Select List of Federal Community-Focused Environmental and Energy Programs

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| **Program** | **Agency** | **Description** | **Type of Support** | **How to Participate** | **Website** |
| Clean Energy to Communities Program (C2C) | DOE | Connects local governments, electric utilities, community-based groups, and others with experts from the national labs to provide them with technical support to achieve clean energy systems that are reflective of local priorities.  C2C offers three types of support to communities: 1) In-Depth Partnerships with DOE national labs to develop plans; 2) Peer-Learning Cohorts comprised of communities that will share strategies and best practices; 3) Expert Match to provide short-term technical assistance for time-sensitive decisions. | Technical Assistance | Sign up for email updates to be notified when program applications open: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=fp3yoM0oVE-EQniFrufAgNt_3wZP-x5Ctr39GcXU8J5UQU8zQ09LMjI4OE85OVRGUzJMT1ZRNlhaWS4u> | [Clean Energy to Communities Program | State, Local, and Tribal Governments | NREL](https://www.nrel.gov/state-local-tribal/clean-energy-to-communities.html) |
| Community Change Grants Technical Assistance | EPA | Provides technical assistance and resources for communities and their partners as they work to access federal resources. This includes grant application, project planning and development, outreach and engagement, and general capacity building support. It also includes design and project development assistance, community engagement, and partnership development workshops through the Community Change Equitable Resilience Technical Assistance program. | Technical assistance | Community Change Grants Technical Assistance are open through May 2024. To express interest: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/forms/community-change-grants-technical-assistance-request-form>  Community Change Equitable Resilience is open. EPA will accept requests until approximately 50 recipients are identified. | <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/community-change-grants-technical-assistance>  <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/community-change-grants-technical-assistance#CCTA>  <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/community-change-equitable-resilience-technical-assistance> |
| Energizing Rural Communities Prize | DOE | Aims to incentivize the development of clean energy projects in rural or remote areas. Competitors participate in either the Partner track, where they will form or expand partnerships that will help support future clean energy projects or the Finance track, where they identify one or more barriers to financing projects in rural areas. | Cash prizes | Not currently open for submissions. Follow the prize on HeroX (<https://www.herox.com/rural-energy>) to receive updates. | [Energizing Rural Communities Prize | HeroX](https://www.herox.com/rural-energy) |
| The Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers Program (TCTAC) | EPA | The EJ TCTAC provides training and other assistance to build capacity for navigating federal grant application systems, developing strong grant proposals, and effectively managing grant funding. They also provide guidance on community engagement, meeting facilitation, and translation and interpretation services. | Technical assistance through regional centers and partners. | Ongoing. Contact your regional TCTAC to submit a technical assistance request: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-thriving-communities-technical-assistance-centers#Overview%20of%20the%20EJ%20TCTACs> | [The Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers Program | US EPA](https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-thriving-communities-technical-assistance-centers) |
| Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG) | DOE | Provides assistance for implementing strategies to reduce fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency for states, local governments, and tribal governments through multiple funding mechanisms. | Competitive and formula grants, technical assistance, vouchers, and fellowships. | Available until expended. Visit <https://www.energy.gov/scep/eecbg-program-formula-grant-application-hub> for more details.  Formula grant templates and voucher applications due April 30, 2024. | [Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program | Department of Energy](https://www.energy.gov/scep/energy-efficiency-and-conservation-block-grant-program) |
| Communities Local Energy Action Program (LEAP) | DOE | Stakeholder teams representing low-income, energy-burdened communities work together to develop clean energy-related economic development pathways. | Technical assistance, primarily provided through the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. | Not currently accepting applications. Visit the website and subscribe for updates.  Cohorts 1 and 2 are ongoing. | [Communities LEAP | Department of Energy](https://www.energy.gov/communitiesLEAP/communities-leap) |
| Community Energy Innovation Prize | DOE | Supports community-based organizations, the private sector, nonfederal government entities, and collegiate teams in developing and carrying out activities related to clean energy that enable business and technology incubation and acceleration as well as other community-based capacity building, innovation, and entrepreneurship. | Cash prizes | Not currently open for submissions. Follow the prize at <https://www.herox.com/CommunityEnergyInnovation> for updates. | [Community Energy Innovation Prize | American-Made Challenges (americanmadechallenges.org)](https://www.americanmadechallenges.org/challenges/communityenergyinnovation) |
| Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project (ETIPP) | DOE | Remote and island communities seeking to transform their energy systems and increase energy resilience work receive technical support from the ETIPP partner network: a broad coalition of local stakeholders, regional organizations, national laboratories, and DOE offices. | Technical Assistance | Not currently open for submission, but ETIPP’s regional partners can help connect to other technical assistance and funding opportunities. Visit <https://www.nrel.gov/state-local-tribal/etipp-technical-assistance.html> for a list of regional partners.  Sign up for NREL’s State, Local, and Tribal newsletter (<https://www.nrel.gov/state-local-tribal/subscribe.html>) for alerts for the next application period. | [Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project—Communities | Department of Energy](https://www.energy.gov/eere/energy-transitions-initiative-partnership-project-communities) |
| Renewable Energy Siting through Technical Engagement and Planning (R-STEP) | DOE | R-STEP expands the decision-making capacity and expertise of state and local governments around large-scale renewable energy planning, siting, and permitting through creating new or expanding existing programs or initiatives to improve renewable energy siting processes at the state or local level. | Competitive awards, technical assistance, opportunities for state-to-state engagement, and best practices dissemination | Not currently open for submissions. Follow <https://www.energywerx.org/opportunities/renewable-energy-assessment-event> for updates. | [Renewable Energy Siting through Technical Engagement and Planning | Department of Energy](https://www.energy.gov/eere/renewable-energy-siting-through-technical-engagement-and-planning) |

This resource is not intended to be a comprehensive list of available programs and is for informational purposes only. For more information on these programs, please visit the website links provided.

For additional opportunities, see the websites below:

* For more prizes from the Department of Energy, visit American-Made Challenges: [Home | American-Made Challenges (americanmadechallenges.org)](https://americanmadechallenges.org/)
* The U.S. Economic Development Administration promotes economic development through innovation and competitiveness. Learn more about their programs: [EDA Program List | U.S. Economic Development Administration](https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs)
* EnergyWerx aims to increase cooperative and joint activities between DOE and small business firms, institutes of higher education, and other non-traditional partners and innovative collaborators: [Opportunities with ENERGYWERX](https://www.energywerx.org/opportunities)
* DOE’s Office of State and Community Energy Programs works with state and local organizations to significantly accelerate the deployment of clean energy technologies, catalyze local economic development and create jobs, reduce energy costs, and avoid pollution through place-based strategies: [Office of State and Community Energy Programs | Department of Energy](https://www.energy.gov/scep/office-state-and-community-energy-programs)
* OCED supports Rural and Remote demonstration projects. They have created a funding guide to help communities navigate federal funding: [Federal Energy Funding for Rural and Remote Areas: A Guide for Communities](https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2023-10/OCED_Rural-Remote%20Fed%20Overview.pdf)