

# Justice40 Program Highlights

## Recent accomplishments across Justice40 Covered Programs



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF

**ENERGY**

Office of Economic  
Impact and Diversity

### GRANTS AND LOANS

On March 30, 2022, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced \$3.16 billion in new funding through the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) – DOE's largest residential energy retrofit program. This expanded funding, which is enabled by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, will allow states, Tribes, and territories to retrofit thousands of low-income homes to make them healthier and more energy efficient while lowering utility bills. **Announcement Link:** [Biden Administration Announces Investments to Make Homes More Energy Efficient and Lower Costs for American Families | Department of Energy](#)

#### LOAN PROGRAMS OFFICE (LPO)

- The Loan Programs Office (LPO) has engaged with tribes through a series of webinars and conferences including: a webinar on Energy Projects for Tribes of All Sizes, the 40th Annual Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA) Conference in Seattle, and a webinar on Debt & Tax Equity For Energy Projects In Indian Country. These engagements resulted in issuing solicitation supplement to enable direct lending through a Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program as authorized by 2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act for the remainder of FY22.
  - **Announcement Link:** [LPO Improves Access for Tribal Energy Projects with Updated Solicitation | Department of Energy](#)

#### OFFICE OF STATE AND COMMUNITY ENERGY PROGRAMS (SCEP)

- The Fiscal Year 2022 budget includes \$283 million for the Weatherization Assistance Program and \$15 million Readiness funding allocated to 57 grantees; \$18.78 million for Enhancement and Innovation (E&I) grants; and \$6.26 million for Sustainable Energy Resources for Consumers (SERC) grants. The first round of E&I and SERC grants was announced on July 8, 2022.
  - **More Information Here:** [Weatherization Assistance Program](#)

#### OFFICE OF INDIAN ENERGY AND POLICY PROGRAMS (IE)

- Between 2010 to 2021, Indian Energy invested over \$114 million in more than 200 tribal energy projects valued nearly \$200 million, more than 43 megawatts (MW) of new generation installed, over \$13.7 million saved every year, and over 8,600 tribal buildings affected.
  - **Announcement Link:** [U.S. Department of Energy to Announce Funding Opportunity to Power Unelectrified Tribal Buildings | Department of Energy](#)



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### EDUCATION AND TRAINING (MSI, HBCU)

In 2022, DOE unveiled a commitment of up to \$102 million in funding and support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and other Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) as foundations for world-class talent in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). **Announcement Link:** [DOE Releases New Equity Action Plan, Unveils Investments to Strengthen HBCU Opportunities in Clean Energy | Department of Energy](#)

### ADVANCED MANUFACTURING OFFICE (AMO)

- AMO announced \$7 million in funding to expand the Industrial Assessment Center (IAC) program with the selection of five additional centers, three of which are MSIs and a fourth is partnering with an HBCU. Of the now 37 IACs, 15 are either MSIs or have MSI partnerships.
  - **Announcement Link:** [Biden Administration Launches \\$7 Million Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Initiative to Further Decarbonize Manufacturing | Department of Energy](#)
- The Industrial Assessment Center's (IAC) Women for Energy Efficiency (WE2) program supports women in energy engineering to broaden the program's impact and encourage female leadership in the industry. Roughly 31 percent of active IAC students are women, compared to an overall national average of 24 percent of all U.S. engineering students.



### OFFICE OF SCIENCE (SC)

- The Office of Science is targeting increased investments in STEM research and workforce development at HBCUs with up to \$59 million by 2025—an increase of more than 18-fold compared to current funding levels.
  - **Announcement Link:** [DOE Releases New Equity Action Plan, Unveils Investments to Strengthen HBCU Opportunities in Clean Energy | Department of Energy](#)

### WIND ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE (WETO)

- The Wind Energy Technology Office increased diversity for the 2023 Collegiate Wind Competition (CWC) where participants develop preliminary designs for a prototype wind turbine and a hypothetical wind farm. Thirty colleges and universities were selected to participate including two community colleges, 12 minority-serving institutions, 8 Hispanic-Serving Institutions and six Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions.
  - **Announcement Link:** [DOE Announces 2023 Collegiate Wind Competition Phase 1 Participants | Department of Energy](#)

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### EDUCATION AND TRAINING (MSI, HBCU) - CONTINUED

#### BIOENERGY TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE (BETO)

- BETO is awarding \$2.38 million in funding to Minority-Serving Institutions STEM Research and Development Consortium (MSRDC) members for innovative projects on advanced algal systems, advanced terrestrial waste feedstock technologies, catalyst development for biofuel production, or synthetic biology, specifically investigating new biological approaches to accelerate biomanufacturing of chemicals and sustainable aviation fuels, and building the bioeconomy.

#### BUILDING TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE (BTO)

- In 2022, in partnership with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, the Building Technologies Office (BTO) funded six Graduate Education for Minority Students (GEM) fellows to join the BTO team for the summer. The GEM program recruits underrepresented students looking to pursue Master's and Doctoral degrees in STEM.

o **Announcement Link:** [BTO Welcomes Six GEM Fellows for Summer 2022 | Department of Energy](#)

### ENGAGEMENT

#### OFFICE OF LEGACY MANAGEMENT (LM)

- Legacy Management Contractor Services established a new location for Navajo Nation Outreach Office in Window Rock, Arizona that will allow for the growth of STEM programs, improve visibility, and increase public outreach efforts.

o **Announcement Link:** [LM's New Arizona Office Provides Better Support for Outreach in Navajo Nation | Department of Energy](#)

#### LOAN PROGRAMS OFFICE (LPO)

- LPO established process improvements with a Request for Information (RFI) on how to improve Title XVII Innovative Energy Loan Guarantee Program including the use of policy factors related to job quality, responsible contractor standards, workforce diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility goals, and underserved or disadvantaged community hiring goals.

o **Announcement Link:** [Deadline Extended: LPO Seeks Stakeholder Input on Improvements to Title 17 Loan Guarantee Program Rule | Department of Energy](#)

#### BUILDING TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE (BTO)

- BTO funded a landscape survey of ~160 environmental justice (EJ) organizations working on building decarbonization. The list of organizations can help BTO pursue partnerships.

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### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The first-of-its-kind Communities Local Energy Action Program (Communities LEAP) Pilot reflects the Administration's priorities to assist community-led transitions to a clean energy economy, and to build a healthier, more equitable, and sustainable future. In March 2022, DOE announced 24 inaugural communities that will receive \$16 million in technical assistance. Communities LEAP is specifically open to low-income, energy-burdened communities that are also experiencing either direct environmental justice impacts, or direct economic impacts from a shift away from historical reliance on fossil fuels. **Announcement Link:** [DOE Will Assist 24 Communities With Locally Tailored Pathways to Clean Energy | Department of Energy](#)

### FEDERAL ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (FEMP)

- FEMP along with the Building Technologies Office (BTO) is providing technical assistance to the Bureau of Indian Education schools to measure and improve indoor environmental quality.

### OFFICE OF ELECTRICITY (OE)

- In partnership with the Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project (ETIPP), OE provided technical assistance to the Ouzinkie, AK, community in using the Risk-controlled Expansion Planning with Distributed Resources (REPAIR) tool for resource planning. This tool is intended to help prevent and mitigate the impacts caused by outages from disasters or service interruptions.



### SOLAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE (SETO)

- The National Community Solar Partnership (NCSP) launched a States Collaborative with 15 states participating and 15 observing. One of the two working groups in the States Collaborative focuses on low- to moderate-income household participation and community ownership of community solar.
- NCSP announced the development of a platform to connect recipients of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program with available community solar subscriptions that provide significant bill savings (at least 20%) and other meaningful benefits.
  - Announcement Link:** [Biden-Harris Administration Launches New Solar Initiatives to Lower Electricity Bills and Create Clean Energy Jobs | Department of Energy](#)
- NCSP worked with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to develop guidance for utility allowances that allows residence of affordable housing to see additional financial benefits through their community solar subscriptions. Guidance has been issued for Washington D.C., with guidance for states expected soon.
- SETO announced a \$25 million Renewables Advancing Community Energy Resilience (RACER) FOA to investigate community energy resilience, community energy needs and engagement that can inform technology development.
  - Announcement Link:** [Funding Notice: Renewables Advancing Community Energy Resilience \(RACER\) | Department of Energy](#)



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### SMALL BUSINESSES

On July 11, 2022, DOE announced \$137 million for small businesses in 30 states through the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer awards. These awards help fund 120 projects across the Department that support technology development and scientific discovery. **Announcement Link:** [Department of Energy Announces \\$137 Million for Small Business Research and Development Grants](#) | Department of Energy

#### ADVANCED MANUFACTURING OFFICE (AMO)

- The AMO office selected 10 projects—with \$10.8 million from AMO and \$700,000 from other EERE offices—to advance to Phase II of the Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) program.
  - **Announcement Link:** [Advanced Manufacturing Office Announces \\$11.5 Million for 10 Small Business Research and Development Projects](#) | Department of Energy

#### SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION (SWPA)

- As of July, SWPA has awarded over \$314,000 to small disadvantaged businesses in Fiscal Year 2022.

### TOOLS

#### OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY (EERE)

- The State Energy program added climate and justice data to the State and Local Planning for Energy (SLOPE) Platform. SLOPE is a collaboration between eight U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) technology offices and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to enable more data-driven state and local energy planning and decision making.
  - **Learn more here:** [State and Local Planning for Energy \(SLOPE\) Platform](#) | Department of Energy

#### NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LAB (NREL)

- The National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) worked on increased customization capabilities to the LEAD Tool. The LEAD Tool is an interactive website that helps states, communities, and other stakeholders improve their understanding of low-income housing and energy characteristics.
  - **Explore the tool here:** [LEAD Tool](#) | Department of Energy
  - **Learn more here:** [Low-Income Energy Affordability Data \(LEAD\) Tool](#) | Department of Energy