



Q&A: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program

Answers to questions asked during the Local Infrastructure Hub's Advancing Energy Efficiency webinar on Sept. 13, 2022

Q: How can we work together with DOE to take full advantage of Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) programs? And as we transition to a city-wide clean economy, can you help us envision how EECBG can help our workers participate in the clean energy economy?

A: (Answered live by Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm) We want to work with communities to ensure they are aware of funding opportunity announcements. Our state and community energy programs will oversee a \$6 billion portfolio in funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), including the EECBG. We also want to ensure that states use federal dollars and partner with communities in distribution. The local government energy program will also help local communities participate in the clean energy transition.

Most of the jobs these laws will create do not require a four-year degree. Many of the new energy programs will require a workforce that resembles the current fossil energy workforce.

Q: Is there a "Rural Playbook" for clean energy efficiency that identifies key BIL programs or set-asides that a small city within a rural community can benefit from?

A: [This](#) recent resource from America Is All In focused on BIL transportation funding.

Q: How can mayors promote projects that have benefited their district and ensure that they are funded in the future?

A: (Answered live by Sec. Granholm) We need to develop more interest among members of Congress to fund this program (EECBG). The best way we can contribute is to make this current round of funding a success. Once we demonstrate that this project works, we can increase support for new funding.

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Q: Our city is looking into investing in electric vehicles (EVs) for our police. How can we achieve this?

A: Thanks for the question! Learn more about one city's hybrid and electric patrol vehicles [here](#).

Q: Sec. Granholm mentioned that EECBG applicants need an energy efficiency and conservation strategy. Where can we find the requirements?

A: Information about the energy efficiency and conservation strategies are outlined in the EECBG's [authorizing statute](#).

Q: Can you give us a sense of timing for the EECBG formula funds?

A: DOE is working to get the funds out as quickly as possible. There isn't a specific timeline right now, but DOE hopes to be able to share more information in the coming months.

Q: Where can I go to verify if my government entity will be provided funds through the formula allocation for local government?

A: The eligibility requirements for EECBG formula grants are outlined [here](#).

Q: Our city is trying to put together a list of EECBG projects. We know what our formula allocation was in 2009. Is it safe to assume that our allocation in 2023 will be about 1/6 of that amount?

A: The Federal Register Notice that Sec. Granholm referenced regarding the EECBG allocation formulas is available [here](#).

Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm provided an overview of EECBG and answered questions from mayors during the webinar. Other policy experts at DOE also provided answers. Visit the [Local Infrastructure Hub's website](#) for additional resources and expert advice.