

Category (6) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs for Buildings and Facilities

STATUTORY LANGUAGE

Development and implementation of energy efficiency and conservation programs for buildings and facilities within the jurisdiction of the eligible entity, including—

- A. Design and operation of the programs;
- B. Identifying the most effective methods for achieving maximum participation and efficiency rates;
- C. Public education;
- D. Measurement and verification protocols; and
- E. Identification of energy efficient technologies

PROGRAM GUIDANCE

- The activity must be for the development and/or implementation of an energy efficiency or energy conservation program. An eligible use of funds may include the design and operation of the program and installation of energy efficiency equipment, including building energy management systems and controls.
- The activity must be related to buildings or facilities;¹⁶ and
- The activity must impact buildings or facilities within the jurisdiction of the eligible entity.

EXAMPLE ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Workforce development/training programs supporting eligible activities, such as training community members on green technology installation or residential and commercial energy audits
- Programs for public education including training or workshops
- Development and implementation of building performance standards, including benchmarking and disclosure requirements for the purpose of promoting energy efficiency in commercial buildings
- Development and implementation of measures and verification protocols
- Programs to partner with local non-profits and community organizations to support weatherization, efficiency retrofits and technologies, and installations
- Programs to promote architecture, design, and engineering work for energy efficient buildings
- Non-capital strategies to improve facility efficiency through an Energy Data Management Program and/or operations and maintenance strategies such as Strategic Energy Management (or similar methods)
- Development of an energy rating, disclosure and/or labeling system for the purpose of promoting energy efficiency in residential or commercial buildings

¹⁶ For the purpose of eligibility under the EECBG Program, “facility” generally means an installation, building, group of buildings, or group of structures designed to support a related purpose.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OPPORTUNITIES

- Blueprint 2A: Energy Efficiency – Energy Assessments and Building Upgrades
- Blueprint 2B: Efficiency for portfolio of government buildings: Energy Saving Performance Contracts
- Blueprint 2C: Building Electrification Campaign
- Blueprint 3: Building Performance Standards and Stretch Codes
- Blueprint 5: Unlocking Sustainable Financing Solutions for Energy Projects and Programs - Revolving Loan Funds
- In addition to providing one-on-one customized technical assistance for governments pursuing building code updates, the DOE [Building Energy Codes Program](#) also provides [technical assistance](#) for jurisdictions interested in exploring Building Performance Standards programs.
- The federal government maintains several tools to assist with building energy efficiency, which are described in the blueprints, including [ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager](#) and [DOE Building Energy Asset Score](#) which are online platforms to collect and organize building energy data. In addition, DOE developed the [Energy Data Management Guide](#) designed to support state and local governments in developing a data-driven approach to energy management.

ITEMS TO CONSIDER

- Achieve a double bottom line of economic justice and energy justice by prioritizing disadvantaged communities in workforce development training programs.
- Design programs that can leverage other local, state, and federal funding, such as the DOE Better Buildings Initiative, Weatherization Assistance Program, and EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants.
- Coordinate buildings and facilities programs with energy efficiency and conservation elements of any existing energy-related plan such as a climate action plan or local or tribal government's sustainability plan. Factor in the energy impacts of long-lifetime building upgrades and their implications for existing climate or sustainability plans.