

Funding Opportunities

Below are some upcoming grants, incentives and loans programs that may support local efforts to improve sustainability, reduce energy usage, improve resource conservation or reduce greenhouse gas emissions. For additional information and up to date information on potential funding programs you may be able to use to support your programs, please visit www.carbonconscious.us

Grants

Urban Greening Plans for Sustainable Communities Grant Program

Next round of funding information:

Currently, the Strategic Growth Council's Urban Greening Grants are in the second of three funding rounds and up to \$5 Million in Fiscal Year 2011/12 will be awarded. There are no minimum award amounts. The maximum request for funding is \$250,000. Larger grant awards may be considered for organizations that work together to develop joint planning documents that cover all jurisdictions involved. Matching funds are not required.

Organizations that are eligible applicants are defined in the statute as: Council of Governments, Countywide Authority, Metropolitan Planning Organization, Local Government (city, county, city and county), Joint Powers Authority if at least one of the parties to the joint powers agreement qualifies as an eligible applicant, Nonprofit Organization, or Special District. These grant funds are to be used "...for the purpose of creating urban greening plans that will serve as the master document guiding and coordinating greening projects in the applicant's jurisdiction."

Applications will be accepted April 1, 2011 through May 15, 2011. Awards are anticipated to be announced late 2011 and are contingent upon inclusion in and enactment of the State budget and available cash.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Sustainable Communities Research Grants – \$1.5 million

Application Due: March 4, 2011 (Due date extended)

Eligible Entities: Nationally recognized and accredited institutions of higher education; non-profit foundations, think tanks, research consortia or policy institutes, and for-profit organizations located in the United States.

HUD request proposals for the Transformation Initiative: Sustainable Communities Research Grant Program. Through this RFP, HUD is interested primarily in sponsoring cutting-edge

research in affordable housing development and preservation, transportation-related issues, economic development and job creation, land use planning and urban design, green and sustainable energy practices, and a range of issues related to sustainability. Up to \$1.5 million expected to be available, individual awards not to exceed \$500K. For more info, go to: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=61813>.

EPA Climate Showcase Communities Program

Due Date: Unknown

Ten million dollars are available for innovative, replicable sustainability projects and programs in the summer of 2010. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) launched a competitive grant program in 2009 to assist local and tribal governments in establishing and implementing climate change initiatives. The goal of the Climate Showcase Communities grant program is to create replicable models of sustainable community action that generate cost-effective and persistent greenhouse gas reductions while improving the environmental, economic, public health, or social conditions in a community. To see the 2009 awardees and to learn more about the program, please visit the EPA website at <http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/local/showcase/>

The 24 communities were selected in the first round of funding. An additional 25 communities were selected in the second round of funding and will be announced in Spring 2011. EPA will offer peer exchange, training, and technical support to grant recipients, and encourage replication across the country to promote the creation of sustainable climate management programs that are not only the foundation for stabilizing our climate, but also create jobs and fulfill other local government priorities.

EPA Integrated Assessment of Transportation-Related Policies on Greenhouse Gases, Land Use Change, and Other Economy-Wide Impacts – \$0.5 million

Application Due: February 17, 2011

Eligible Entities: States, local governments, territories, Indian tribes, and possessions of the United States

EPA requests proposals for Integrated Assessment of Transportation-Related Policies on Greenhouse Gases, Land Use Change, and Other Economy-Wide Impacts. Through this RFP, EPA seeks projects that advance comprehensive, integrated modeling and assessment of multiple greenhouse gases and air pollutants; to further the public's understanding of the interaction of the economic, energy, and environmental impacts of increased renewable fuel use in the U.S. transportation sector using a robust modeling framework. \$500K expected to be available, 1 award anticipated.

For more info, contact Sharyn Lie at lie.sharyn@epa.gov
or go to: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=61714>.

EPA FY11 Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant Guidelines – \$4 million

Application Due: March 18, 2011

Eligible Entities: State and local governments, tribes, non-profit organizations, other.

This notice announces the availability of funds and solicits proposals from eligible entities, including non-profit organizations, to deliver environmental workforce development and job training programs focused on hazardous and solid waste management, assessment, and cleanup-associated activities. While Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grants focus on hazardous and solid waste remediation and health and safety, including required core training in HAZWOPER, applicants may design their own curriculums by choosing what types of supplemental environmental training they want to provide.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields> or access the RFP at
<http://www.epa.gov/oswer/docs/grants/epa-oswer-oblr-11-01.pdf>.

EPA FY 2011 Pollution Prevention Grant Program – \$4.1 million

Application Due: March 29, 2011

Eligible Entities: States, state agencies, federally recognized tribes and intertribal consortia, others

EPA's Pollution Prevention (P2) grant program supports state and tribal technical assistance programs to help businesses identify better environmental strategies and solutions for reducing or eliminating waste at the source. EPA Regions will award P2 grants and/or cooperative agreements to support state and tribal technical assistance programs that address the reduction or elimination of pollution by businesses across all environmental media: air, water, and land.

Under this year's competition, proposals must describe activities that address one or more of the national focus areas: greenhouse gas reduction, toxic and hazardous materials reduction, resource conservation, business efficiency, and P2 integration. To complement the five national focus areas identified above, each EPA Region has developed a set of priorities that highlight specific environmental issues, projects, and/or programs that are of significant interest to the

Region. Applicants must address at least one or more of the priorities from the EPA Region in which the project will take place.

For more information, contact Michelle Amhaz at (202)-564-8857 or visit http://www.epa.gov/ogd/competition/open_awards.htm

Department of Transportation

Transportation Planning Grant Program

Due Date: March 30, 2011

Transportation Planning Grant funds are available for planning projects that improve mobility and lead to the planning, programming, and implementation of transportation improvement projects.

Now accepting applications for FY 2011-2012.

Please visit Caltrans at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/grants.html>

Department of Energy

Energy Efficiency Development and Deployment in Indian Country – \$4 million

Application Due: March 16, 2011

Eligible Entities: Indian tribes, tribal energy resource development organizations, or tribal consortia

DOE requests proposals for Energy Efficiency Development and Deployment in Indian Country. Areas of interest include: 1) feasibility studies to assess and determine the technical and economic feasibility of energy efficiency improvements to existing tribally owned buildings, and 2) installation of energy efficiency improvements at existing tribally owned buildings. Up to \$4 million expected to be available, up to 20 awards anticipated.

For more info, contact Kasey Koch at kasey.koch@go.doe.gov or go to: <https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/?doc=DE-FOA-0000423&agency=DOE>.

Department of Energy

Renewable Energy Development and Deployment in Indian Country – \$4 million

Application Due: March 31, 2011

Eligible Entities: Indian tribes, tribal energy resource development organizations, or tribal consortia

DOE requests proposals for Renewable Energy Development and Deployment in Indian Country. Areas of interest include: 1) feasibility studies to determine the technical and economic viability of a future renewable project, 2) development (pre-construction) activities leading to the deployment of renewable energy projects, and 3) deployment (construction) of renewable energy projects for power production. Up to \$4 million expected to be available, up to 20 awards anticipated.

For more info, contact Kathryn Buckley at kathryn.buckley@go.doe.gov or go to: <https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/?doc=DE-FOA-0000424&agency=DOE>.

Department of Energy

Weatherization Formula Grants – approximately \$180 million

Application Due: Varies by program year

Eligible Applications: Agencies that administer the WAP program

DOE requests proposals for the Weatherization Assistance Program Formula Grant. The purpose of WAP is to increase the energy efficiency of dwellings owned or occupied by low-income persons, reduce residential expenditures, and improve health and safety. Lead applicants must be agencies that administer the WAP program. Approx. \$180 million expected to be available, 50 awards anticipated.

Proposals due date varies by prime applicants program year.

For more info, contact Meghaan Hampton at Meghaan.Hampton@netl.doe.gov or go to: <https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/?doc=DE-FOA-0000446&agency=DOE>.

Department of Commerce

Economic Development Administration Public Works, Economic Adjustment, and Global Climate Change Mitigation Programs Opportunity – Likely ~\$25 Million

Application Due: Depends on funding cycle; next funding cycle is due to begin in March 2011

Eligible Entities: State and local governments, federally recognized tribes, non-profits, private institutes of higher education\

DOC's Economic Development Administration (EDA) helps distressed communities establish a foundation for durable regional economies throughout the United States. EDA generally allocates funds for the Global Climate Change Mitigation Incentive Fund (GCCMIF) to support projects that foster economic competitiveness while enhancing environmental quality.

EDA anticipates that these funds will be used to advance the green economy by supporting projects that create jobs through and increase private capital investment in initiatives to limit the nation's dependence on fossil fuels, enhance energy efficiency, curb greenhouse gas emissions, and protect natural systems.

While the amount of funding available through this opportunity is dependent on FY2011 appropriations and is not yet known, EDA allocated \$25,000,000 for the GCCMIF in 2010. The average size of a GCCMIF investment was approximately \$840,000.

For more info, including regional contacts, go to:

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=58457>.

Loans

Energy Conservation Assistance Account Program (ECAA)

The California Energy Commission (CEC) offers 1-3 percent interest loans to help local jurisdictions, public schools, public colleges and public hospitals invest in energy efficiency as part of the Energy Conservation Assistance Account (ECAA) Program.

For more information, please visit the [CEC ECAA website](#).

Rebates and Incentives

The California Solar Initiative

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) adopted the California Solar Initiative to provide more than \$3 billion in incentives for solar energy projects on existing and new residential and nonresidential buildings. The program offers expected performance-based buydowns for solar electricity and solar thermal installations.

For more information on applying for the buydown program, please visit the [CPUC Go Solar website](#).

California's Rebate Program for Wind & Fuel Cell Renewable Energy Electric-Generating Systems

The California Energy Commission offers cash rebates for small-scale wind and fuel cell renewable energy installations through their Emerging Renewables Program (ERP).

For more information and to apply, please visit the [Consumer Energy Center](#).

Assistance Programs

California Energy Commission Bright Schools Program

The Bright Schools Program helps California K-12 school districts and nonprofit schools reduce energy costs in their facilities. The program assists in conducting energy audits, reviewing existing proposals and designs, and developing equipment performance specifications. For more information and to apply for assistance, please visit the [Bright Schools Program website](#).

California Energy Commission Energy Partnership Program

The Energy Partnership Program assists California cities, counties, special districts, and public or nonprofit hospitals, public care facilities, and colleges/universities to reduce energy costs in their facilities. The program assists in conducting energy audits, reviewing existing proposals and designs, and developing equipment performance specifications. For more information and to apply, please visit the [Energy Partnership Program website](#).

Energy Upgrade California is an alliance among California counties, cities, non-profit organizations, government agencies, the state's investor-owned utilities (Pacific Gas and Electric, Southern California Edison, Southern California Gas Company and San Diego Gas & Electric, and publicly-owned utilities.

The goals of this statewide effort are four-fold:

1. Help residential and commercial consumers and the building industry become knowledgeable about the many energy and water efficiency programs and financing options that will be available during the next several years including the State Energy Programs, utility company home upgrade programs, local rebates, appliance and renewable energy rebates and energy financing programs.
2. Provide a consistent and clear message regarding how consumers can choose the best energy-efficient measures and the right contractors to provide those services.
3. Drive consumers and contractors to a central resource that provides educational information that links all the state energy efficiency upgrade, rebates, and incentive programs.
4. Educate the building trades and home improvement industry on jobs, training, and required certifications.

Funding for this effort comes from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), California utility ratepayers, and private contributions. Energy upgrade rebates are administered by participating utilities.

For more information: <https://energyupgradeca.org>