

Maryland Energy

ADMINISTRATION

Powering Maryland's Future

EmPOWER Clean Energy Communities
Low-to-Moderate Income Grant Program

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Program Overview

- Purpose: Provide grant funding to non-profits and local governments to allow these entities to implement energy efficiency projects that benefit low-to-moderate income Marylanders.
- Competitive grant program





EmPOWER Clean Energy Communities Grant Program

- This grant program is part of the EmPOWER Maryland initiative:
 - *15% reduction in electricity usage and peak demand, on a per capita basis, by 2015.*
- The grant program is funded by the Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF).

Strategic Energy Investment Fund

- SEIF is funded from the proceeds of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).
- RGGI sells carbon allowances through a cap-and-trade system.



Grant Requirements

- Energy efficiency
- Benefit low-to-moderate income Marylanders
 - Low and moderate income households are defined as households with total household income that is less than 60% and 85% respectively of median income for each Maryland County.

Grant Evaluation Criteria

- Competitively within each county, grant funding will be awarded to the project(s) that best maximize energy savings and the number of low-to-moderate income individuals participating.

Funding Levels

- Funding levels vary based on the outcomes of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative auctions. Historically, program funding levels tends to range from \$2 million to \$3 million annually.
 - Fiscal year 2013: \$2.575 million
- Grant funds are allocated on a county-by-county basis, based on the number of low-to-moderate income households in each county.

County Allocations-FY 2013

<u>County</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
Allegany	\$43,500	Harford	\$86,500
Anne Arundel	\$173,500	Howard	\$72,000
Baltimore City	\$368,500	Kent	\$30,000
Baltimore County	\$366,000	Montgomery	\$371,000
Calvert	\$33,000	Prince George's	\$407,000
Caroline	\$30,000	Queen Anne's	\$30,000
Carroll	\$54,000	St. Mary's	\$43,500
Cecil	\$41,000	Somerset	\$30,000
Charles	\$55,500	Talbot	\$30,000
Dorchester	\$30,000	Washington	\$71,000
Frederick	\$101,000	Wicomico	\$48,000
Garrett	\$30,000	Worcester	\$30,000

Eligible Projects

- Primarily for the purchase and installation of energy efficient equipment.
- A limited amount of funds can be used to pay for technical assessments, licenses, training, and consumer education related to energy efficiency.

Eligible Projects

- Residential whole home retrofits
 - Home Performance with ENERGY STAR model
- Senior apartments
- Group homes for individuals with disabilities
- Homeless shelters
- Other projects can be proposed as long as it can be demonstrated that the results of the project will benefit low-to-moderate income Maryland residents.

Current Grantees

- Town of Bladensburg
 - Working in conjunction with 13 other Prince George's County cities and towns.
 - Residential energy efficiency upgrades



Current Grantees

- Housing Authority of the City of Cumberland
 - Energy efficiency upgrades in low income apartments.
- Baltimore City Department of Housing and Development
 - Energy efficient HVAC upgrades in homes already receiving building shell improvements.

Tentative Grant Timing for Fiscal Year 2014*

- **Application Release:** Late summer (normally August)
- **Application Due Date:** mid-October 2013
- **Award Announcements:** December 2013
- **Grant Agreements finalized:** January – March 2014
- **Grant projects executed:** April 2014- August 2014

* Subject to change

How will I know when the applications become available?

- Sign up for the MEA electronic newsletter at <http://energy.maryland.gov/News/index.html>.
- Check the Governor's Grants Office website at <http://grants.maryland.gov/Pages/grantsHome.aspx>.

Program Contact Information

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Questions?

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