



Energy Innovation Grant Program (EIGP)

Program Overview

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Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation

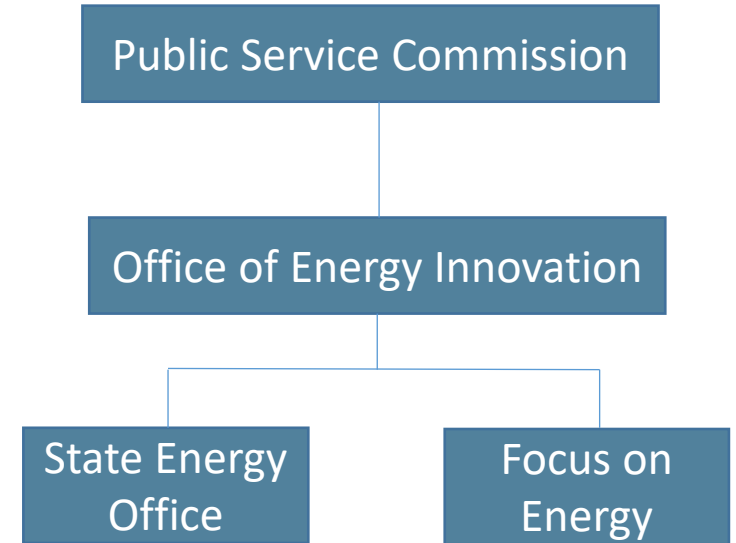
OEI Mission:

Developing Wisconsin's energy landscape to be secure, reliable, environmentally responsible, and growing the state's economy for all.

OEI Programs:

- [State Energy Office](#)
 - **Federally-funded:** Grants, Technical Assistance, Energy Statistics & Data, Energy Security
- [Focus on Energy](#)
 - **Utility ratepayer-funded:** Incentives, Technical Assistance, Training, Trade Ally Support

Contact OEI: OEI@Wisconsin.gov



- Implements the U.S. Department of Energy's State Energy Program
 - Federal formula and competitive energy grant funding
 - Energy-related planning
 - Technical assistance
- Implements the requirements of [Wis. Stat. § 196.025\(7\)\(a\)3](#)
 - State agency energy planning
 - Administer federal energy grants and programs
 - Maintain contingency plans for response to energy shortages
 - Provide energy efficiency and renewable technical assistance to local government
 - As needed, request public school utility data for technical assistance purposes

- State Energy Program Grant:
 - Wisconsin Refueling Readiness – transfer switches for fueling stations
 - Rural and Ag program – a partnership with Focus on Energy to deliver incentives for propane fueled equipment
- IIJA – November 2021
 - Rural Energy Startup Program – (EECBG)
 - Grid Resilience Program
 - Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund (in conditional status with U.S. DOE)
- IRA – August 2022
 - IRA Home Energy Rebates (HOMES and HEAR)
 - TREC – Training for Residential Energy Contractors (in conditional status with U.S. DOE)

Background

- Was originally funded through U.S. Department of Energy by the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).
 - Commission order dated May 2, 2018 (PSC REF #: [342128](#)), established the inaugural round program design.
- Since its establishment, the Commission has conducted four rounds of EIGP funded from ARRA, a fifth round funded from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), and a sixth round recently awarded included funding from both ARRA and IIJA.

Wisconsin Program Objectives

Objective One: Support the advancement of energy innovation in Wisconsin through investing in the adoption of innovative energy technologies and processes.

Objective Two: Invest in innovative program and partnership models that expand access to clean energy, efficiency, and preparedness to Wisconsin communities that are otherwise unable to adopt these and for whom these are innovative approaches.

- In-State Project: Project must be located exclusively within the state of Wisconsin.
- Cost Match: not required, however, cost match has been taken into consideration by Commission.
- Project cost-share (aka match) cannot include other federal funding.
- Depending on funding source, compliance with applicable Federal Requirements can also include:
 - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
 - Build America/Buy America (BABA) Requirements for Infrastructure Projects
 - Davis-Bacon and Related Acts
 - Justice40 Initiative

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicant types are defined as:

- Manufacturers of all sizes as defined by Wis. Stat. § 77.51(h)
- Municipalities, Universities, Schools, Hospitals, and Like Entities (MUSH Market):
 - Cities, Villages, Towns, and Counties
 - K-12 school districts
 - Tribes
 - Municipal water and wastewater utilities
 - Municipal electric and natural gas utilities
 - University of Wisconsin System campuses and facilities
 - Wisconsin Technical College System
 - Public or nonprofit hospitals
 - 501(c)(3) nonprofits
 - Electric cooperatives as defined by Wis. Stat. § 185.995(a)

Activity	Maximum Grant Request	Available Funds per Activity ⁵
1. Renewable Energy and Energy Storage	See below	\$4,500,000
Solar PV Systems	\$250,000	
Renewable Energy Systems [other than Solar PV Systems]	\$500,000	
Energy Storage System	\$250,000	
Renewable Energy Systems with Energy Storage	\$500,000 (Solar PV) \$750,000 (all other Renewable Energy)	
Level 3 Microgrid Implementation	\$750,000	
2. Energy Efficiency and Demand Response	\$1 million	\$4,500,000
3. Comprehensive Energy Planning & Feasibility Studies for Microgrids	See below	\$1,000,000
Planning Efforts	\$50,000 for Single Eligible Applicant \$100,000 for Two Eligible Applicants \$150,000 for Three Eligible Applicants \$200,000 for Four or More Eligible Applicants	
Feasibility Studies for Microgrids	\$50,000 for Level 1 & Level 2 Microgrids \$100,000 for Level 3 Microgrid	
	Total:	\$10 million

Eligible Activities

Activity 1: Renewable Energy and Energy Storage

This activity category is for applicant-owned projects seeking to install a solar photovoltaic (PV) system, a renewable energy system other than solar PV, a standalone energy storage system, or a project that will combine an energy storage system with solar PV or another renewable energy system, including a Level 3 microgrid.

- Solar PV Systems – \$250,000 Installation or upgrade of a solar PV system.
- Renewable Energy Systems other than PV Systems - \$500,000 Installation or upgrade of a biogas, biomass, geothermal, solar thermal, wind, or other renewable resource system.
- Energy Storage System - \$250,000 Installation or upgrade of an energy storage system (e.g. battery).
- Renewable Energy Systems combined with an Energy Storage System
 - • \$500,000 (Solar PV)
 - • \$750,000 (all other Renewable Energy)
- Installation of an energy storage system combined with installation or upgrade of a solar PV or other renewable energy system. Each of the combined components of a project in this category (renewable energy, solar PV, or energy storage) will be limited to the maximum grant request for that standalone activity shown above, the sum of which is not to exceed the respective maximum grant request provided for this category.
- Level 3 Microgrid Implementation - \$750,000 Installation of a Level 3 Microgrid or Community Resilience Center.

Eligible Activities

Activity Category 2: Energy Efficiency and Demand Response - \$1,000,000

This activity category is for projects seeking to increase energy efficiency, process efficiency, demand response improvements, and beneficial electrification.

- **Energy Efficiency.** Reduction of electric and thermal (gas, fuel oil, propane, etc.) energy use in buildings and other assets which may include the installation of efficient technologies and the application of building science and improved management techniques, such as more efficient lighting, improved heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, and water conservation systems.
- **Process Efficiency.** Addressing unique needs of large energy users or others in improving the energy intensity of their processes (for example, processes related to manufacturing, waste or wastewater treatment) by automation or other means.
- **Demand Response.** Installation of commercial demand response technology that reduces or shifts electricity usage during peak periods in response to time-based rates, or other demand response projects.
- **Beneficial Electrification.** Use of electricity for energy services that would otherwise consume fossil fuels (e.g., propane, heating oil, gasoline, diesel) in a way that reduces overall emissions and energy costs.

Eligible Activities

Activity 3: Comprehensive Energy Planning & Feasibility Studies for Microgrids – Planning Efforts up to \$200,000 | Microgrid Feasibility Studies up to \$100,000

This activity category is for projects undertaking a number of energy planning efforts and feasibility studies for microgrids.

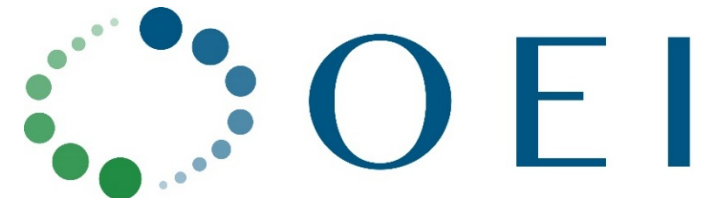
Comprehensive Energy Planning Efforts: **\$50,000 for Single Eligible Applicant | Multiple Eligible Applicants Applying as a Consortium: \$100,000 for Two Eligible Applicants | \$150,000 for Three Eligible Applicants | \$200,000 for Four or More Eligible Applicants.**

- **Comprehensive Energy Plans.** Planning that includes the evaluation of current energy use and sources, determination of the entity's potential for generating energy locally, and creation of goals for energy savings and generation. These efforts should include community-wide and stakeholder engagement, and public availability of the plan.
- **Investment Grade Audits.** A comprehensive energy audit that seeks to identify all cost-effective investment opportunities through a combination of engineering analysis of energy-using systems and economic analysis of possible energy-saving measures.
- **Technology Transfer and Market Transformation Planning.** Planning that relates to an applicant's efforts as it transitions a key component of its existing technology use, and which may serve as a model for other entities in the applicant's sector. Examples may include electric vehicle planning, beneficial electrification studies, geothermal market transformation planning, and more.

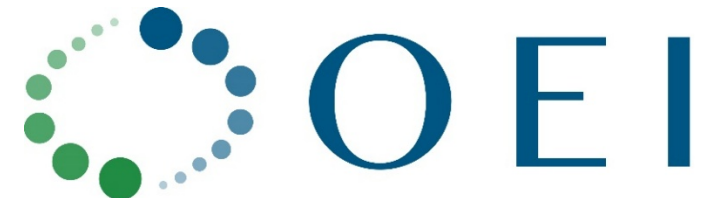
- OEI has seen significant demand for the EIGP program, over six rounds the Commission has received 622 applications requesting nearly \$200 million in funding.
- The Commission has awarded 205 projects totaling \$51.5 million.
- In the 2026 round, 89 applications were received with grant requests totaling almost \$35 million.
- Project underspend can cause project funds to go unused; those funds have gone back into the EIGP fund to be granted out in future rounds.

EIGP Award History

Federal Fiscal Year	Number of Grantees	Funding	PSCW Docket	Grant Summary
2026	36	\$11.5 Million	9709-FG-2026	2026 Grant Awards
2023	28	\$ 7.88 Million	9709-FG-2023	2023 Grant Awards
2022	32	\$ 10 Million	9709-FG-2022	2022 Grant Awards
2021	46	\$ 10 Million	9709-FG-2021	2021 Grant Awards
2020	32	\$ 7 Million	9709-FG-2020	2020 Grant Awards
2018	31	\$ 5 Million	9709-FG-2018	2018 Grant Awards



- EIGP 2026 accepted applications until July 1, 2026, award decisions were made at the Commission's open meeting on October 8, 2026.
- Available funding for a future round of EIGP will likely be dependent on state or federal funding becoming available.



2026 EIGP Applications by Entity

Table 2. Summary of All Applications by Applicant Type of Activity Type

Applicant Type	Activity Type								
	Activity 1: Renewable Energy and Energy Storage		Activity 2: Energy Efficiency and Demand Response		Activity 3: Comprehensive Energy Planning & Feasibility Studies for Microgrids		Total		
	Count	Request	Count	Request	Count	Request	Count	% of Total	Request
501(c)(3) Non-profit	11	\$5,032,550.62	7	\$5,003,295.68	6	\$844,022.00	24	27%	\$10,879,868.30
City	4	\$864,147.60	3	\$1,296,599.00	4	\$296,000.00	11	12%	\$2,456,746.60
County	3	\$766,742.02	4	\$1,765,775.00	2	\$200,000.00	9	10%	\$2,732,517.02
Electric Cooperative	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	0%	\$0.00
K-12 School District	5	\$1,862,000.00	2	\$1,270,978.70	1	\$50,000.00	8	9%	\$3,182,978.70
Manufacturer as defined by Wis. Stat. 77.51(h)	4	\$1,229,237.45	13	\$6,757,032.41	0	\$0.00	17	19%	\$7,986,269.86
Municipal Electric Utility	1	\$1,000,000.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	1%	\$1,000,000.00
Municipal Gas Utility	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	0%	\$0.00
Municipal Water/Wastewater Utility	1	\$250,000.00	1	\$1,000,000.00	0	\$0.00	2	2%	\$1,250,000.00

- 24 – 501c3 apps
- 17 - Manufacturer apps
- 11 – City apps
- 9 – County apps

2026 EIGP Apps by Entity (continued)

Applicant Type	Activity Type								
	Activity 1: Renewable Energy and Energy Storage		Activity 2: Energy Efficiency and Demand Response		Activity 3: Comprehensive Energy Planning & Feasibility Studies for Microgrids		Total		
	Count	Request	Count	Request	Count	Request	Count	% of Total	Request
Native American Tribal Community	3	\$1,000,000.00	3	\$2,121,664.75	1	\$50,000.00	7	8%	\$3,171,664.75
Other	0	\$0.00	1	\$14,680.00	0	\$0.00	1	1%	\$14,680.00
Public or Nonprofit Hospital	0	\$0.00	1	\$285,000.00	0	\$0.00	1	1%	\$285,000.00
Town	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	0%	\$0.00
University of Wisconsin System Campus or Facility	3	\$707,052.36	1	\$512,040.00	1	\$195,300.00	5	6%	\$1,414,392.36
Village	1	\$230,432.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	1%	\$230,432.00
Wisconsin Technical College System	1	\$167,824.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$50,000.00	2	3%	\$217,824.00
Totals:	37	\$13,109,986.05	36	\$20,027,065.54	16	\$1,685,322.00	89	100%	\$34,822,373.59
	42%		40%		18%				
Total Funds Available	\$4,500,000.00		\$4,500,000.00		\$1,000,000.00		\$10,000,000.00		

7 – Tribal Nation Apps
5 – UW System Apps
2 – WTCS Apps

EIGP Round	Solar only	Solar + storage	Total
2018	7	2	9
2020	2	11	13
2021	9	9	18
2022	0	7	7
2023	3	10	13
2026	2	10	12
Total	23	49	72

EIGP History:

72 solar projects:

- 23 solar-only
- 49 solar-plus-battery storage projects

Another 5 projects included storage only

In total:

Approx 8.75 MW of Solar

Approx 2 MW of Battery Storage



Activity 1: Renewable Energy and Energy Storage

Grant Applicant	Award Amount
Art Intersection MKE Community Partners, Inc.	\$466,374.00
Madison Area Technical College	\$167,284.00
Ashland County	\$266,742.02
School District of Crandon	\$612,000.00
Village of La Farge	\$230,432.00
Habitat for Humanity of Wisconsin, Inc.	\$500,000.00
Domtar Paper Company, LLC	\$330,000.00
City of Oshkosh	\$207,264.60
WHPC-Villa West-Green Bay, LLC	\$459,165.00
City of Verona	\$256,883.00
Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church	\$558,640.00
City of Madison	\$150,000.00
Red Cliff Chippewa Housing Authority	\$500,000.00
Impact Seven, Inc	\$294,675.38*

City of Madison

- Installing a battery energy storage system (BESS) at the City of Madison's Fire Station 14 to improve the resilience of the facility when faced with long duration electrical outages. This microgrid will also provide utility cost savings and the ability to provide grid support services by coordinating with the EMIS signals such as load shed events.

City of Verona

- Installing a 44.7 kW solar PV system, 258 kWh battery energy storage system, EV and e-bike charging infrastructure, and a solar carport at the Community Center. The project will reduce energy costs, improve energy resilience, support transportation electrification, and establish the facility as a community resilience hub capable of providing critical services during outages and emergencies.

Activity-2: Energy Efficiency and Demand Response

Grant Applicant	Award Amount
Milwaukee Domes Alliance	\$1,000,000.00
Complete Paper, Inc.	\$1,000,000.00
Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of WI	\$965,024.44
Black River Health Inc	\$285,000.00
Horseshoe Beverage Company LLC	\$382,539.85
Ahlstrom USA Inc.	\$1,000,000.00
Waupaca Foundry, Inc.	\$367,435.71*

Milwaukee Domes Alliance

- The project implements innovative energy efficiency technologies at Wisconsin's beloved Mitchell Park Domes to improve thermal properties, reduce solar heat gain/loss, enhance system durability, & reduce energy use by 282,600 Kwh/year. The project demonstrates innovation in energy performance improvement and sensitive integration of modern technology within a historic glazing system, offering a model for historic restoration to meet current energy goals while maintaining architectural integrity.

Activity-3: Comprehensive Energy Planning

Grant Applicant	Award Amount
Oneida Nation	\$ 50,000.00
Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association	\$200,000.00
Sustain Dane, Inc.	\$48,415.00
Cooperative Educational Service Agency 10	\$200,000.00
Midwest Renewable Energy Association	\$99,707.00
City of Wauwatosa	\$46,000.00
City of Two Rivers Parks & Recreation	\$50,000.00
City of Verona	\$50,000.00
Milwaukee County Dept of Admin	\$150,000.00
University of Wisconsin System	\$195,300.00
Madison Metropolitan School District	\$50,000.00
City of La Crosse	\$150,000.00
Slipstream Group, Inc.	\$50,000.00
Milwaukee Area Technical College	\$50,000.00
County of Dane	\$50,000.00

University of Wisconsin

- UW will evaluate large scale renewable electricity options that can be pursued collectively or individually by the 13 UW universities. Funds will support the engagement of a renewable energy consulting firm to educate and engage university stakeholders about available pathways, develop evaluation criteria, and provide technical and financial analysis. Deliverables will include actionable recommendations aligned with institutional mission, risk tolerance and capacity.

Joe Pater

Office of Energy Innovation

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