



**Rural Energy For America Program (REAP)**

 **English**



# Announcing \$145 Million to Expand Access to Renewable Energy and Lower Energy Costs for Rural Americans:

USDA is announcing \$145 million in funding for 700 loan and grant awards through the [Rural Energy for America Program](#) (REAP) to help agricultural producers and rural small business owners make energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy investments to lower energy costs, generate new income, and strengthen the resiliency of their operations. This funding is made possible in part by President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act – the nation's largest-ever investment in combatting the climate crisis.

[Download the full project chart](#)

[Download the White House factsheet](#)

## Download the IRA Climate and Clean Energy Solutions Factsheets


Thanks to Inflation Reduction Act funding, more farmers and more acres are enrolled in voluntary conservation practices than at any single point in history, and even with this unprecedented funding, USDA is seeing more demand than we have funds to support.

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## Investing in America's Agenda

With the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act, the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) has been provided over \$2 billion for renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvement grants for agricultural producers and rural small business owners through 2031.

Rural Development is accepting applications for the first of six quarterly competitions.

<a href="#">Federal Register Notice of Solicitation of Applications</a>	<a href="#">Eligibility Requirements</a>
<a href="#">Contact Your State Energy Coordinator</a>	<a href="#">Program Application</a>
<a href="#">CORRECTION: Federal Register Notice of Solicitation of Applications</a>	<a href="#">REAP WebinarRecording </a>

## REAP in the Inflation Reduction Act: What’s New

The program is undergoing numerous changes with the infusion of funds from the IRA. Understanding these will be key to the completion of a successful application.

- REAP will host six quarterly competitions to obligate \$1.05 billion throughout the remainder of FY 2023 and FY 2024.
- The maximum grant size was increased from \$250,000 to \$500,000 for energy efficiency projects and from \$500,000 to \$1 million for renewable energy systems.
- The federal share was raised to 50% for all energy efficiency projects, all zero-emission renewable energy projects, and all projects in designated energy communities and projects submitted by eligible tribal entities.
- The creation of an Underutilized Technology Fund with an initial infusion of \$144.5 million for renewable energy technologies which made up less than 20% of the project pool two years previous to the application year. No single technology may receive more than 50- percent of the total funding available in each fiscal year, excepting years in which all underutilized technology applications have been processed, and applications remain unfunded with funding still available in the set-aside.
- REAP is a competitive program in which all projects are scored against one another in each State. The rubric is detailed in the [Federal Register Notice](#). **The new scoring rubric is summarized as follows:**

Points	Criteria
25	Energy generated/saved/replaced
15	Previous recipient?

15	Length of payback period
15	Located in a Disadvantaged Community or a Distressed Community
10	Commitment of matching funds
10	Environmental benefits
10	State Director/Administrator Points

# Designated Energy Communities in the Inflation Reduction Act

Designated Energy Communities include areas in which a coal mine or coal-fired power plant has closed or that have been economically reliant on the extraction, processing, transport, or storage of coal, oil, or natural gas but now face higher-than-average unemployment. These are communities that have underpinned America’s economic growth and powered this country for decades. In the coming days, a searchable map will be released and posted here.

## Defining the Underutilized Technology Fund

The Underutilized Technology Fund will initially set-aside \$144.5 million in yearly competitions in FY2023 and FY2024. Renewable energy systems will be eligible if they made up less than 20% of the FY2021’s project pool. The following technologies are ineligible in FY2023: solar and energy efficiency. All others are eligible.

## REAP State by State

REAP Investments (2018-2022)	+
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## Contact your State's Energy Coordinator

Select a State:

# Frequently Asked Questions

Below are frequently asked questions we've addressed. This list will grow as new questions are asked and answers are given.

Funding	+
Applicant Eligibility	+
Project Eligibility	+
Use of Funds	+
Application Requirements	+
Scoring	+

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