

Office of Community Engagement

February 2024



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Today's Agenda

1. Introductions
2. OCE Mission & Team
3. Justice40 & Community Benefit Plans
4. Funding Opportunities
5. Next Steps

Introductions

OCE Mission & Team

Transformative Opportunities

- DOE charged to catalyze rapid transition to clean energy economy
- Centered on justice, equity & inclusion
- **\$62B** through Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
- **\$35.5B** through Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
- Clean energy projects, workforce development, building efficiency, loan programs and more!



28+ Programs Coming Out of SCEP

\$3.5B for
Weatherization Assistance Program

\$260M for
Building
Efficiency
Workforce
Training

\$750M for
State Energy
Program &
Revolving Loan
Fund

\$500M for
Energy Efficiency
& Renewable
Energy in Public
Schools

\$100M for
Energy
Future
Grants

\$50M for
Energy
Efficiency for
Non-Profits

\$550M for
Energy Efficiency
& Conservation
Block Grants
Program

\$1B for
Energy Codes
Technical Assistance

\$8.8B for Home Energy Rebates

Congress has given DOE new mandates and unprecedented funding

Hydrogen

Buildings: efficiency & electrification

Carbon Management

Energy Storage

Electric Grid

Cybersecurity

Critical Minerals/Materials

Domestic Supply Chains

EVs and Chargers

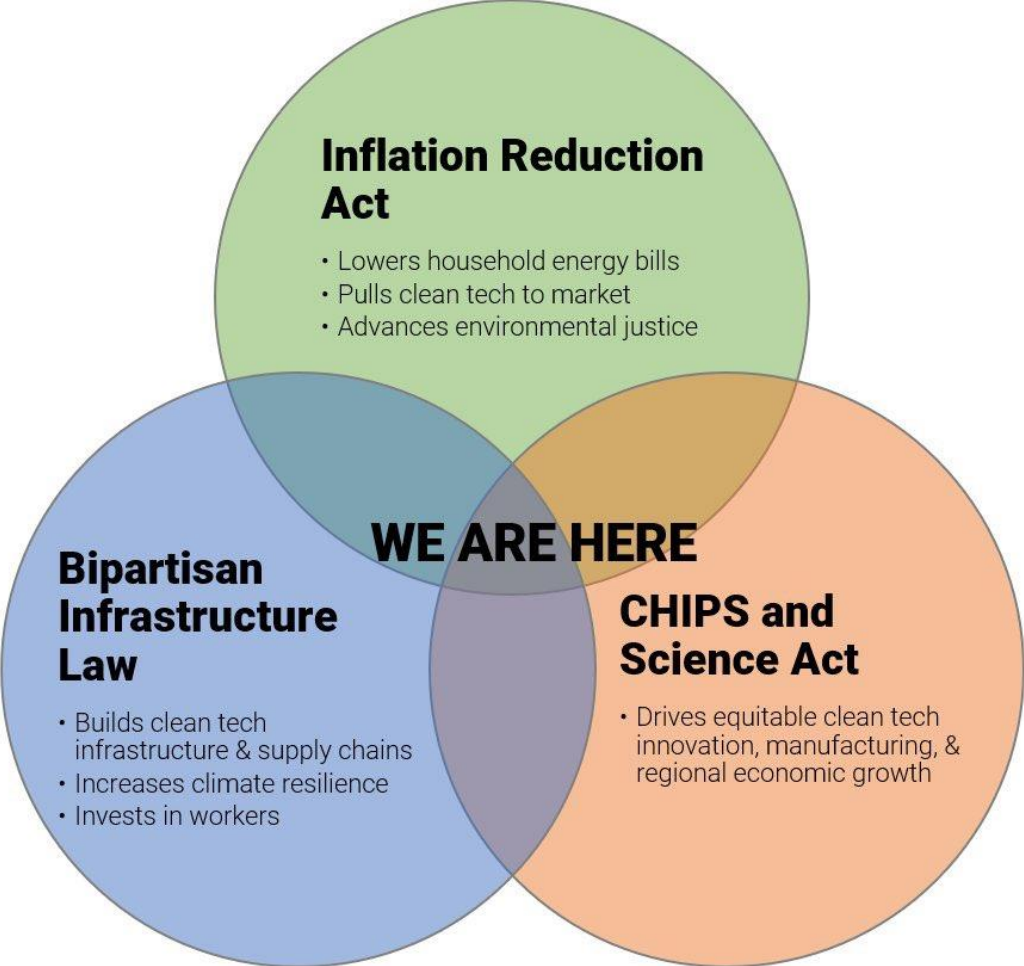
State, Local, Tribal Partnership

Workforce

Clean Energy Projects

~\$100B in Grants and Rebates
\$250B+ In Loans and Loan Guarantees

Over \$500 BILLION invested in the clean energy transition



Who Is OCE?

- Established at request of Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm
- Office of Community Engagement (OCE) serves as central hub for the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) engagement efforts.
- OCE helps connect communities with expertise & resources to advance THEIR clean energy goals.



Mission & Key Functions

Mission

- Increase DOE engagement with communities & strengthen internal coordination
- DOE's commitment:
 - Access to DOE for EVERY community, with off-the-shelf resources available for all.
 - Proactive, strategic engagement with communities across every region.
 - Ability to provide additional capacity to give in-depth assistance to specific communities

OCE Key Functions

- **Capacity Building**: Equip stakeholders with the necessary knowledge and resources to effectively navigate the clean energy landscape.
- **Technical Assistance**: Provide in-depth technical assistance to select communities, tailored to their specific needs and clean energy goals.
- **Expertise Mobilization**: Leverage the expertise of DOE offices across the department to enrich community engagement efforts.

OCE Duties



Conduit between
YOU and DOE.



Connect YOU to
resources, programs,
and expertise at DOE



Creating a two-way
dialogue



Collaboratively
assess situational
needs and interests.

Connect With Your Engagement Specialist



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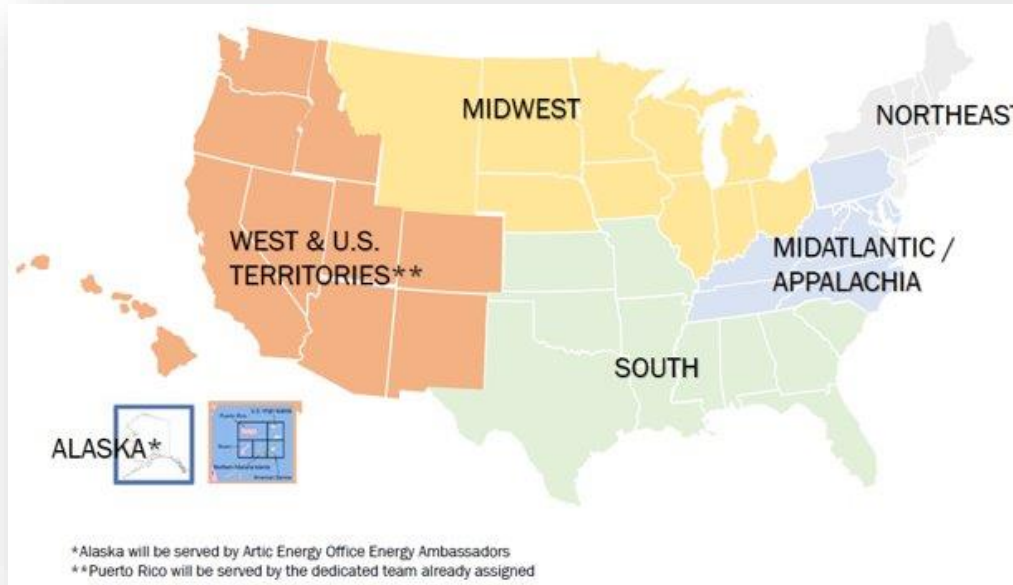
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Arctic Energy Office

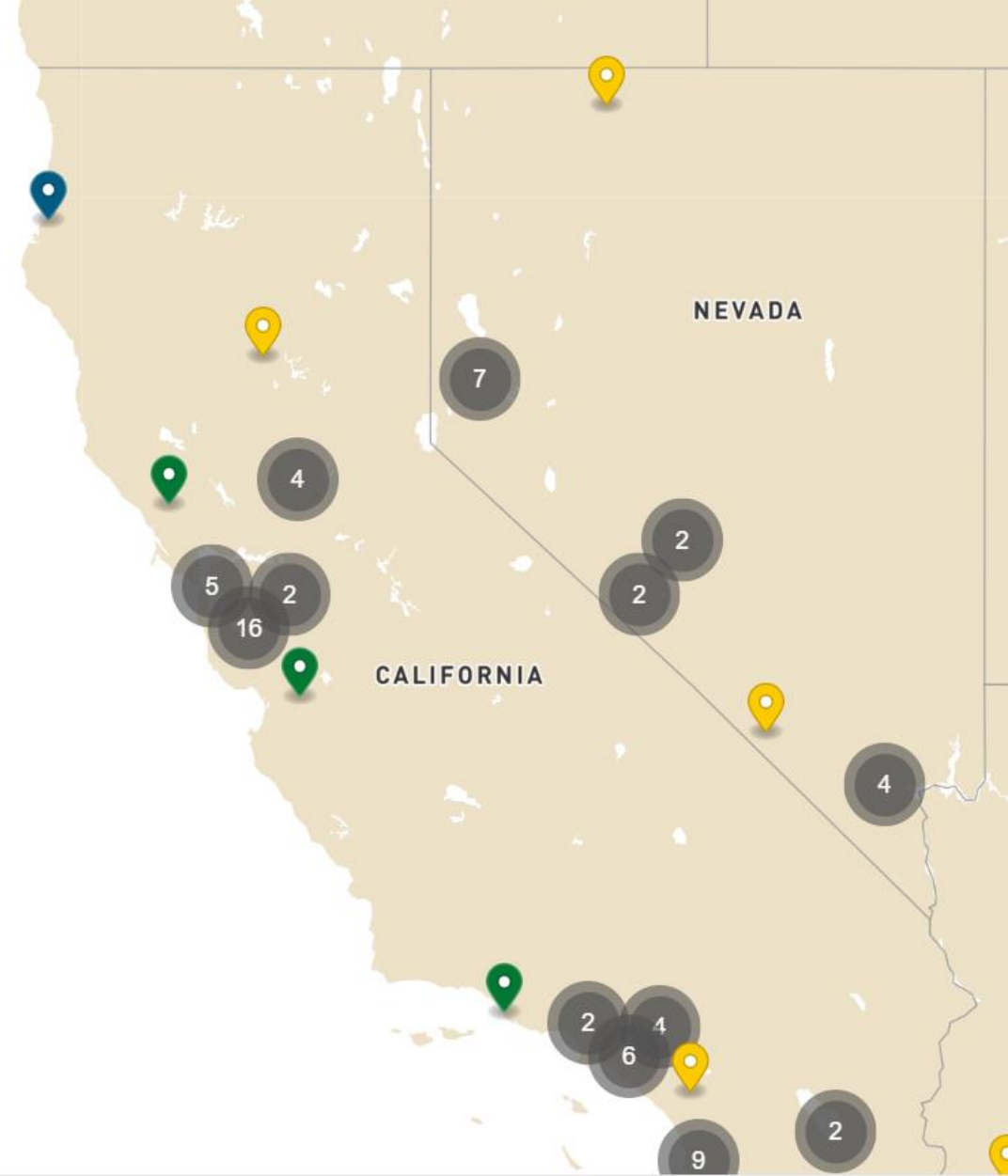
ArcticEnergy@hq.doe.gov



Our Resources

- Jurisdiction map
- Postcards
- Website (forthcoming)
- OCE Virtual Office Hours
 - Bi-weekly
 - [Click here to register](#)

Building America's Clean Energy Future



What is Energy Justice?

- **Energy justice** is a concept that tries to combat injustices within energy systems. It is based upon the idea that justice principles should be applied to anything energy-related, whether it be production, consumption, activism, security, or climate change.
- **A just energy system** fairly disseminates both the benefits and costs of energy services, and one that has representative and impartial energy decision-making (Sovacool & Dworkin)
- **Energy justice** refers to the goal of achieving equity in both the social and economic participation in the energy system, while also remediating social, economic, and health burdens on those disproportionately harmed by the energy system. (Source: <https://iejusa.org/>)



Justice40 Initiative

40% of the overall benefits of certain Federal investments, including:

- investments in clean energy and energy efficiency;
- clean transit;
- affordable and sustainable housing;
- training and workforce development;
- the remediation and reduction of legacy pollution; and
- the development of clean water infrastructure must flow to disadvantaged communities.

**Executive Order 14008:
Tackling the Climate
Crisis at Home and
Abroad
(1/27/21)**

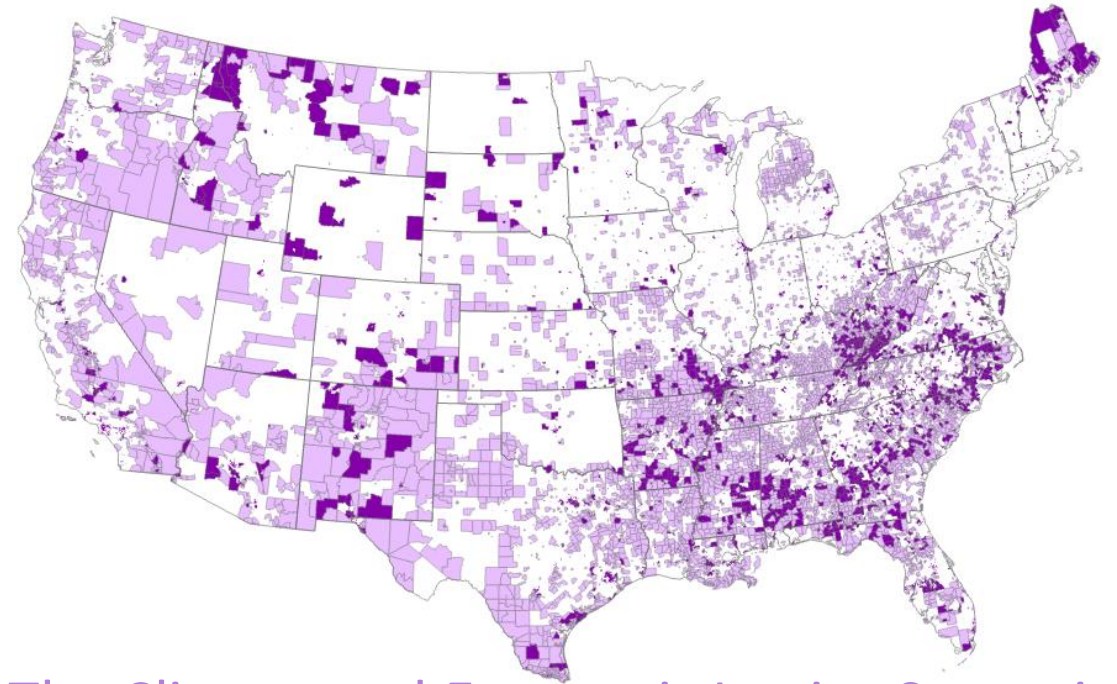
Justice40 Disadvantaged Communities

How is DOE Defining Disadvantaged Communities?

A community is defined as either:


1. A group of individuals living in geographic proximity (such as a census tract)
2. A geographically dispersed set of individuals (such as migrant workers or native tribes) that experience a common condition.

All Tribal lands
are included as
a
“disadvantaged
community.”



The Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool identifies 27,248 census tracts as disadvantaged (~36% of 74,134 total U.S. census tracts)

Justice40 Policy Priorities

- 
1. **Decrease** energy burden in disadvantaged communities (DACs).
 2. **Decrease** environmental exposure and burdens for DACs
 3. **Increase** parity in clean energy technology (e.g., solar, storage) access and adoption in DACs.
 4. **Increase** access to low-cost capital in DACs.
 5. **Increase** clean energy enterprise creation and contracting (MBE/DBE) in DACs.
 6. **Increase** clean energy jobs, job pipeline, and job training for individuals from DACs.
 7. **Increase** energy resiliency in DACs.
 8. **Increase** energy democracy in DACs.



DOE's Justice40 Covered Programs

23

Program Offices

167

Covered Programs

- Climate change
- Clean energy and energy efficiency
- Clean transportation
- Affordable and sustainable housing
- Training and workforce development
- Remediation and reduction of legacy pollution
- Critical clean water and waste infrastructure

Department of Energy's 140+ Justice40 covered programs list is organized by office. A program name that begins with BIL, is a new program created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Please click on an office to learn more about the Justice40 covered programs in that office.

ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY - ENERGY (ARPA-E)	+
BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION (BPA)	+
FEDERAL ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (FEMP)	+
GRID DEPLOYMENT OFFICE (GDO)	+
LOAN PROGRAMS OFFICE (LPO)	+
OFFICE OF CLEAN ENERGY DEMONSTRATIONS (OCED)	+

Learn more: <https://www.energy.gov/diversity/doe-justice40-covered-programs>

As of 7/25/22



Community Benefits Plan: Key to Successful Implementation

“I’m confident that as the American people see and feel the benefits from our efforts to transform America’s economy, lower costs, create jobs, and strengthen our national security, we will build momentum and broaden support for further action.”

- Reduces risks of opposition and delays
- Maximizes benefits
- Ensures long-term success
- Builds durable support for implementation



Community Benefits Plan: Four Priorities

- **Justice 40**
 - Meet or exceed the objectives of the Justice40 initiative that 40% of benefits accrue to disadvantaged communities
- **Job Quality and Workforce Continuity**
 - Create good-paying jobs to attract and retain skilled workers and ensure workers have a voice on the job over decisions that affect them
- **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility**
 - Equitable access to wealth-building opportunities (teaming, access to good jobs, business and contracting opportunities, etc.)
- **Workforce and Community Agreements**
 - Meaningful engagement with community and labor partners leading to formal agreements with accountability to affected stakeholders



*In most cases, these plans equate to 20% of the technical merit points for project proposals



Community Benefits Plan Implementation

A **Community Benefits Plan (CBP)** is a **new requirement** added to all FOAs. The Community Benefits Plan is typically valued at **20%** of the overall score of the application.

The CBP should outline:

- How the applicant intends to achieve DOE's priority areas of **Justice40, Diversity, Equity, Access & Inclusion (DEIA) & Quality Jobs**; and
- A **Specific, Measurable, Assignable, Realistic, & Time-Based (SMART)** milestone, **per budget period**, to measure progress on the proposed CBP actions.

If the project is selected:

- DOE will incorporate the **CBP** into the award and the recipient will be **required** to **implement** the **CBP** as proposed.
- During the life of the award, DOE will **evaluate** the recipient's progress, including as part of the "**Go/No-Go**" review process.



Good Jobs in the Community Benefits Plan

- Funding applicants must detail commitments to:
 - Pay **above average wages** and benefits in both the construction and ongoing operations jobs
 - Invest in workforce training to **support a skilled workforce** and provide pathways to advancement
 - Ensure worker participation in workplace **health and safety** plan design and implementation
 - Affirm workers have a **free and fair chance to form or join a union**



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DEIA in Community Benefits Plans

The Community Benefits Plan must describe how diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) objectives will be incorporated into the project.

- Should detail how the applicant will reduce barriers to employment and advancement opportunities for underrepresented individuals by providing supportive services and through partnerships with:
 - Underrepresented businesses
 - Minority Serving Institutions
 - Training organizations that serve workers who face barriers to accessing quality jobs, and/or
 - Other project partners to help improve DEIA in energy jobs.

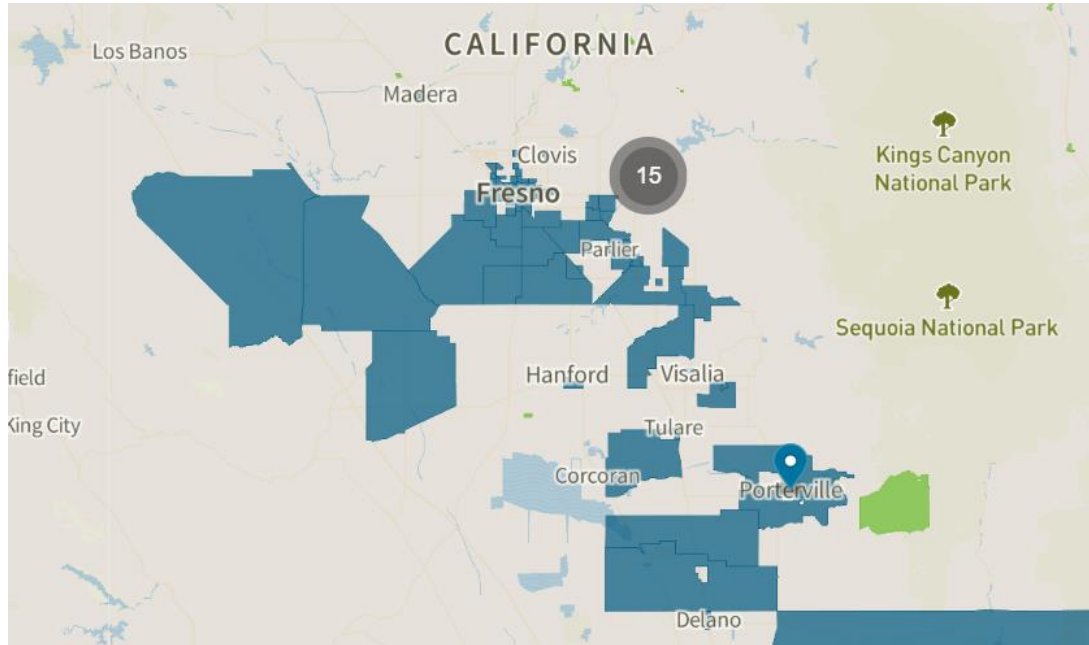


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Fresno

Energy Justice Dashboard



- [Energy Justice Dashboard \(BETA\)](#)
- Distribution of DOE's funding and investments distributed to overburdened and underserved communities

Fresno Funding

Existing Involvement

- Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant
- Inclusive Energy Innovation Prize
 - Central Valley Innovation Ecosystem at the WET Center

Additional Opportunities

Resources & Funding Programs

Engagement and Funding Opportunities

Funding opportunity announcements (FOAs)	Prizes	Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)	Technical Assistance (TA)
<p>Competitive solicitations issued as FOAs are the principal mechanism used to contract for cost-shared research, development, and demonstration projects.</p> <p>EERE eXCHANGE: Funding Opportunity (energy.gov)</p>	<p>American Made Challenges: The American-Made Program incentivizes innovation through prizes, training, teaming, and mentoring, connecting the nation's entrepreneurs and innovators to America's national labs and the private sector.</p> <p>American-Made Challenges</p> <p>SOLVE IT Prize HeroX</p>	<p>Congressional program requiring eligible agencies to set aside a percentage of their budget for domestic small business to engage in R&D with a strong potential for technology commercialization.</p> <p>SBIR Funding Opportunity Announcement</p>	<p>EERE offers a wide variety of technical assistance supporting energy efficiency and renewable energy. This technical assistance can include direct advice on issues or goals, tools and maps, and training</p> <p>Technical Assistance Department of Energy</p>

Engagement and Funding Opportunities

Weatherization Assistance Program	Solar Energy	Tribal Funding Opportunities	Grid Deployment Office (Hydro/Nuclear)
<p>Reduce energy costs for low-income households by increasing energy efficiency.</p> <p>Households save an average of \$372 or more per year. Served more than 7 million households since 1976.</p> <p>Weatherization Assistance Program Department of Energy</p>	<p>Solar Energy Technologies Office</p> <p>Solar Energy Resources for Government Officials</p>	<p>DOE funding opened to federally recognized Tribes</p> <p>Access to Capital Clearinghouse Indian Affairs (bia.gov)</p>	<p>Increase grid resilience, and improve and expand transmission and distribution systems to provide reliable, affordable electricity to everyone, everywhere.</p> <p>Grid and Transmission Program Conductor</p>

Educational Opportunities

Minority Educational Institution Student Partnership Program	Faculty-Applied Clean Energy Sciences	STEM Programs (Collegiate competitions, fellowships, internships)
<p>Summer Internship Opportunity</p> <p>Students and recent graduates in engineering, sciences, social sciences, business areas are encouraged to apply</p> <p>Minority Educational Institution Student Partnership Program (MEISPP) (ora.gov)</p>	<p>STEM faculty from Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), aims to foster diversity and inclusion in the energy sector</p> <p>The New FACES Program Department of Energy</p>	<p>Opportunities for individuals and institutions for STEM workforce training, learning, and professional development. Organizations can search for funding opportunities that provide resources for institutional capacity building for STEM training across a range of learner levels.</p> <p>DOE STEM Opportunities</p>

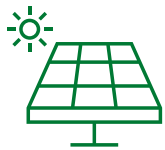
Workforce Opportunities

Career Skills Training Program : <https://www.energy.gov/scep/career-skills-training-program>

Energy Auditor Training Program : <https://www.energy.gov/scep/energy-auditor-training-grant-program>

Contractor Training Program : <https://www.energy.gov/scep/state-based-home-energy-efficiency-contractor-training-grants>

Building Training Assessment Centers Program : <https://www.energy.gov/scep/building-training-and-assessment-centers>



Deploy clean energy technologies



Center equity and deliver on J40 priorities



Catalyze local economic development



Create jobs



Avoid pollution through place-based strategies



Reduce energy costs

Funding Overload & Next Steps

- What are the needs of your communities?
- What opportunities do you see as Fresno County transitions to clean energy?
- What types of funding would be helpful?
- What organizations could benefit from these opportunities?
- What opportunities are missing?