID.me Instructions](#)) and if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the PAGE Team @ page-hotline@hq.doe.gov.

SEP Annual TA Plan

SEP distributed the draft plan for SEP Annual TA for your feedback via email on July 29th. Please submit your input and ideas to your PO and/or to StateEnergyProgram@hq.doe.gov by August 31. We will use your input to finalize the plan in September.

Upcoming SEP Deadlines and Opportunities

September 15th	Annual Historic Preservation Reports Due in PAGE for all awards
September 30th	Annual Summary due for PY23 for all July 1 st states
October 1st – 15th	Round 3 of SEP BIL Direct TA opens. Find more info on our webpage .
October 21st	Semi Annual Davis Bacon Report due in PAGE for all BIL awards
October 25th	Semi-Annual Davis Bacon Report due in PAGE for all ARRA awards
October 30th	Quarterly Reports due in PAGE
October 30th	NEPA logs are due to NEPA email and Project Officer

Upcoming Trainings, Webinars, and Conferences

August 15th 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm ET	ESPC Campaign Training: Getting Started with eProject eXpress
August 16th 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm ET	SEP Office Hours – <i>LEAD Tool and Use Case</i>
August 22nd 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm ET	SEP Training for new State Energy Office staff – SEP Overview
September 12th 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm ET	Quarterly Round Up – <i>SEP Programmatic and Financial Monitoring Overview</i>
September 20th 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm ET	SEP Office Hours – <i>Summarizing State RLF Programs and Technical Assistance Offerings</i>
October 18th 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm ET	SEP Office Hours – <i>DOE Technical Assistance Navigation</i>

Revolving Loan Fund Updates and Resources

[NASEO Request for Interest: Service Providers for Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund Capitalization Grant Program Award Recipients](#)

NASEO and Berkeley Lab are seeking information from service providers to support states in the design and implementation of Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund Programs. Service providers can register themselves as potential providers to assist State Energy Offices in one or more service areas, such as program design and administration, lending, and compliance. By registering, providers consent to make their information publicly available. State Energy Offices can use the list to find and contact potential service providers to support their revolving loan fund programs. Depending on state procurement policies and approaches, State Energy Offices may also be able to provide notification to listed service providers to respond to requests for proposals or other procurement opportunities. Service providers: Register to be publicly listed on this service provider list: [HERE](#).

RLF Awards Webpage

The RLF program has a new [awards webpage](#) with information about RLF awards made to date. This page will continue to be updated as awards are made.

RLF Frequently Asked Questions

The [frequently asked questions for RLF program implementation](#) were updated in July with additions to Davis Bacon Act requirements and other information.

Driving Uptake for Energy Efficiency Financing Programs

A new report [Driving Uptake for Energy Efficiency Financing Programs](#) identifies the primary factors that contribute to high uptake of energy efficiency financing programs including best practices in partnership networks with contractors and lenders, direct marketing, and program design. The report examines and distills the strategies and best practices used by high-performing programs from Michigan, Nebraska, Connecticut, Texas, New York, and elsewhere. The [report](#) can inform state and local governments that have established energy efficiency financing programs or are considering doing so but are seeking insight into how they can accelerate program participation.

Important Reminder on Grant Funds Management - *Considering placing SEP funds in a savings account? STOP and read below*

2CFR 200.305 governs scenarios where the recipient is permitted to draw funds in advance of project expenses, as opposed to the more standard practice of submitting program invoices for reimbursement. In cases where the recipient is permitted to draw funds in advance, 200.305 requires those funds to be deposited into an interest-bearing account in most cases (see 200.305(8) for exceptions). Per the same regulation, recipients are permitted to retain \$500 of this earned interest for administrative expenses, but anything over that amount must be remitted to the Federal government. Per the definition of Program Income at 2 CFR 200.1, interest earned as a result of advance-drawn funds being held in an interest-bearing savings account is **not** program income.

Payments of principal and interest on loans made with Federal award funds, by contrast, is considered program income. See 2 CFR 200.1.

For more information on how this impacts financing programs and third party administrators, read the [RLF Implementation Frequently Asked Questions](#) (page 19).

Reporting Tools and Resources

Davis-Bacon Act and LCPtracker Resources

DOE has released updated [resources](#) related to [Davis Bacon Act \(DBA\) requirements for recipients of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding](#). Resources include answers to [frequently asked questions](#) on DBA, [LCPtracker](#) information (DOE's payroll validation system to support DBA compliance), [Fact Sheet](#) & [FAQs](#) by the DOL, and a [webinar](#) on Davis-Bacon and BIL. Below are additional resources recently released by SEP:

- [Getting Started with LCPtracker](#)
- [DOE DBA Desk Guide](#)
- [DOE DBA FAQs](#)
- [A comprehensive guide to LCPtracker Administrator roles](#)
 - [LCPtracker Administrator User Manual](#)
 - [LCPtracker Prime Approver Guide](#)
 - [LCPtracker Contractor User Guide](#)
 - [Contractor Quick-Start Guide](#)
- 5/17/24 Office Hours – LCPtracker Training:
 - [Presentation Recording](#)

- [Slide Deck](#)
- [Q&A](#)

State Energy Program Website Updates

The State Energy Program regularly updates our website to keep the most up-to-date resources accessible. In addition to an updated [Home Page](#), SEP's [Program Guidance page](#) has been revamped! You can now more easily filter and search for past and current guidance based on Guidance Type, Calendar Year, and Topic. Stay tuned for further updates and please share any suggestions or feedback to StateEnergyProgram@hq.doe.gov.

SEP Success Story: Rhode Island

Funded by [DOE's State Energy Program \(SEP\) grants](#), the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) provided technical assistance for the [Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources](#) (OER). In Johnston, Rhode Island, OER led the Integrated Grid Planning (IGP) community input series in 2023 to increase renewable energy and load (power capacity) growth. [Learn more about Rhode Island's Success Story here!](#)

Ongoing Opportunities

Better Climate Challenge: Technical Assistance and National Recognition

Join the [Better Climate Challenge](#) (BCC) as a State partner and receive one-on-one technical assistance, access to networking and peer exchange opportunities, national recognition, and more.

This no-cost, voluntary partnership highlights and supports the excellent work of public and private leaders in decarbonizing their portfolio. If interested in learning more, please contact Nina Wuerch (christina.wuerch@hq.doe.gov) or join now by filling out the [Partnership Agreement!](#)

ESPC Campaign

The [ESPC Campaign](#) engages and supports building owners across the municipal and state governments, universities and colleges, schools and hospitals (MUSH) market to expand and enhance the use of ESPC to achieve significant energy, environmental, and cost savings benefits.

The ESPC Campaign offers trainings, webinars, peer exchange opportunities, and on-demand direct technical assistance to states and other MUSH organizations to share and demonstrate tools, resources and best practices, and showcase partners' achievements.

To join the ESPC Campaign or learn more, email ESPCcampaign@hq.doe.gov or fill out this [Expression of Interest form](#).

Visit the [State and Local Solution Center](#) and the [SEP TA webpage](#) for other upcoming events, updates, and resources.