Climate Action Bootcamp

Overview

The Climate Action Bootcamp is a unique program that will provide an overview of federal funding opportunities for projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in communities. The bootcamp will provide cities with (1) an overview of federal grant programs and tax credits that help fund and finance local climate projects under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (also referred to as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA); and, (2) support to identify and develop project proposals and grant applications around clean energy, electric vehicles, and energy-efficient buildings to help meet local climate action goals. Cities have access to three bootcamp paths:

- **Path #1 - Clean Energy:** Focused on clean energy programs (e.g., solar, wind).
- **Path #2 - Clean Vehicles:** Focused on electric vehicles and vehicle charging.
- **Path # 3 - Clean Buildings:** Focused on clean buildings and energy efficiency improvements / retrofits.

Categories

Transportation, Electric Vehicles, Buses, and Ferries; Clean Energy and Power; Clean Buildings, Energy Efficiency, and Retrofits.

Target Audience

All cities under 150k population interested in learning more about one or more of the above climate action pathways and/or intending to apply to one or more related grants.

Types of Grant Programs Covered

Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation - EPA: This program is currently supporting states, territories, tribes, and major metropolitan areas with developing plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions as part of Phase 1. In Phase 2, cities covered under these plans will have the opportunity to apply for competitive funding to implement aspects of each plan. Phase 2 grants will support the development and deployment of solutions that will effectively decrease greenhouse gasses.

> **Key Dates:** EPA anticipates that a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Phase 2 will be released in September 2023 with an anticipated deadline in April 2024.
> **Funding Available:** $5 billion (Phase 1 - $250 million planning; Phase 2 - $4.6 billion for implementation)

Environmental and Climate Justice Program - EPA: This program is addressing environmental and climate disparities by offering funding, technical assistance, and community engagement to support initiatives that promote justice and equity in environmental and climate projects. Cities will have the opportunity to learn more about the Biden administration's focus on equity and the Justice40 initiative and how to partner with community-based organizations applying for the funding opportunity.

> **Key Dates:** TBD - EPA has not released an anticipated NOFO date.
> **Funding Available**: $3 billion total ($2.8 billion for financial assistance, and $200 million for technical assistance)

Clean Heavy Duty Vehicles - EPA: This program provides grants and/or rebates to eligible recipients to replace dirty heavy-duty vehicles with clean, zero-emission vehicles. It also provides funding to support zero-emission vehicle infrastructure, and train and develop workers.

Key Dates: EPA anticipates the NOFO for this opportunity to open later in CY2023.
Funding Available: $1 billion in funding for clean heavy-duty vehicles, including $400 million for communities in nonattainment areas.

IRA Direct Pay - Treasury / IRS: Through the Inflation Reduction Act's (IRA's) "elective pay" (often called "direct pay") provisions, tax-exempt and governmental entities will be able to receive a payment equal to the full value of tax credits for building qualifying clean energy projects, including work to expand EVs/EV charging, clean energy generation, and housing/commercial building efficiency. Eligible entities will be required to submit pre-filing and filing applications, which are still being developed by the IRS. will learn key steps and eligibility information for qualifying EV/charging, energy, and housing/efficiency projects.

Key Dates: Pre-filing deadline expected in late CY2023.
Funding Available: N/A