

# IRA Assistance for the Adoption of the Latest and Zero Building Energy Codes

## PCFO IGAP Prize Snapshot

January 8, 2024

<b>Agency:</b> Department of Energy	<b>Bureau:</b> Office of State and Community Energy Programs
<b>Application Deadline:</b> Concept Paper due on 02/09/24	<b>Max Award:</b> \$20 million

### Description

Under the Inflation Reduction Act, DOE is funding States and local governments in adopting, implementing, enforcing, and measuring compliance rates of residential and commercial building codes that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The goal of this program is to improve new construction and major renovations; increase building code effectiveness; provide implementation support for adopting updated building energy codes, zero energy codes, and stretch codes; educate stakeholders; improve the resilience of buildings; and provide meaningful benefits to communities nationwide.

### Eligible Recipients

States, Territories, and units of local government that have the authority to adopt building codes

### Eligible Projects

Projects may propose adopting and implementing: (A) a building energy code (or codes) for residential buildings that meets or exceeds the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), or achieves equivalent or greater energy savings; (B) a building energy code (or codes) for commercial buildings that meets or exceeds the ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard, or achieves equivalent or greater energy savings; or (C) any combination of building energy codes described in (A) or (B). Projects may also focus on adopting and implementing building energy codes that meet or exceed the zero energy provisions in the 2021 IECC or an equivalent stretch code.

There are several topic areas that participants may apply to.

- **Topic Area 1:** Adoption and Implementation of Qualifying Building Energy Codes by Certain Units of Local Government
  - **Subtopic A:** Units of Local Government – Latest Model Energy Codes Identified as Qualifying Building Energy Codes
  - **Subtopic B:** Units of Local Government - Zero Energy Codes Identified as Qualifying Building Energy Codes

- **Topic Area 2:** Adoption and Implementation of the Latest Model Energy Codes or Zero Energy Codes with Combinations of Strengthening and Weakening Amendments by States and Certain Units of Local Government
  - Subtopic A: Units of Local Government Latest Model Code Equivalent with Combinations of Strengthening and Weakening Amendments
  - Subtopic B: State Latest Model Code Equivalent with Combinations of Strengthening and Weakening Amendments
  - Subtopic C: Units of Local Government Zero Energy Codes with Combinations of Strengthening and Weakening Amendments, Custom Zero Energy Codes, and Stretch Codes
  - Subtopic D: State Zero Energy Codes with Combinations of Strengthening and Weakening Amendments, Custom Zero Energy Codes, and Stretch Codes
- **Topic Area 3:** Adoption and Implementation of Innovative Building Energy Codes by States and Certain Units of Local Government
  - Subtopic A: Innovative Building Energy Codes with Energy Savings Equivalent to Latest Model Energy Codes
  - Subtopic B: Innovative Building Energy Codes with Energy Savings Equivalent to Zero Energy Codes

DOE may make funds available through three rounds of submission. It is possible that funds may be expended in the first or second round of applications. The proposed timeline for funding rounds is outlined below:

<b>1st Round of Concept Papers Due</b>	<b>February 9, 2024</b>
1st Round of Full Applications Due	April 30, 2024
2nd Round of Concept Papers Due	September 2024
2nd Round of Full Applications Due	November 2024
3rd Round of Concept Papers Due	March 2025
3rd Round of Full Applications Due	June 2025

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**Matching Grant Requirements**

None required

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**New or Existing Program**

New

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**Tips for Being Competitive**

Concept papers will be solely evaluated on one criterion “Overall FOA Responsiveness and Viability of the Project.” Applicants should clearly demonstrate how their proposed building codes meet Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) requirements and will advance building decarbonization.

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**Labor Requirements**

Applicants must submit Community and Labor Partnership Documentation from established labor and community-based organizations that demonstrate the applicant’s ability to achieve the goals in the Community Benefits Plan.

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**Partnership Requirements**

As a part of the full application, applicants are required to submit Community Benefits Plans. In support of the Community Benefits Plan, applicants may submit documentation to demonstrate existing or planned partnerships with community entities, such as organizations that work with local stakeholders most vulnerable to or affected by the project. Examples of such entities include organizations that carry out workforce development programs, labor unions, Tribal organizations, and community-based organizations that work with disadvantaged communities

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**Agency Contact**

IRACodes@hq.doe.gov

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**Upcoming Events**

- Informational Webinar - January 17, 2024 at 11am PT: [Register here](#)
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**Total Allocation**

\$530 million

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**Anticipated Award Date**

September 2024

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**Resources**

- [Funding Opportunity - DOE Infrastructure eXCHANGE](#)