

Advancing Equity Through Workforce Partnerships

PCFO IGAP Grant Snapshot

August 4, 2022

Agency: US Department of Energy (DOE)	Bureau: Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO)
Application Deadline: Mandatory Letter of Intent due 09/13/22; Concept Papers due 09/20/22; Full Applications due 12/06/22	Max Award: \$1.5 million

Description

The Advancing Equity Through Workforce Partnerships funding opportunity will provide grants for the development of collaborative workforce programs that will facilitate the rapid deployment of solar energy technologies while supporting an inclusive workforce with opportunities for union membership. This opportunity will enable more members of disadvantaged communities and energy justice populations to pursue careers in the solar energy industry.

Eligible Recipients

1. Institutions of higher education;
2. For-profit entities;
3. Non-profit entities; and
4. State and local governmental entities, and Tribal Nations
5. DOE/National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Federally funded research and development centers (FFRDCs) are eligible to apply for funding as a prime recipient or subrecipient.
6. Non-DOE/NNSA FFRDCs are eligible to participate as a subrecipient, but are not eligible to apply as a prime recipient.
7. Federal agencies and instrumentalities: Eligible to apply as a subrecipient, but not a prime recipient

Matching Grant Requirements

Cost sharing is not required under this FOA. However, cost share is encouraged in order to extend the impact of projects.

Eligible Projects

In order to be considered under this FOA, applicants must propose solar-centered workforce development programs oriented around advancing worker empowerment, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA), and Environmental Justice (EJ) goals, improving career opportunities, and other related priorities.

Eligible Projects

In addition, key elements of successful applications will include many, if not all, of the following characteristics:

- Multi-Stakeholder Teams
- Demand-Driven
- Worker-Centric
- Leveraging Existing Infrastructure and Resources
- Sustainability and Replicability
- Prioritization of Energy Justice

Areas of Interest

- Apprenticeship Readiness (Pre-Apprenticeship) or Apprenticeship Partnership
- Community-Led Training Partnership
- Clean Energy Sector Partnerships

SETO will also consider and evaluate other new or innovative types of programs which advance the Office's goals around solar workforce development and equitable access.

Specifically, this FOA is intended to support sustainable, employer-driven, employee-centric high-road workforce development partnerships that benefit the following individuals and communities:

- Disadvantaged or LMI communities
- Communities of Color
- Tribal communities
- Young people with disadvantaged backgrounds
- Previously Incarcerated Individuals (PII) or Returning Citizens
- Transitioning fossil fuel communities
- Rural communities
- People with Disabilities
- Women

New or Existing Program

New program created under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

Tips for Being Competitive

Competitive applicants will include teams with representation from diverse entities such as, but not limited to, MSIs, HBCUs and other minority institutions, minority business enterprises, minority-owned businesses, woman-owned businesses, veteran-owned businesses, or entities located in an underserved community.

Applications will also be evaluated on the following criterion:

1. Technical Merit, Innovation, and Impact
2. Project Research and Market Transformation Plan
3. Team and Resources

Labor Requirements

This FOA will support multi-stakeholder high-road workforce development partnerships that help accelerate the deployment of solar energy while advancing the Administration's priorities around worker empowerment, quality jobs with a free and fair choice for workers to join a union, and Energy and Environmental Justice (EJ) and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) in the clean energy workforce.

Examples of Prior Award Recipients N/A

Agency Contact seto.workforceFOA22@ee.doe.gov

Upcoming Webinars and Information Sessions On August 4, SETO held a “Informational Webinar: SETO Advancing Equity Through Workforce Partnerships Funding Opportunity.” A recording and presentation slides will be posted on the [Funding Opportunity Announcement site](#).

Types of Partners Required SETO strongly encourages teaming among multiple stakeholders across academia, industry, National Laboratories, community-based organizations (CBOs), unions, and all technical disciplines. Teams that include multiple partners are preferred over applications that include a single organization. To facilitate the formation of teams, SETO is providing a forum where interested parties can add themselves to the [Teaming Partner List](#), which allows organizations that may wish to apply to the FOA, but not as the prime applicant, to express interest to potential partners.

Any organization that would like to be included on this list should submit information in accordance with the “Teaming Partner List Instructions” listed on the [Funding Opportunity Announcement](#).

Total Allocation \$10 million

Anticipated Award Date Expected Timeframe for Award Negotiations: March-April 2023

Links to Grant Opportunity

- [Grant Opportunity on Grants.gov](#)
- [Funding Opportunity Announcement on EERE Exchange](#)
- [Funding Notice](#)