



Welcome!

Get Green to Go Green: How to Get Energy Efficiency Grants for Congregations

June 15, 2023



EESI
Environmental and
Energy Study Institute



**BLESSED
TOMORROW.**
Caring for Creation Today

Agenda

- 5:00 pm Welcome + Prayer
- 5:10 pm Cohosts (thanks to our partners)
- 5:15 pm Daniel Bresette Introduction
- 5:20 pm Presentation
- 5:55 pm Q + A
- 6:10 pm Next Steps
- 6:15 pm Meeting Adjourned



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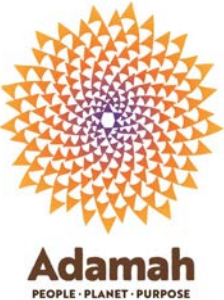


Moderator



Rev. Carol Devine
Director Blessed Tomorrow
ecoAmerica

Host Committee



Presenter



Daniel Bresette

President, Environmental and
Energy Study Institute

Opportunities for Energy Efficiency for Nonprofits

Daniel Bresette

About EESI



Non-partisan Educational Resources for Policymakers

A bipartisan Congressional caucus founded EESI in 1984 to provide non-partisan information on environmental, energy, and climate policies



Direct Assistance for Equitable and Inclusive Financing Program

In addition to a full portfolio of federal policy work, EESI provides direct assistance to utilities to develop “on-bill financing” programs



Commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice

We recognize that systemic barriers impede fair environmental, energy, and climate policies and limit the full participation of Black, Indigenous, people of color, and legacy and frontline communities in decision-making



Sustainable Solutions

Our mission is to advance science-based solutions for climate change, energy, and environmental challenges in order to achieve our vision of a sustainable, resilient, and equitable world.

Multiple Benefits of Energy Efficiency



Energy efficiency is *always* a good thing:

- Saves (previously wasted) money that can be reinvested to advance the core mission
- Improves sustainability and productivity of facilities and operations
- Contributes to community health, wellness, and resilience
- Sets a good example of environmental stewardship and community leadership
- Increases readiness for renewable energy, battery storage, and electric vehicles
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change

Renew America's Nonprofits Background



The [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021](#) includes a provision (Sec. 40542) to help nonprofits make investments in cost-effective energy efficiency projects

- DOE recently announced the [Renew America's Nonprofits](#) competitive grants to install “energy-efficiency materials” in “nonprofit buildings”



We know what “nonprofit building” means

- A building operated and owned by an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code



We know what “energy-efficiency material” means

- A product, piece of equipment, or system that results in a reduction of energy or fuel consumption, including roofs, lighting systems, doors, insulation, wiring and plumbing; and a heating, ventilation, or air conditioning system



We know the criteria for grants

- DOE will apply “performance-based criteria,” which will give priority to applications based on the energy savings achieved; cost-effectiveness; plan for evaluation, measurement, and verification of energy savings; alignment with Justice40; and financial need

Renew America's Nonprofits Program Structure



Renew America's Nonprofits is structured as an aggregate model--a nonprofit "Prime Recipient" assembles a portfolio of cost-effective and otherwise beneficial projects in buildings owned and operated by nonprofit "Subrecipients"

Prime Recipient—A 501(c)(3) Organization that:

- Assembles a portfolio of projects that will be funded by subawards of up to \$200,000
- Serves as program lead and manages all program activities
- Sources the 20% cost-share during the performance period



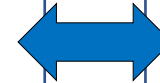
Subrecipients—501(c)(3) Organizations that:

- Owns and operates a building in need of energy efficiency improvements
- Receives a subgrant up to \$200,000 to implement measures
- Benefits and engages with "disadvantaged communities"
- Leverages funds from other sources for increased impact

Partner—An Organization that:

Supports and complements Prime Recipient capabilities by providing:

- Technical assistance,
- Financial assistance,
- Program management, or
- Community engagement








Q: Does a partner need to be a 501(c)(3) organization?

A: No, potential partners include financial institutions, state and local governments, utilities, energy service providers, community-based organizations, and more...

Renew America's Nonprofits Program Details



-  **How much will be awarded in total?**
 - \$45 million (out of the \$50 million provided by Congress)
-  **What will be the average amount awarded to Prime Recipients?**
 - Grants will likely range from \$3 million to \$9 million
 - Subgrants may be up to \$200,000
-  **How long will Prime Recipients have to complete projects?**
 - Performance periods will be between 36 and 48 months
-  **How many grants to Prime Recipients will be awarded?**
 - Between five and 15, depending on the amount of the awards
-  **Will a minimum cost-share be required?**
 - At least 20% of total project cost of the portfolio

Do you have other questions?

Let us know and we will help you find answers!

Renew America's Nonprofits Program Timeline



Milestone	Date
➤ FOA Issue Date	May 24, 2023
➤ Deadline for (Optional) Letters of Intent	June 29, 2023
➤ Informational Webinars	June 6 and June 8
➤ Virtual Office Hours	June 22 and July 13 (1 p.m. EDT)
➤ Submission Deadline	August 3, 2023
➤ Expected Date for Selection Notifications	October 6, 2023
➤ Expected Award Negotiations	January 5, 2024

Renew America's Nonprofits Applications Review Criteria



Applications will be evaluated according to four criteria

- **Criterion 1 - Project Team and Program Plan (40%)**
 - Effective technical assistance approach and plan for evaluation, measurement, and verification
 - Project team composition
- **Criterion 2 – Energy-Related Impacts of Portfolios (30%)**
 - Energy savings
 - Cost savings
 - Emissions reductions
 - Cost-effectiveness of measures
- **Criterion 3 – Leverage and Sustainability (15%)**
 - Leverage
 - Enduring impact of projects beyond the grant performance period
- **Criterion 4 – Community Benefits Plan (15%)**
 - Justice40
 - Meaningful community engagement and job quality

Elements of Competitive Applications



Applications should include the following elements

- **Project Narrative and Resumes**
 - Up to 15 pages to document how project will meet the performance-based criteria
 - Program workplan, goals, and approach; goals
 - Project team composition
- **Community Benefits Plan**
 - Establishes portfolio-wide SMART (i.e., specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and timely) and describes diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility goals
 - Plan for meaningful community engagement
 - Negotiated Workforce and Community Agreement to ensuring job quality
 - “Disadvantaged communities” that will realize benefits
- **Letters of Commitment for Subrecipient Facilities**
- **990 Form and Budget Justification**
- **Federal Assistance Application**

Applicants must register at [DOE eXCHANGE](#), [FedConnect](#), [SAM.gov](#), and [Grants.gov](#)—in that order...

All potential applicants should begin the registration process as soon as possible!

What Can Nonprofits Do to Be Prepared?



Learn about how energy is consumed in your buildings

- Catalog the make, model, fuel source, and age of the heating and cooling equipment, appliances, and lighting currently installed in your buildings



Benchmark your buildings

- Note the address, construction date, floor area, occupancy, irrigation area, and 12 months of utilities bills for of your buildings.
- Enter the required information into the ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager® software tool to evaluate the current energy efficiency of your buildings



Define success

- Set energy efficiency goals for your organization and consider how you will measure and report savings over time
- Identify internal and external stakeholders who might help you design and implement your energy efficiency project

What Can Nonprofits Do to Be Prepared?



Identify other sources of funding to leverage

- Based on their catalog of the heating and cooling equipment, appliances, and lighting currently installed in your buildings, identify applicable rebates offered by your utility and available federal and state tax incentives
- Research financing programs offered by their state energy office (or green bank), utility, and local banks and community development financial institutions



Research audit options

- Contact your local utility and compile a list of auditors and other certified energy professionals in your area



Read about the experiences of other nonprofits

- Make the most of the lessons-learned of your peers by networking with others who have successfully implemented energy efficiency projects
- Check out www.eesi.org for new case studies and other resources (and [subscribe](#) to our bi-weekly newsletter, *Climate Change Solutions*)

Educational Resources for Nonprofits



EESI Resources for Nonprofits

- [Increasing Clean Energy Justice and Resilience for Faith Communities Through Solar Energy](#)
- [Presenting the Beneficial Electrification Toolkit!](#)
- [Justice40 The Path Forward for the Administration's Environmental Justice Initiative](#)
- [Why Energy Efficiency is Important for Nonprofits](#)
- [How an Indiana Church Serves Its Community Through Clean Energy and Local Food](#)



DOE Resources for Nonprofits Applying to Renew America's Nonprofits

- [Justice 40 Disadvantage Communities Screening Tool](#)
- [IRA Energy Communities Map](#)
- [Application Forms and Templates](#)
- [Community Benefits Plans/Workforce and Community Agreements FAQ](#)
- Applicants need to be registered on [SAM.GOV](#) and [FedConnect](#)
- [EPA Portfolio Manager® software tool](#) for benchmarking facilities' energy usage



Inflation Reduction Act Incentives and Investments

- [Clean Energy Tax Credits Get a Boost in New Climate Law](#)

Learning from You



We are eager to learn more about you and how things are going...

We look forward to your feedback, comments, and questions...



EESI
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Thank you.

Daniel Bresette
President
(202) 662-1881
dbresette@eesi.org

Miguel Yañez-Barnuevo
Senior Associate
(202) 662-1882
myanez@eesi.org

www.eesi.org

Next Steps: Stay Connected

- Share the Information Sheet
- Connect with your denomination about being a Prime Recipient
- Stay Connected with and get to know the Cohost Organizations
- Sign up for updates from EESI
- Sign up for the Blog and Newsletter at BlessedTomorrow.org



THANK YOU!

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