



Equitable Energy Future Grant Program NOFO Session #2

September 26, 2024



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity
JB Pritzker, Governor

Presenters

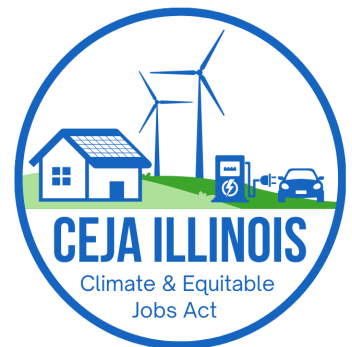
- **Aaron McEvoy, Equitable Energy Future Grant Manager**
DCEO - Office of Energy & Business Utility
- **Christine Flynn, Research Associate**
NIU – Center for Governmental Studies



Items of Note

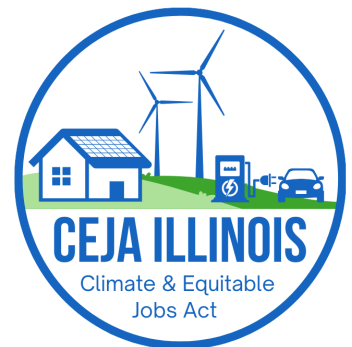


1. This session is being recorded
2. The recording and this slide deck will be made available in a follow-up email to this session and on the NOFO website
3. Please remain muted throughout the session and add questions in the chat with your questions. There will be a Q&A at the end of the session.



Overview

1. Climate & Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA)
2. Equitable Energy Futures Program
3. Grant Application & Submission Requirements
 1. Program Specific Application
 2. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Access (DEIA) Plan
 3. EEF Project Timeline
 4. Uniform Budget Template
4. Grant & Merit Review Process



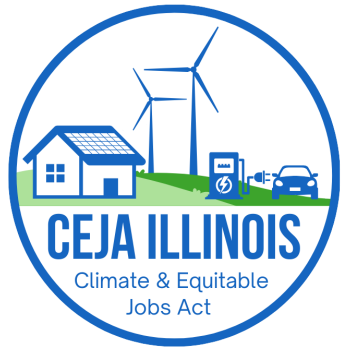


Did you join us for the NOFO session on September 19th?



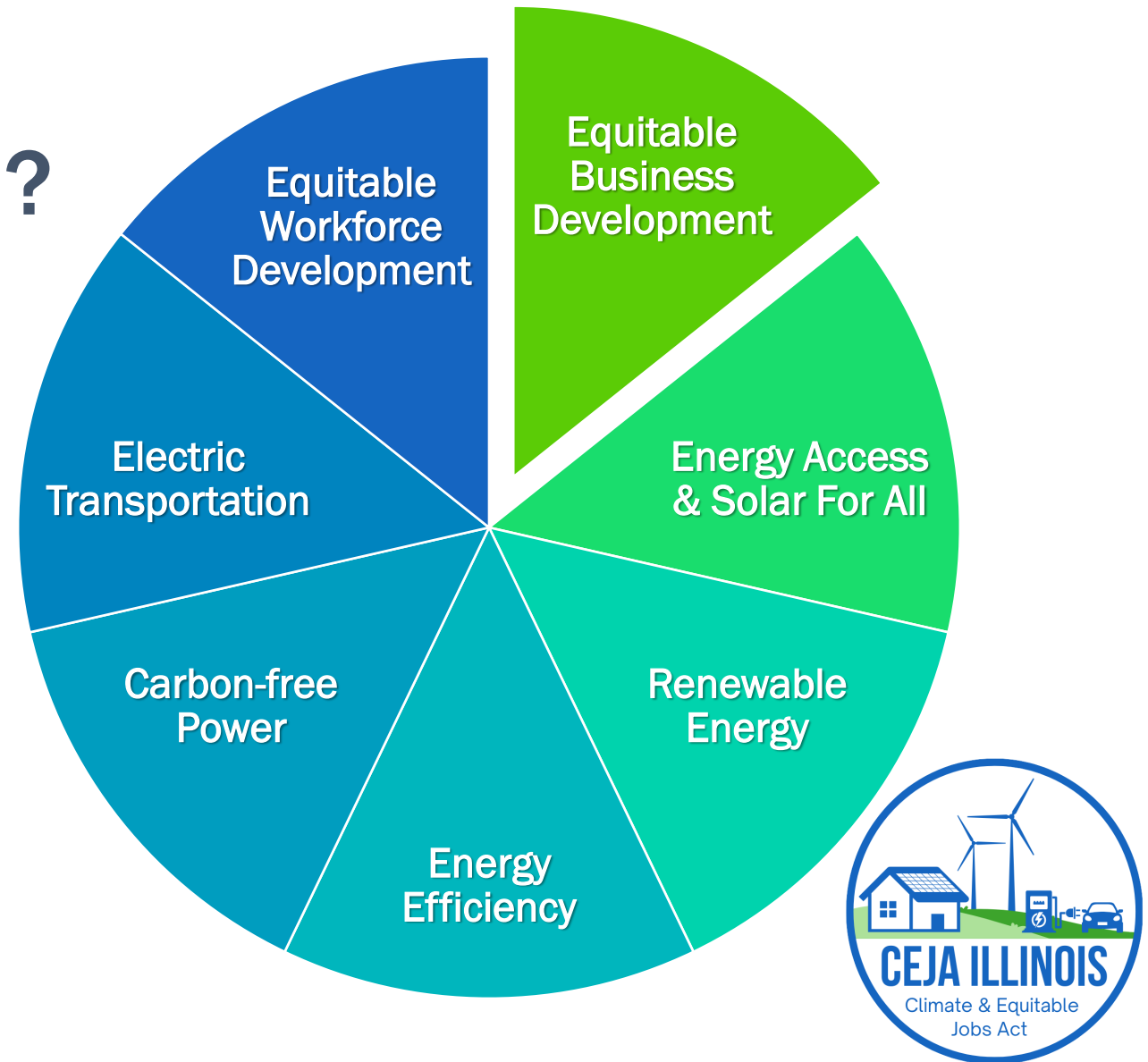


Climate & Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA)



What is the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) ?

Comprehensive energy legislation that centers equity and puts Illinois on track to achieve 100 % renewable energy by 2050.





Equitable Energy Future Grant Program



NOFO Fundamentals: Equitable Energy Futures



Funding Background & Goal

The Equitable Energy Future Grant Program (EEF) is one of the two grants funded under the Jobs & Environmental Justice Grant Fund

EEF offers pre-development funding to support the development of renewable energy & energy efficiency projects.

The goal of EEF is to remove barriers to project, community & business development caused by lack of capital.



Eligible Applicants

- **Equity Eligible Contractors**
Must be certified through the Illinois Power Agency's Equity Eligible Contractor program.
- **An Illinois business, non-profit, or cooperative organization that meets equity- building criteria.**

This determination is made at the time of application based on completion of the required Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access Plan.

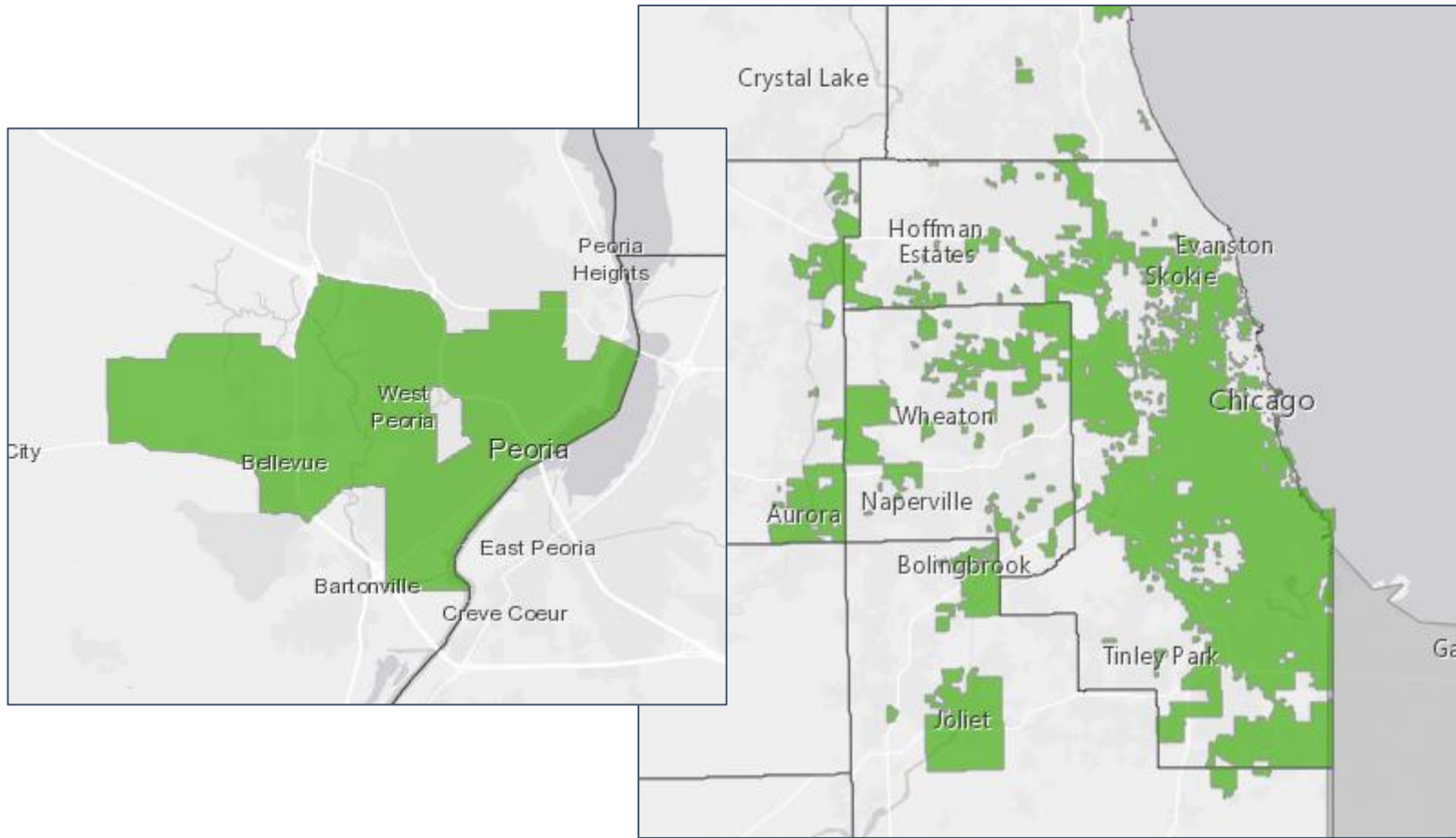


Funding

- **Total Funding:** \$25.5 million per year
- **Per Applicant Award:** \$250,000 - \$1,000,000
- **Estimated Number of Awards:** Up to 40
- **Applicants may apply for multiple projects.** However, applicants will only be approved for a total award amount of funds up to \$3 million between all projects.
- **Applicants may apply for both EEF and CSES.** However, they can only receive a maximum award between EEF and CSES of up to \$3 million.

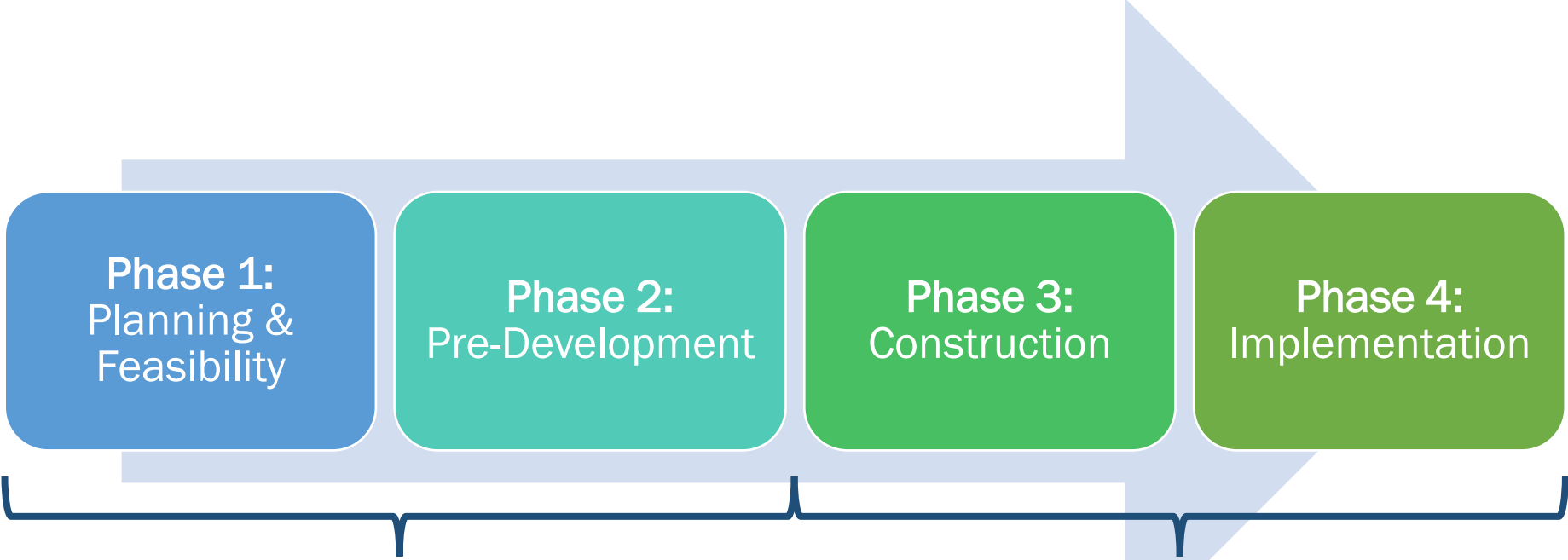
Priority projects are those that are located in or support an equity investment eligible community.

- Environmental Justice communities
- Restore. Reinvest. Renew (R3) communities



<https://energyequity.illinois.gov/resources/equity-investment-eligible-community-map.html>

Project Phases



Activities funded by EEF

Applications can be submitted for
Phase 1 only, Phase 2 only,
or Phase 1 & 2

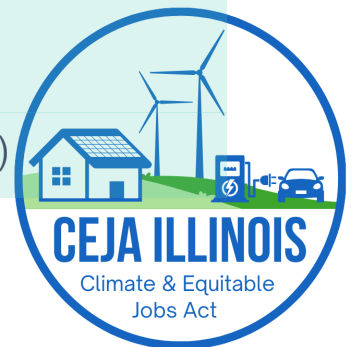
Activities not funded by EEF
(DCEO Reporting Required)

Construction & Implementation costs
are not allowable under EEF



Allowable Activities

Phase 1: Planning and feasibility	Phase 2: Pre-development construction
Market analysis	Selecting contractors/securing contracts
Property due diligence	Project application costs
Community outreach & engagement	Purchasing/leasing land
Architecture, design, engineering services	Permitting/zoning
Auditing, consulting, developer services	Interconnection application costs, studies
Project pro-forma/budget	Equipment & supplies related to pre-development
Site acquisition planning	Employee training and training supplies
Sourcing project funding	Community outreach, marketing, engagement
Project grant writing	Staff & operations expenses
Interconnection application fees	Transmission line development
	Site remediation and clean up (capped funding)





Grant Application & Submission Requirements



Program Specific Application

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access (DEIA) Plan

Equitable Energy Future Project Timeline

Illinois Power Agency EEC Certification (Required for EECs)

Letters of Community Support

Memorandum(a) of Understanding (if applicable)

Documentation of IRS Declaration(EIN letter, 501c3 etc.)

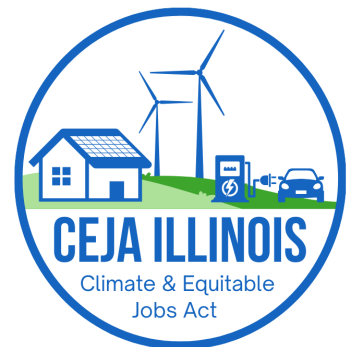
Documentation of Property Ownership or Authority to Improve Site

Phase 2 Specific Documents (refer to NOFO Page 6)

Program Specific Documents

Find all NOFO Materials and resources here:

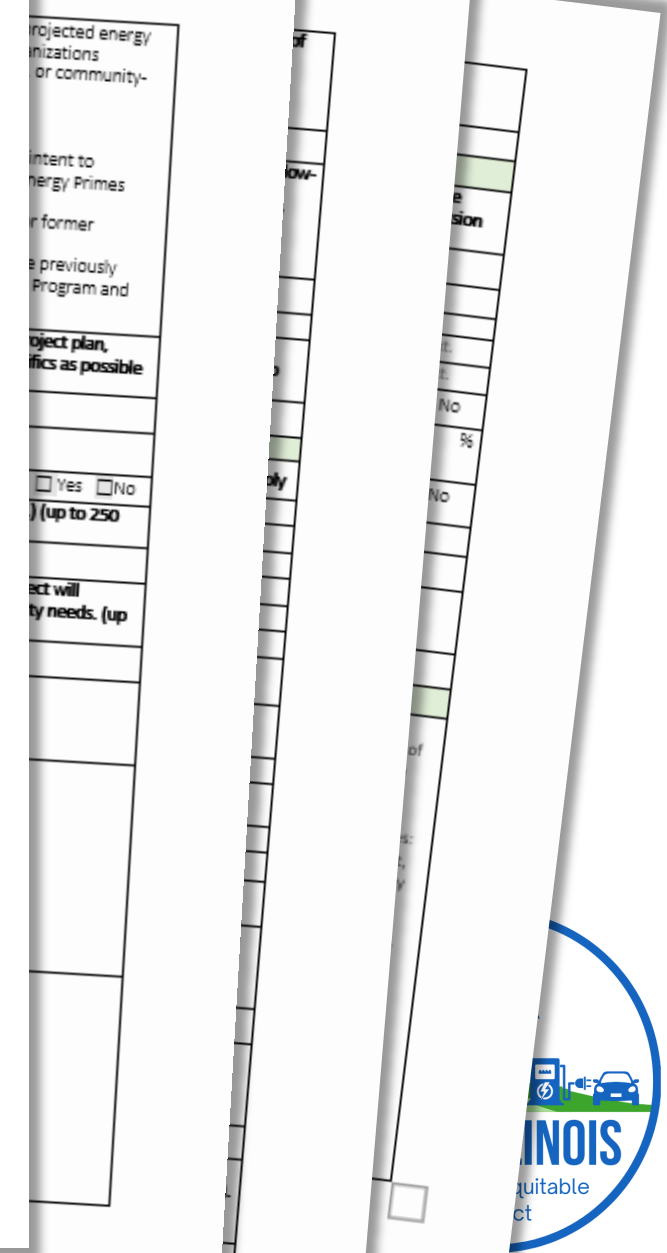
<https://dceo.illinois.gov/aboutdceo/grantopportunities/3054-2878.html>



Program Specific Application

Equitable Energy Future Grant Program Application 2024

Applicant & Eligibility Information (NOFO Section C)					
1. Applicant Name	Click or tap here to enter text.				
2. GATA #	Click or tap here to enter text.				
3. Business legal structure (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sole proprietorship <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership (limited partnership or limited liability partnership) <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Liability Company (LLC) <input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit organization <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperative: For-Profit or Not-For-Profit (circle one) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text.				
4. Does the applicant business/organization have a parent company/organization or subsidiaries? If yes, describe the structure and provide entity names	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Click or tap here to enter text.				
5. Annual revenue of applicant business/organization	<input type="checkbox"/> \$0-\$100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,001-\$500,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,001-\$1,000,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000,001-\$10,000,000				
6. Please indicate whether you are an Approved Vendor of either of the following programs.	<input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Solar for All Program <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Shines (Adjustable Block Program)				
7. If you are applying as an independent contractor offering personal services, please indicate which equity eligible persons criteria you meet. (Refer to NOFO Section A)	<input type="checkbox"/> I have graduated from or am a current/former participant in one of a CEJA/FEJA Workforce Program or a CEJA/FEJA Contractor Program (with the exception of Craft Apprenticeship Program). <input type="checkbox"/> I am a graduate of or am currently enrolled in the foster care system. <input type="checkbox"/> I have been convicted of a crime and was incarcerated for that conviction. <input type="checkbox"/> My primary residence is in an equity investment-eligible community. (See the equity investment eligible community map) <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable				
8. Did you receive assistance from any of the following to complete this application? (Refer to NOFO Section H)	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean Energy Contractor Incubator Program (when in operation) <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Energy Primes Contractor Accelerator Program (when in operation) <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business Development Center <input type="checkbox"/> APEX Accelerator (formerly Procurement Technical Assistance Centers) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable				
Proposed Project & Outcome Information					
(NOFO Section A – Program Description and Performance Goals and Measures)					
9. What is the grant amount being requested per phase?	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Phase 1</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Phase 2</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> </table>	Phase 1	\$	Phase 2	\$
Phase 1	\$				
Phase 2	\$				
10. Is this project an energy efficiency or renewable energy project? (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Efficiency <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy				
11. What type of project is being proposed? (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Renovation <input type="checkbox"/> New build <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text.				



Program Specific Application

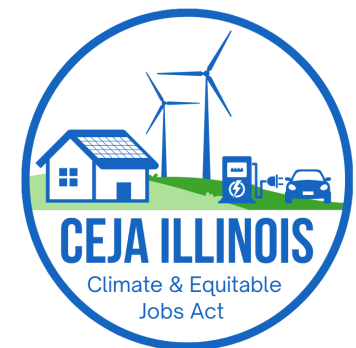
Equitable Energy Future Grant Program Application 2024

Applicant & Eligibility Information (NOFO Section C)		
1. Applicant Name	Click or tap here to enter text.	
2. GATA #	Click or tap here to enter text.	
3. Business legal structure (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sole proprietorship <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership (limited partnership or limited liability partnership) <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Liability Company (LLC) <input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit organization <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperative: For-Profit or Not-For-Profit (circle one) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text.	
4. Does the applicant business/organization have a parent company/organization or subsidiaries? If yes, describe the structure and provide entity names	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Click or tap here to enter text.	
5. Annual revenue of applicant business/organization	<input type="checkbox"/> \$0-\$100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,001-\$500,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,001-\$1,000,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000,001-\$10,000,000	
6. Please indicate whether you are an Approved Vendor of either of the following programs.	<input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Solar for All Program <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Shines (Adjustable Block Program)	
7. If you are applying as an independent contractor offering personal services, please indicate which equity eligible persons criteria you meet. (Refer to NOFO Section A)	<input type="checkbox"/> I have graduated from or am a current/former participant in one of a CEJA/FEJA Workforce Program or a CEJA/FEJA Contractor Program (with the exception of Craft Apprenticeship Program). <input type="checkbox"/> I am a graduate of or am currently enrolled in the foster care system. <input type="checkbox"/> I have been convicted of a crime and was incarcerated for that conviction. <input type="checkbox"/> My primary residence is in an equity investment-eligible community. (See the equity investment eligible community map) <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable	
8. Did you receive assistance from any of the following to complete this application? (Refer to NOFO Section H)	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean Energy Contractor Incubator Program (when in operation) <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Energy Primes Contractor Accelerator Program (when in operation) <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business Development Center <input type="checkbox"/> APEX Accelerator (formerly Procurement Technical Assistance Centers) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable	
Proposed Project & Outcome Information (NOFO Section A – Program Description and Performance Goals and Measures)		
9. What is the grant amount being requested per phase?	Phase 1	\$
	Phase 2	\$
10. Is this project an energy efficiency or renewable energy project? (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Efficiency <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy	
11. What type of project is being proposed? (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Renovation <input type="checkbox"/> New build <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text.	



Program Specific Application

<p>12. As detailed in the NOFO, grant funds were intended to accomplish any or all the goals to the left. Check all the accomplishments the proposed project will achieve.</p> <p>Ensure achievements selected here are described in more detail throughout this application (Refer to NOFO Section A)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Provide benefits to low-income communities wherein at least 50% of projected energy produced or saved benefits low-income households or not-for-profit organizations providing services to low-income households, affordable housing owners, or community-based businesses providing services to low-income households <input type="checkbox"/> Invest in equity investment-eligible communities <input type="checkbox"/> Provide on-the-job training <input type="checkbox"/> Support contractors who are participating in or have demonstrated an intent to participate in the Clean Energy Contractor Incubator Program and Clean Energy Primes Contractor Accelerator Program (when operational) <input type="checkbox"/> Employ a minimum of 51% of its workforce from graduates or current or former participants of the following CEJA and FEJA workforce programs <input type="checkbox"/> Provide avenues of employment for the workforce training efforts of the previously established programs created by FEJA, including the Solar Training Pipeline Program and the Multicultural Program
<p>13. Provide a descriptive summary of the proposed project and include the current state of the project, project plan, length of the program, and estimated outcomes of energy and non-energy benefits. Include as many specifics as possible include data points. (up to 750 words).</p> <p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p>	
<p>14. List the address(es) where the proposed project will be located.</p>	<p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p>
<p>15. Does the applicant own the project property/address? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>16. Explain why this site location was chosen. (e.g. type of site, price, location in specific neighborhood, etc.) (up to 250 words).</p> <p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p>	
<p>17. List the community(ies) the project will benefit as well as the community needs that the completed project will directly address. Include demographic, economic, and labor data, etc. as available to demonstrate community needs. (up to 750 words) (Refer to NOFO Section A)</p>	
<p>18. Funding may be requested for one or both of the following project phases: 1) planning and feasibility phase; 2) pre-development construction phase. Please select the Phase(s) the applicant is applying for (Refer to NOFO Section A – Program Description)</p>	
<p>19. Phase 1: Please select the planning and feasibility activities for which you are requesting funding (check all that apply). (Refer to NOFO Section A)</p> <p><i>Be prepared to detail necessary costs in the budget template and budget narrative.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Phase 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Phase 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Phase 1 & 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Market analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Property due diligence <input type="checkbox"/> Community outreach and engagement <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture, design, or engineering services <input type="checkbox"/> Auditing, consulting, or developer services <input type="checkbox"/> Project pro-forma/budget <input type="checkbox"/> Site acquisition planning <input type="checkbox"/> Sourcing project funding <input type="checkbox"/> Project grant writing <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text.
<p>20. Phase 2: Please select the pre-development construction activities for which you are requesting funding (check all that apply) (Refer to NOFO Section A).</p> <p><i>Be prepared to detail necessary costs in the budget template and budget narrative.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Selecting contractors/securing contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Application (e.g. Funding, IPA, Utility, Credentialing etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Purchasing and/or leasing of land <input type="checkbox"/> Permitting and zoning <input type="checkbox"/> Interconnection application costs and fees, studies, and expenses <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment and supplies <input type="checkbox"/> Employee training <input type="checkbox"/> Community outreach, marketing, and engagement <input type="checkbox"/> Staff and operations expenses <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text.



Program Specific Application

21. For energy efficiency projects, please describe the estimated annual and/or overall energy savings (kWh, therms) of the project. In the description, provide how these estimates were determined. Please submit any available documentation showing how these estimates were determined.

Not Applicable: The project does not have energy efficiency benefits.

Click or tap here to enter text.

22. For renewable energy projects, please estimated capacity (MW) and the amount (MW) produced that will benefit low-income residents, non-profits, and organizations/facilities that service disadvantaged/target populations. In the description, provide how these estimates were determined. Please submit any available documentation showing how these estimates were determined.

Not Applicable: The project does not have a renewable energy scope of work

Click or tap here to enter text.

23. Does the project include the sale of energy production? Yes No

23a. If yes, please describe how the applicant will sell the energy produced or conserved for customers, including its connectedness to the grid and/or customers; and ability to remain commercially viable upon project completion. (up to 500 words)

Click or tap here to enter text.

Funding Resources & Partnership Information (NOFO Section C, Subsection 1 & 2)

24. The Department encourages grantees to leverage other funding sources to improve the cost effectiveness of grant funds. Specify any of the following incentive or grant programs you have applied to or plan to apply to for this project, if any.

For "CEJA Programs" and/or "Illinois Finance Authority/Illinois Climate Bank" please specify the program in Question 25.

Please provide documentation of application and/or timeline for application in an attachment with other application materials (if applicable)

Incentive or Grant Program Name	Applied	Plan to Apply
CEJA Programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Equitable Energy Upgrade Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Illinois Solar For All or Illinois Shines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IPA-Capital Advance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Development Block Grants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State Small Business Credit Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Small Business Administration Grants/Opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Illinois Finance Authority (IFA)/Illinois Climate Bank (CB) Program(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clean Energy Jobs & Justice Fund	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Utility Energy Efficiency Program Incentives & Funding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Utility Energy Efficiency Rebate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Illinois Enterprise Zone (High Impact Business)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

25. Please list and describe any additional federal, state, or local incentive or grant programs you have applied to or plan to apply to for this project. Including if "CEJA Programs" and/or "Illinois Finance Authority/Climate Bank" programs were chosen. Include the estimated amount that was/will be requested and the role the funds will play in the overall project. [For additional resources click here](#) (up to 500 words)

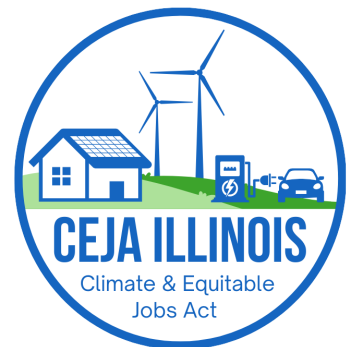
Click or tap here to enter text.

26. Provide a detailed description of the anticipated non-energy benefits/impact of Phase 1 and Phase 2, as well as the completed project (post-construction). Include information about the impact on individuals, community, and the workforce (as applicable) (e.g. individual savings, community wealth building, temporary or permanent job creation etc.) (up to 750 words) (see NOFO Section D.2)

Click or tap here to enter text.

27. Provide a summary of how the costs outlined in the budget were determined. (e.g. was it based on engineer's estimates, why was one contractor chosen over another, was there a bidding process, what research was conducted etc.). (Up to 500 words). If additional documentation would provide insight into these calculations that can be submitted with this application.

Click or tap here to enter text.



Program Specific Application

28. Is the applicant partnering with or subcontracting other businesses or entities on this application? If so, please list the names of vendors, contractors, collaborators below along with their experience working on similar/same type of projects.			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Click or tap here to enter text.			
Staff Capacity & Clean Energy Workforce Development (NOFO Section A and Section D, Subsection 2)			
29. List staff members who will be assigned to this project, their roles, and percentage of time they will spend on the project. Attach brief bios of all key staff members as well as job descriptions for unoccupied roles along with submission of this application. (up to 750 words).			
Click or tap here to enter text.			
30. How many permanent and/or temporary jobs will be created, if any, from this project?			
	Phase 1	Phase 2	Total Project
Temporary Positions	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Permanent Positions	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
31. Do you plan to hire CEJA or FEJA workforce program graduates as contractors for the project?			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
31a. If yes, what percentage of the workforce for the project will come from these programs or will meet other equity eligible persons criteria? %			%
32. Do you plan to provide on-the-job training opportunities for CEJA or FEJA workforce program participants or graduates?			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
32a. If yes, what activities or skills will the on-the-job training provide?			
Click or tap here to enter text.			
33. Provide the applicant's plan to engage with the local workforce (e.g. contractors, workers etc). This may include CEJA/FEJA/Workforce programs, utility programs, and weatherization/energy efficiency programs in your project activities. (up to 500 words).			
Click or tap here to enter text.			
Supplemental Documentation (NOFO Section D)			
Required: <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform Grant Application, Uniform Budget Template, Conflict of Interest Disclosure, Mandatory Disclosures <input type="checkbox"/> Program Specific Application <input type="checkbox"/> Documentation of IRS declaration: EIN letter, 501c3, c6, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access (DEIA) Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Equitable Energy Future Grant Project Timeline <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Power Agency (IPA) Certification (Required for EECs) <input type="checkbox"/> Letter(s) of support from community leaders and stakeholders documenting their support for the project and the community needs it will address AND if applicable from partner CEJA or FEJA workforce program grantees or other workforce programs about how your project will help grow clean energy workforce and contractors <input type="checkbox"/> Property ownership document OR document demonstrating applicant's authority to make site improvements. (If applicable for Phase 1, Required for Phase 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with collaborating organizations, or contracts for pre-develop activities with professional service providers, vendors, etc. (if applicable to project)		Required Phase 2 Only Projects: <input type="checkbox"/> Design or construction documents that provide details of the project, if available (examples: building preliminary schematics, energy audit report, site map). <input type="checkbox"/> Quotes used for budget estimates, if available (examples: preconstruction/construction budget, operating budget, contractor proposals/estimates). These documents may be provided after Phase 1 activities are complete. <input type="checkbox"/> Documentation showing Phase 1 feasibility activities are complete.	



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access (DEIA) Plan



Office of Energy & Business Utility Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access Plan (DEIA Plan)

The Equitable Energy Future's grant was developed as part of the Jobs & Environmental Justice Grant Program under the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act. In alignment with the CEJA legislation, Equitable Energy Futures prioritizes diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in all funded projects. This plan is required for all applicants submitting materials for the Equitable Energy Futures grant opportunity and will be evaluated as part of the merit review process. For applicants who are not Equity Eligible Contractors, this plan will also be used to evaluate the applicant's eligibility and if they meet the equity bonding criteria outlined in paragraph (9.5) of subsection (g) of Section 8-103B of the Public Utilities Act. The following definitions were utilized in the development of this form and sourced from the [Illinois Toward Equity Framework](#). Note: Hover over underlined words to access a definition of that term/phrase)

Diversity – Representation of people from a variety of backgrounds and experience.

Equity – The state, quality, or ideal of being just, impartial, and fair.

Inclusion – Action or state of including and feeling an empowered sense of belonging within a group or organization.

Access – When a person with a disability or barrier is afforded the opportunity to acquire the same information, engage in the same interactions, and enjoy the same services as a person without a disability in an equally integrated and equally effective manner with substantially equivalent ease of use. While accessibility is focused on disability, this definition extends to include the creation of financially, technologically, and linguistically accessible systems, resources, and services so that all in a society can thrive.

Business/Organization Name:		Click or tap here to enter text.		Is the organization a certified Equity Eligible Contractor through the Illinois Power Agency?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the business/organization is a certified EEC <input type="checkbox"/> No, the business/organization is not a certified EEC, but has a pending application with the IPA <input type="checkbox"/> No, the business/organization is not a certified EEC and is not eligible to be an EEC			
Employee Demographics									
Race/Ethnicity	Number of Employees	Gender Identity	Number of Employees	Age	Number of Employees	Equity Eligible Designation	Number of Employees	Number of Employees with Disabilities	Total Number of Employees
American Indian/ Native Alaskan	Click or tap here to enter text.	Female	Click or tap here to enter text.	18- 24	Click or tap here to enter text.	Equity Eligible Person (EEP)	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Asian	Click or tap here to enter text.	Male	Click or tap here to enter text.	25- 34	Click or tap here to enter text.	Equity Eligible Contractor (EEC)	Click or tap here to enter text.		
Black/African American	Click or tap here to enter text.	Transgender Woman	Click or tap here to enter text.	35- 50	Click or tap here to enter text.	CEJA/FEIA Workforce Graduates	Click or tap here to enter text.		
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	Click or tap here to enter text.	Transgender Man	Click or tap here to enter text.	50 +	Click or tap here to enter text.	CEJA/FEIA Contractor Graduates	Click or tap here to enter text.		
Hispanic/Latino	Click or tap here to enter text.	Non-Binary/ Gender Queer	Click or tap here to enter text.			Other State Workforce Program:	Click or tap here to enter text.		
White, Non-Hispanic	Click or tap here to enter text.	None of These	Click or tap here to enter text.						



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access (DEIA) Plan



Office of Energy & Business Utility Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access Plan (DEIA Plan)

The Equitable Energy Future's grant was developed as part of the Jobs & Environmental Justice Grant Program under the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act. In alignment with the CEJA legislation, Equitable Energy Futures prioritizes diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in all funded projects. This plan is required for all applicants submitting materials for the Equitable Energy Futures grant opportunity and will be evaluated as part of the merit review process. For applicants who are not Equity Eligible Contractors, this plan will also be used to evaluate the applicant's eligibility and if they meet the equity building criteria as outlined in paragraph [\(9.5\) of subsection \(g\) of Section 8-103B of the Public Utilities Act](#). The following definitions were utilized in the development of this form and sourced from the [Illinois Toward Equity Framework](#). (Note: *Hover over underlined words to access a definition of that term/phrase*)

Diversity – Representation of people from a variety of backgrounds and experience.

Equity – The state, quality, or ideal of being just, impartial, and fair.

Inclusion – Action or state of including and feeling an empowered sense of belonging within a group or organization.

Access – When a person with a disability or barrier is afforded the opportunity to acquire the same information, engage in the same interactions, and enjoy the same services as a person without a disability in an equally integrated and equally effective manner with substantially equivalent ease of use. While accessibility is focused on disability, this definition extends to include the creation of financially, technologically, and linguistically accessible systems, resources, and services so that all in a society can thrive.

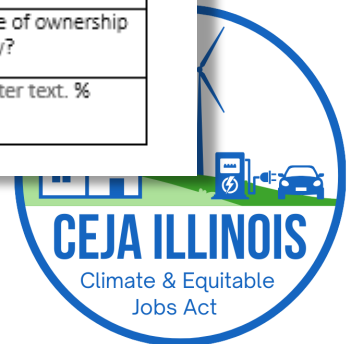
Business/Organization Name:		Click or tap here to enter text.		Is the organization a certified Equity Eligible Contractor through the Illinois Power Agency?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the business/organization is a certified EEC <input type="checkbox"/> No, the business/organization is not a certified EEC, but has a pending application with the IPA <input type="checkbox"/> No, the business/organization is not a certified EEC and is not eligible to be an EEC			
Employee Demographics									
Race/Ethnicity	Number of Employees	Gender Identity	Number of Employees	Age	Number of Employees	Equity Eligible Designation	Number of Employees	Number of Employees with Disabilities	Total Number of Employees
American Indian/ Native Alaskan	Click or tap here to enter text.	Female	Click or tap here to enter text.	18- 24	Click or tap here to enter text.	<u>Equity Eligible Person (EEP)</u>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Asian	Click or tap here to enter text.	Male	Click or tap here to enter text.	25- 34	Click or tap here to enter text.	<u>Equity Eligible Contractor (EEC)</u>	Click or tap here to enter text.		
Black/African American	Click or tap here to enter text.	Transgender Woman	Click or tap here to enter text.	35- 50	Click or tap here to enter text.	CEJA/FEJA Workforce Graduates	Click or tap here to enter text.		
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	Click or tap here to enter text.	Transgender Man	Click or tap here to enter text.	50 +	Click or tap here to enter text.	CEJA/FEJA Contractor Graduates	Click or tap here to enter text.		
Hispanic/Latino	Click or tap here to enter text.	Non-Binary/ Gender Queer	Click or tap here to enter text.			Other State Workforce Program:	Click or tap here to enter text.		
White, Non-Hispanic	Click or tap here to enter text.	None of These	Click or tap here to enter text.						



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access (DEIA) Plan

Lead Applicant Leadership and Certification Information

Does your business/organization have any of the following certifications?		<input type="checkbox"/> Minority-owned business enterprise (MBE) <input type="checkbox"/> Women-owned business enterprise (WBE) <input type="checkbox"/> Disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran-owned business enterprise (VBE) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text.	
For lead applicants, please list the names of the shareholders, owners, proprietors, or board members and the equity-eligible person criteria the individuals meet if any.			
Name of shareholder, owners, proprietors, or board member	Equity Eligible Persons Criteria	Designation	For-profit entities only
Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Current/Former Participants in the CEJA / FEJA Workforce Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Graduates or currently enrolled in the foster care system <input type="checkbox"/> Formerly incarcerated <input type="checkbox"/> Primary residence in an equity-eligible community <input type="checkbox"/> None of them apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Shareholder <input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> Board Member <input type="checkbox"/> None of them apply	What is the percentage of ownership this person holds if any? Click or tap here to enter text. %
Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Current/Former Participants in the CEJA / FEJA Workforce Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Graduates or currently enrolled in the foster care system <input type="checkbox"/> Formerly incarcerated <input type="checkbox"/> Primary residence in an equity-eligible community <input type="checkbox"/> None of them apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Shareholder <input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> Board Member <input type="checkbox"/> None of them apply	What is the percentage of ownership this person holds if any? Click or tap here to enter text. %
Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Current/Former Participants in the CEJA / FEJA Workforce Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Graduates or currently enrolled in the foster care system <input type="checkbox"/> Formerly incarcerated <input type="checkbox"/> Primary residence in an equity-eligible community <input type="checkbox"/> None of them apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Shareholder <input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> Board Member <input type="checkbox"/> None of them apply	What is the percentage of ownership this person holds if any? Click or tap here to enter text. %
Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Current/Former Participants in the CEJA / FEJA Workforce Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Graduates or currently enrolled in the foster care system <input type="checkbox"/> Formerly incarcerated <input type="checkbox"/> Primary residence in an equity-eligible community <input type="checkbox"/> None of them apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Shareholder <input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> Board Member <input type="checkbox"/> None of them apply	What is the percentage of ownership this person holds if any? Click or tap here to enter text. %
Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Current/Former Participants in the CEJA / FEJA Workforce Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Graduates or currently enrolled in the foster care system <input type="checkbox"/> Formerly incarcerated <input type="checkbox"/> Primary residence in an equity-eligible community <input type="checkbox"/> None of them apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Shareholder <input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> Board Member <input type="checkbox"/> None of them apply	What is the percentage of ownership this person holds if any? Click or tap here to enter text. %



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access (DEIA) Plan

Project Vendor(s), Contractor(s), Collaborating Organization(s) Information

Vendor, Contractor, Project Collaborating Organization Name	Type of Collaborator <i>Check all that apply:</i>	Equity Eligible Designation <i>Check all that apply:</i>	Does an MOU/Contract exist between this party and the lead applicant?	Role in the Project
Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor <input type="checkbox"/> Vendor <input type="checkbox"/> Project Collaborating Org. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text. <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above	<input type="checkbox"/> Equity Eligible Contractor (EEC) <input type="checkbox"/> Equity Eligible Person (EEP) <input type="checkbox"/> Located in/serves an Equity Eligible Investment Community (EJ/R3) <input type="checkbox"/> CEJA/FEJA Workforce Program Graduate (Link) <input type="checkbox"/> CEJA/FEJA Contractor Program (Link) <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above apply <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>If yes, attach the MOU/contract with other application documents</i>	Click or tap here to enter text.
Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor <input type="checkbox"/> Vendor <input type="checkbox"/> Project Collaborating Org. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text. <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above	<input type="checkbox"/> Equity Eligible Contractor (EEC) <input type="checkbox"/> Equity Eligible Person (EEP) <input type="checkbox"/> Located in/serves an Equity Eligible Investment Community (EJ/R3) <input type="checkbox"/> CEJA/FEJA Workforce Program Graduate (Link) <input type="checkbox"/> CEJA/FEJA Contractor Program (Link) <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above apply <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>If yes, attach the MOU/contract with other application documents</i>	Click or tap here to enter text.
Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor <input type="checkbox"/> Vendor <input type="checkbox"/> Project Collaborating Org. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text. <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above	<input type="checkbox"/> Equity Eligible Contractor (EEC) <input type="checkbox"/> Equity Eligible Person (EEP) <input type="checkbox"/> Located in/serves an Equity Eligible Investment Community (EJ/R3) <input type="checkbox"/> CEJA/FEJA Workforce Program Graduate (Link) <input type="checkbox"/> CEJA/FEJA Contractor Program (Link) <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above apply <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>If yes, attach the MOU/contract with other application documents</i>	Click or tap here to enter text.
Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor <input type="checkbox"/> Vendor <input type="checkbox"/> Project Collaborating Org. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text. <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above	<input type="checkbox"/> Equity Eligible Contractor (EEC) <input type="checkbox"/> Equity Eligible Person (EEP) <input type="checkbox"/> Located in/serves an Equity Eligible Investment Community (EJ/R3) <input type="checkbox"/> CEJA/FEJA Workforce Program Graduate (Link) <input type="checkbox"/> CEJA/FEJA Contractor Program (Link) <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above apply <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>If yes, attach the MOU/contract with other application documents</i>	Click or tap here to enter text.



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access (DEIA) Plan

SMARTIE Goals

Many people are familiar with SMART (Strategic, Measurable, Action-Oriented, Realistic, Timebound) goals. SMARTIE goals go beyond SMART goals to include Inclusive and Equitable aspects to goals. Below outline the top three goals of this project and include the timeline to achieve each goal.

Goal	Strategic <i>(What is being achieved? Why is this the goal? Who is involved? Where it take place?, When?)</i>	Measurable <i>(How will this goal be measured? What metrics will be collected?)</i>	Action-Oriented <i>(What actions will be taken to achieve this goal?)</i>	Realistic <i>(What results are realistic based on the actions identified?)</i>	Timebound <i>(What is the timeline / relevant deadlines for this goal?)</i>	Inclusive <i>(How will individuals from EIECs/groups that are traditionally marginalized be included in the project processes, actions, decision making, etc.?)</i>	Equitable <i>(How will the goal include elements like fairness and justice in processes, actions, decision making, etc.?)</i>	Final Goal
Example	Engage with employees through 4 specific focus groups and distribute a survey (mail & digital, in English & Spanish) to gather input on needs and barriers to effective and efficient work productivity.	90% of employees engaged in focus groups, demographics of focus group attendees; 90% of employees responded to the survey, Compile a list of 10 unique and actionable employee needs are identified.	Senior leadership and volunteer/selected employees will prioritize 4 out of the 10 actionable needs on the list. Develop a working group made of employees and leadership to develop; solutions and a project implementation plan.	Identify the breadth of the project's impact and additional needs that the project could address. Develop a timeline to implement solutions and assign roles.	The survey will be sent in early Fall 2024 and be available for 2 months. Focus groups will take place over the same 2-month span. Results will be compiled, and analysis prepared by end of 2024.	Feedback will be integrated into the project plans. A community member will serve on the project implementation committee. Several employees will volunteer and/or be selected to participate on the project implementation team.	Surveys, focus groups, and progress of the implementation plan will be available in several languages, information shared across departments and shifts...	Employer identified and addressed 4 major challenges faced by employees. Employees participated in identifying, developing, and implementing the solution.
Goal #1	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Goal #2	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Goal #3	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

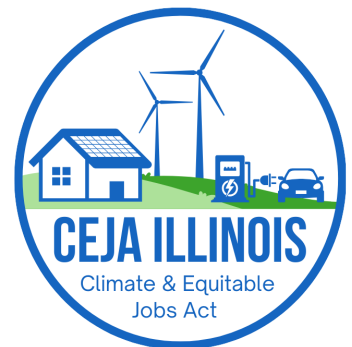


SMARTIE Goals

Goal setting exercise that ensures goals that follow a set of seven aspects to ensure that the goals are effective and realistic.

Similar to the more commonly known SMART goals, SMARTIE goals also ensure goals are inclusive and equitable.

Strategic
Measurable
Action-Oriented
Realistic
Timebound
Inclusive
Equitable



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access (DEIA) Plan

Accessibility Efforts/Mechanisms

Provide details on the lead applicant's current and/or planned efforts and mechanisms that ensure accessibility for all employees. Specifically, discuss how the applicant has developed financial, technological, and linguistically accessible systems, resources, and services for all employees regardless of disability status. (up to 500 words). If additional documentation is available to outline this plan, please submit those.
(Example: All media materials for prospective and enrolled participants are printed in Spanish & Polish)

Click or tap here to enter text.

What barriers, if any, has the lead applicant experienced regarding access to seed capital and/or pre-development funds? (up to 500 words)

Click or tap here to enter text.

Authorized Signatory Name (Printed): Click or tap here to enter text. **Authorized Signatory Title (Printed):** Click or tap here to enter text.

Date: Click or tap to enter a date. **Authorized Signatory Signature:** Click or tap here to enter text.

Internal Office Use Only

Applicant Eligibility: Equity Eligible Contractor Meets equity building criteria based on DEIA plan

Administrative Review Conducted By: Click or tap here to enter text.

Administrative Review Date: Click or tap to enter a date.



Equitable Energy Future Project Timeline

EQUITABLE ENERGY FUTURES GRANT PROGRAM 2024 PROJECT TIMELINE							
Anticipated Project Start Date:		Anticipated Project End Date:		PROJECT PHASE(S)			
<p>1. Enter the anticipated project start and end dates. These dates should be for the full Phase 1 & Phase 2 project timeline. Note: Phase 1 is Planning and Feasibility Phase 2 is Pre-Development (Cell C3 and E3)</p> <p>2. Select the Phase(s) that the applicant is applying for (Click Cell G3 to reveal drop-down list)</p> <p>3. For selected Phase(s) add the Project Activity(ies), Estimated Start Date(s), Estimated End Date(s), Project Milestones, Projected Outcomes, and Deliverables per activity. Additional activity rows can be added by right-clicking and selecting "Insert" then selecting "Entire Row" from the pop-up</p> <p>4. Indicate if an activity is a Critical Decision Point (Go/No Go Point) by selecting "Yes" or "No" in Column E. Critical Decision Points (Go/No Go Points) indicate if the result of a specific activity is critical to a project's ability to move forward. For any activity marked as "Yes" in Column E, applicants must also list a Deliverable that will document the result of the activity.</p>							
PHASE 1 ACTIVITIES							
Project Activities	Estimated Start Date	Estimated End Date	Critical Decision Point (Go/No Go)	Project Milestones	Performance Measures/ Outcomes	Cost	Deliverable
<i>Ex.: Define goals, identify partners, confirm location(s), etc.</i>	6/3/24	7/8/24	Yes	<i>Ex.: Draft scope of work, objectives, work flow / coordination, key deliverables, etc.</i>	<i>Ex.: Key leadership / partner approvals, etc.</i>		Ex: Contract, Invoice
<i>[Right click on row above and select "Insert" to add additional rows]</i>							
PHASE 2 ACTIVITIES							
Project Activities	Estimated Start Date	Estimated End Date	Critical Decision Point (Go/No Go)	Project Milestones	Projected Outcomes		Deliverable
<i>Ex.: Execute tasks, manage resources, etc.</i>	3/3/24	3/23/24		<i>Ex.: Obtain permits, purchase land</i>	<i>Ex.: Permit documentation, land deed</i>		

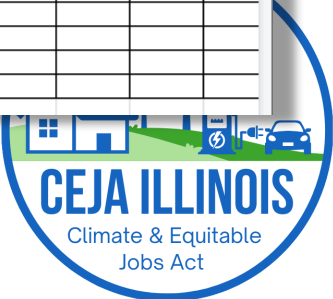
>
EEF Project Timeline
+
◀



Equitable Energy Future Project Timeline

PHASE 1 TIMELINE																																
Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7	Month 8	Month 9	Month 10	Month 11	Month 12	Month 13	Month 14	Month 15	Month 16	Month 17	Month 18	Month 19	Month 20	Month 21	Month 22	Month 23	Month 24	Month 25	Month 26	Month 27	Month 28	Month 29	Month 30	Month 31	Month 32	

PHASE 2 TIMELINE																																
Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7	Month 8	Month 9	Month 10	Month 11	Month 12	Month 13	Month 14	Month 15	Month 16	Month 17	Month 18	Month 19	Month 20	Month 21	Month 22	Month 23	Month 24	Month 25	Month 26	Month 27	Month 28	Month 29	Month 30	Month 31	Month 32	



Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Mandatory Disclosure

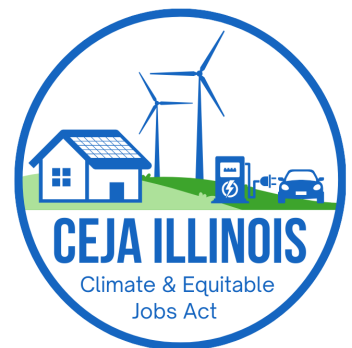
Uniform Grant Application in
fillable PDF format

Uniform Budget utilizing template
provided by DCEO

DCEO Required Application Documents

Find all NOFO Materials
and resources here:

[https://dceo.illinois.gov
/aboutdceo/grantopportunities/3054-2878.html](https://dceo.illinois.gov/aboutdceo/grantopportunities/3054-2878.html)



Uniform Budget Template

It's a standard DCEO template, with a few sections that are specific to this program. Some sections may not apply to you.

Be careful when inserting new rows. The template uses algorithms that can be deleted or altered.

If seeking funding for Phase 1 & 2, the Phase 2 budget may be renegotiated after Phase 1 is completed.

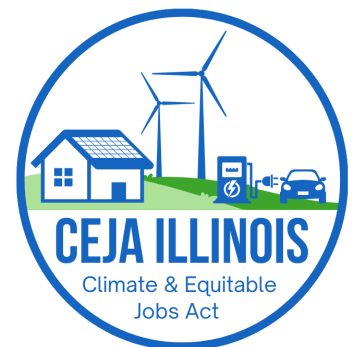
If you are selected for a grant award, DCEO the budget will be reviewed and finalized during the negotiation stage.

STATE OF ILLINOIS		UNIFORM GRANT BUDGET TEMPLATE		Commerce & Economic Opportunity		
Organization Name:		UEI#		NOFO #	3054-2878	
CSFA Number:	420-35-3054	CSFA Description:	Jobs & Environmental Justice-Equitable Energy Grant	Fiscal Year:	2024	
SECTION A -- STATE OF ILLINOIS FUNDS					Grant #	
Revenues					TOTAL REVENUE	
(a). State of Illinois Grant Amount Requested					\$	-
BUDGET SUMMARY STATE OF ILLINOIS FUNDS						
Budget Expenditure Categories		OMB Uniform Guidance Federal Awards Reference 2 CFR 200		TOTAL EXPENDITURES		
1. Phase 1 Personnel (Salaries & Wages)		200.430		\$	-	
1. Phase 2 Personnel (Salaries & Wages)		200.430		\$	-	
2. Phase 1 Fringe Benefits		200.431		\$	-	
2. Phase 2 Fringe Benefits		200.431		\$	-	
4. Phase 1 Equipment		200.439		\$	-	
4. Phase 2 Equipment		200.439		\$	-	
5. Phase 1 Supplies		200.94		\$	-	
5. Phase 2 Supplies		200.94		\$	-	
6. Phase 1 Contractual Services & Subawards		200.318 & 200.92		\$	-	
6. Phase 2 Contractual Services & Subawards		200.318 & 200.92		\$	-	
7. Phase 1 Consultant (Professional Services)		200.459		\$	-	
7. Phase 2 Consultant (Professional Services)		200.459		\$	-	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> < > <div style="display: flex; gap: 10px;"> General Instructions Section A ICI Certification Phase1Personnel Phase2Personnel Phase </div> </div>						



Let's look at the budget categories in the template. Notice they are separated in phases.

Personnel	Fringe benefits	Equipment
Supplies	Contractual Services & Subawards	Consultant (Professional Services)
Feasibility/Market Analysis (Phase 1)	Site Control Costs (Phase 2)	Permitting & interconnection Costs (Phase 2)



Personnel

Section C - Budget Worksheet & Narrative

0

1A). Phase 1 Personnel (Salaries & Wages) (2 CFR 200.430) --List each position by title and name of employee, if available. Show the annual salary rate and the percentage of time to be devoted to the project and length of time working on the project . Compensation paid for employees engaged in grant activities must be consistent with that paid for similar work within the applicant organization. Include a description of the responsibilities and duties of each position in relationship to fulfilling the project goals and objectives in the narrative space provided below. Also, provide a justification and description of each position (including vacant positions). Relate each position specifically to program objectives. Personnel cannot exceed 100% of their time on all active projects.

Name	Position(s)	Salary or Wage	Basis (Yr./Mo./Hr.)	% of Time	Length of time	Personnel Cost
Jane Doe	Program Manager	\$50,000	Yr	50%	1	\$ 25,000.00
John Doe	Coach/Instructor	\$30	Hr	100%	1600	\$ 48,000.00
TBD	Assistant Coach/Support Staff	\$ 20.00	Hr	100%	1600	\$ 32,000.00
						\$ -
					State Total	\$ 105,000.00

If you are partnering with another entity to deliver some of the scope of work their personnel costs will go under the “Contractual Services” Tab.



Fringe Benefits: What are they?

Benefits employees receive on top of their normal wages and salaries. May include:

- Use of a company car
- Health/life/disability insurance
- Childcare reimbursement
- Pension/retirement

Budget narrative should outline what is covered as a fringe benefit

Section C - Budget Worksheet & Narrative

0

2A). Phase 1 Fringe Benefits (2 CFR 200.431)--Fringe benefits should be based on actual known costs or an established formula. Fringe benefits are for the personnel listed in category (1) direct salaries and wages, and only for the percentage of time devoted to the project. Provide the fringe benefit rate used and a clear description of how the computation of fringe benefits was done. Provide both the annual (for multiyear awards) and total. If a fringe benefit rate is not used, show how the fringe benefits were computed for each position. The budget justification should be reflected in the budget description. Elements that comprise fringe benefits should be indicated.

Name	Position(s)	Base	Rate	Fringe Benefit Cost
Jane Doe	Program Manager	\$ 25,000.00	25.00%	\$ 6,250.00
John Doe	Coach/Instructor	\$ 48,000.00	25.00%	\$ 12,000.00
TBD	Assistant Coach/Support Staff	\$ 32,000.00	25.00%	\$ 8,000.00
				\$ -
			State Total	\$ 26,250.00



Contractual Services & Subawards

Item	Contractual Services Cost
<i>Fighting Illini Basketball</i>	\$ 5,000.00
<i>Champaign Boys & Girls Club</i>	\$ 50,000.00
	\$ -
	<i>State Total</i> \$ 55,000.00

Use this tab if you are partnering with another business or organization on this project, and if they will be receiving project funds to do part of the work on the project. These organizations will be “subrecipients” or “subcontractors” on your project.

Budget narrative should provide details on any subcontractor or subrecipient budgets.



Consultant Services

Use this tab for any professional services you will be utilizing for your project

- Architect or design consultant
- Engineering firm consultant
- Energy auditor
- Grant writing consultant

Budget narrative should provide details on the consultant service budget and the activities the consultant will be performing.



Equipment vs. Supplies

Equipment: Used for projects over the long-term. Subject to depreciation and generally retain some value after use.

Examples:

- Vehicles
- Computers
- Construction equipment

Supplies: Used over the short term, not subject to depreciation. Do not retain value.

Examples:

- Paper
- Pens
- Printer ink

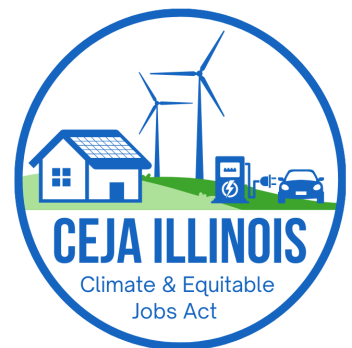
Go to the Q & A Page for more information on allowable equipment and supplies.

<https://uofi.app.box.com/s/vzbo4oytrq5a83uvian4f7j5owbytuxl>



Where should I put this?

- **Wages for project manager, outreach staff**
 - Personnel
- **Benefits for project manager**
 - Fringe benefits
- **Subrecipient staff wages**
 - Contractual Services
- **Zoning or building permit costs**
 - Phase 2 Permitting & interconnection costs
- **Architect/energy auditor costs**
 - Consultant (professional services)
- **Site testing costs**
 - Phase 1 Feasibility/Market Analysis
- **Legal fees associated with financing, purchasing, or leasing land**
 - Phase 2 Site Control



Budget Narrative Tips

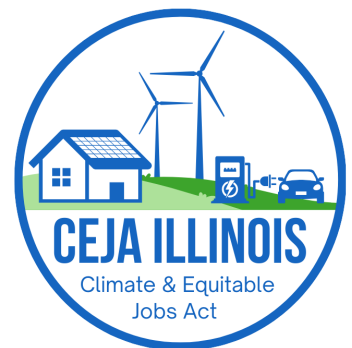
Personnel Narrative (State):			

- Each budget tab asks for a brief budget narrative.
- Be specific and concise. Offer detail when helpful, but don't provide too much detail for smaller expenses.
- Cite calculations: show your math for both justifications of costs and accuracy.
- Collect quotes and invoices, if available.



Budget Narrative Examples

- **Personnel:** In describing costs, list personnel and their positions and briefly describe their contribution to the project.
- **Consultants or contractors:** Clearly explain who is being subcontracted, their scope of work, and why you needed a person's expertise or services.
- **Equipment:** Identify pricing or quotes. Explain how the equipment will be used in the project and if it will be shared with other projects.



A few budget and grant resources

DCEO Video Training & Resources

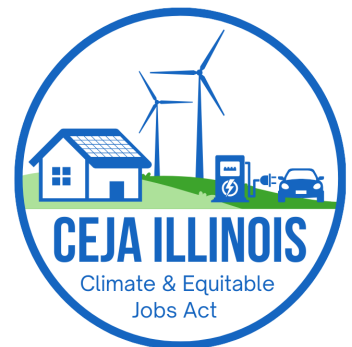
<https://dceo.illinois.gov/aboutdceo/grant-opportunities/learning-library.html>

Upcoming Grant Trainings

<https://dceo.illinois.gov/aboutdceo/grant-opportunities/upcoming-grant-trainings.html>

Contact the DCEO Grant Help Desk

Email: CEO.GrantHelp@illinois.gov

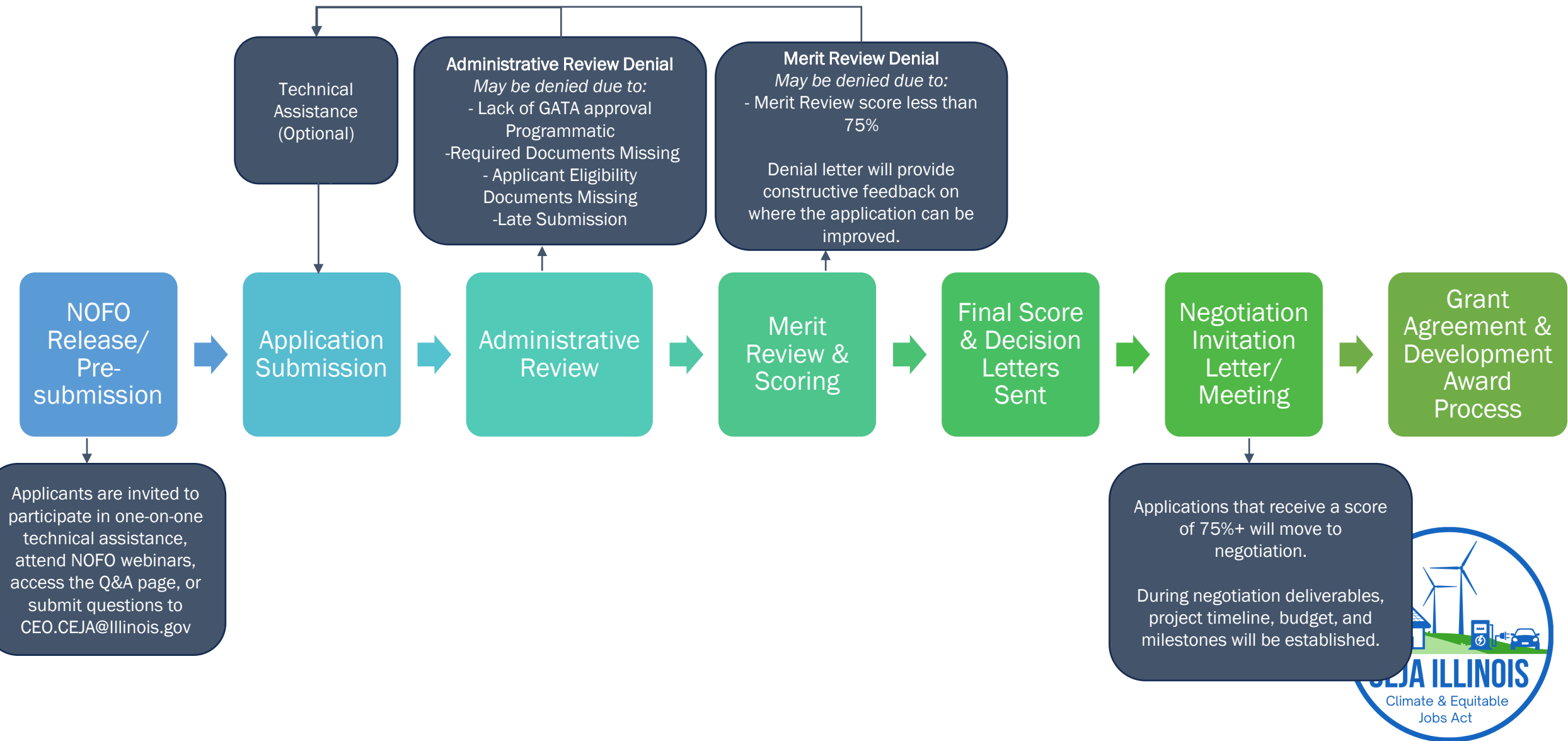





Grant & Merit Review Process



Grant Process



Submitting Application Materials


3054-2878 Equitable Energy Future Grant Program

The funding is intended to address barriers to private business development in justice-impacted communities with limited available capital.

Note: The demographic information requested is for informational purposes and will not be used to determine eligibility.

By checking this box I understand that my application to participate in this program must be pre-qualified prior to application deadline. For more information on pre-qualification, please visit <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/AboutDCEO/GrantOpportunities.aspx>.

Applicant Information

Applicant Legal Name *

Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN) *

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) *

GATA ID *

Address 1 *

Address 2

City *

County *

Zip Code *

Applicant Contact Information

Contact First Name *

Contact Last Name *

Contact Phone Number *

Contact Email Address *

Demographic Information

Has your entity received a grant from DCEO in the past 12 months? *

Is your organization owned by an individual (sole proprietorship or partnership)? *

If your organization is a nonprofit, please state the name of the nonprofit. *

If you are representing a government, select the name of the government. *

Is your organization owned by an individual (sole proprietorship or partnership) with a disability? *

If your organization is a nonprofit, please state the name of the nonprofit. *

If you are representing a government, select the name of the government. *

Is your organization owned by an individual (sole proprietorship or partnership) with a disability? *

If your organization is a nonprofit, please state the name of the nonprofit. *

If you are representing a government, select the name of the government. *

Documents Submitted *

Each package must contain the following documents. Please check off documents as you upload them below to ensure all required documents are submitted.


- Uniform Grant Application
- Uniform Budget
- Conflict of Interest Disclosure
- Mandatory Disclosures
- Program Specific Application Documents (these documents are described in the Notice of Funding Opportunity)

File Upload *

Drag and drop files here or [browse files](#)

Send me a copy of my responses

Submit

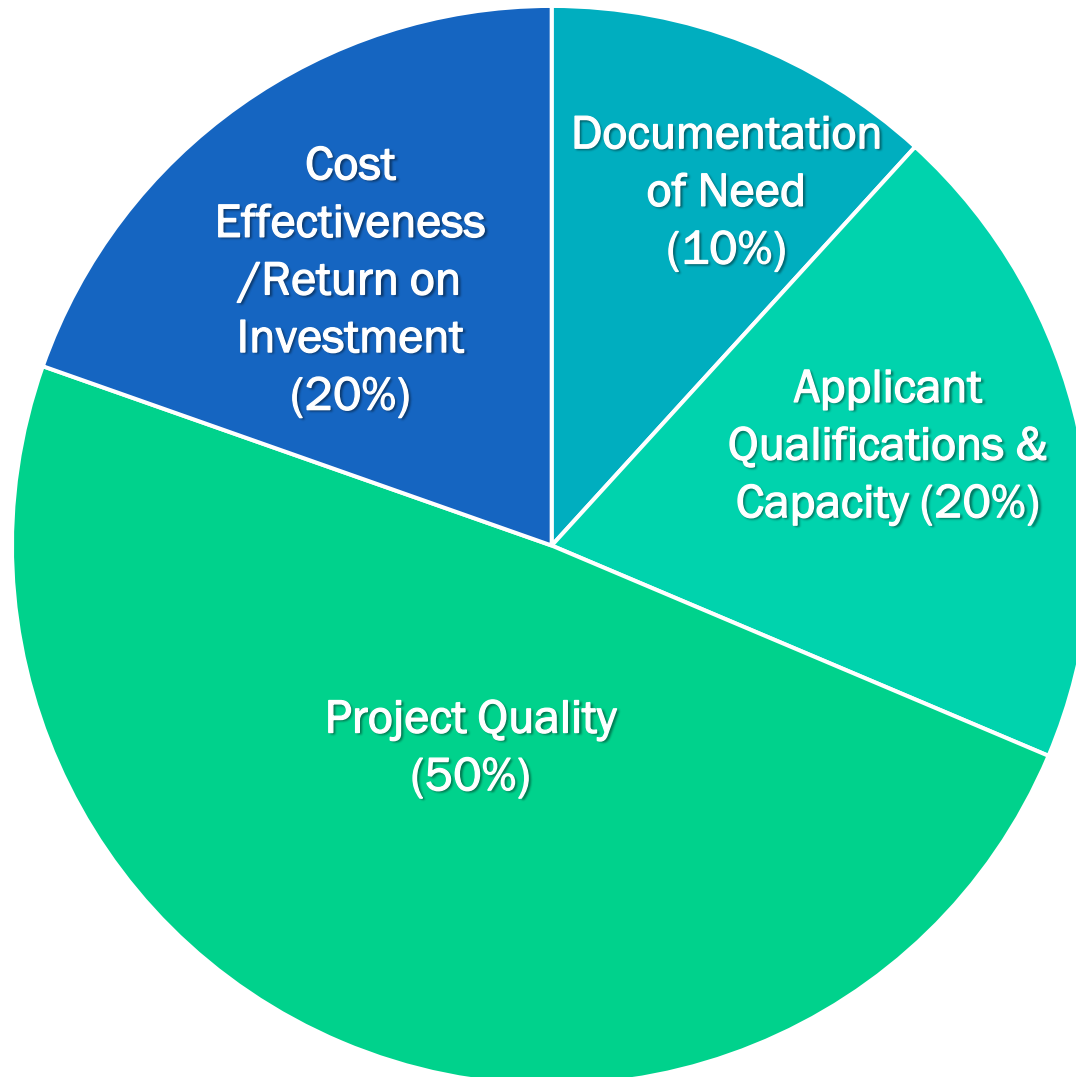
Powered by  smartsheet
[Privacy Notice](#) | [Report Abuse](#)

Application materials can only be submitted through the Smartsheet link below (also on Page 7 of the NOFO Supplement)
<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/ce96ac7e0ce64965b289ba50ad19abed>

Maximum of 10 documents can be submitted.



Merit Review Scoring



Proposals will be reviewed on a rolling basis by the Merit Review Team.

Applications scoring 75% or higher will move to negotiation.



Merit Review Scoring Rubric

2024 Equitable Energy Future Grant Program Scoring Form

This document is a tool to help applicants as they prepare to apply for the Equitable Energy Future Grant Program. The content of this document matches that of the scoring sheet completed by the merit review teams during the application review. Please use this document as a guide when completing application documents.

Documentation of Need (10 points)

Q1. Is the project located within or directly serving an equity investment eligibility community? (5 points) (Question 14)

Meets or exceeds standards (5 points): The project is located within an equity investment-eligible community and will directly benefit residents in the equity investment eligible community.	Partially meets standards (3 points): Project is not located within an equity investment eligible community but serves equity investment eligible populations or community members.	Below standards (0-1 points): (0) No listing or description of site location (1) Very limited description of where the project will be located.	Score
---	---	---	-------

Comments:

Q2. Does the applicant identify the community needs that the project will address? (5 points) (Question 17)

Meets or exceeds standards (4-5 points): Uses data to demonstrate knowledge of community needs (e.g. labor, economic development needs, census data etc) of proposed areas and describes how the project will address these needs.	Partially meets standards (2-3 points): Describes needs with some data (e.g. labor data, economic development, census data, etc.), but does not describe how the project will address those needs identified in the data provided.	Below standards (0-1 points): (0) No description of community needs (1) Limited description of community needs and does not describe how the project will address those needs	Score
--	--	---	-------

Comments:

Applicant Qualifications & Capacity (20 points)

Q3. Does the applicant have the capacity (or a clear and realistic plan to increase capacity) to execute the project? Capacity includes qualified staff, partners, and financial resources. (5 points) (Questions 29 - 33)

Meets or exceeds standards (7-10 points):	Partially meets standards (4-6 points): The	Below standards (0-3 points): Applicant	
---	---	---	--

NOFO Timeline



Funding is based on a first come, first serve basis and grants will be given until funding is exhausted.



Seek Applicant Support

1. Sign up for one-on-one technical assistance with a CEJA Program Coach:

Sign up for support here:

<https://forms.office.com/r/4qUkTdgCFY>

2. Submit questions to CEO.CEJA@illinois.gov. Responses to questions will be made publicly available on the CEJA Questions & Answers page.

3. Contact Aaron McEvoy, EEF Grant Manager Aaron.McEvoy@Illinois.gov (Please also CC CEO.CEJA@illinois.gov)

CEJA NOFO Applicant Technical Assistance Sign Up



Helpful Links

Site	Link
DCEO CEJA Program Status	https://dceo.illinois.gov/ceja/ceja-program-announcements.html
NOFO Page	https://dceo.illinois.gov/aboutdceo/grantopportunities/3054-2878.html
GATA Portal	https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/
DCEO Grant Help Email	ceo.GrantHelp@illinois.gov
DCEO Grant Help Inquiry Form	https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/df9d38efa4e241218ced486c54f3c109
DCEO Grant Resources	https://dceo.illinois.gov/aboutdceo/grantopportunities/learning-library.html
Clean Energy Funding List	https://uofi.app.box.com/v/cleanenergyfunding



Illinois Renewable/Clean Energy Funding Opportunities

Applicants can also visit the [Clean Energy Funding Sources/Opportunities List](#) for additional funding opportunities

Agency	Programs
Federal Programs	Ride and Drive Electric IRA Justice 40
Illinois Capital Development Board	Stretch Goals
Illinois Commerce Commission	Equitable Energy Upgrade Program
Illinois Community College Board	IAC Program: Clean Energy Build/Manufacturing Workforce
Illinois Dept. of Commerce & Economic Opportunity	CEJA Workforce Training Programs CEJA Contractor Programs Community Economic Development Programs Reimagining Energy and Vehicles in Illinois Act (REV)-Manufacturing
Illinois Dept. of Transportation	National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program Carbon Reduction Program Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Competitive Freight-Port Infrastructure
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency	Energy Codes Training EE Trust Fund Electric Vehicle Rebate Electric School Bus Energy Assessments Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant Energy Efficiency Variety EE Contractor Training
Illinois Finance Authority	Illinois Climate Bank C-PACE GRID: muni. utility/rural coops State Small Bus. Credit Initiative Charging & Fueling Infrastructure Greenhouse Gas Reduction Solar For All/Energy Sovereignty Loan
Illinois Housing Authority	Energy Efficiency Program; Green Resilient Retrofit Program
Illinois Power Agency	Illinois Shines IL Solar For All Energy Equity Portal Min. Equity Standard Utility Scale Procurement
U.S. Dept of Energy	Funding and Financing



Questions?

