

Renewable Energy – Village Energy Efficiency Program (RE-VEEP) REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA) Funding Announcement & Instructions

Announcement Date: Monday, December 29, 2025
Application Due Date: Friday, February 27, 2026, at 4:00 PM AKST

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This is a request for Grant Applications (RFA) for consideration for sub-award under Section 40109 funds for the State Energy Program of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ("IIJA"), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law ("BIL").

Sub-awards for SEP BIL Sec. 40109

RFA ISSUE DATE: Monday, December 29, 2025

APPLICATION DUE DATE: Friday, February 27, 2026, at 4:00 PM

Register to Receive Notification: Interested applicants who want to be notified of updates or changes to the RE-VEEP Request for Applications ("RE-VEEP RFA") must subscribe to the State of Alaska RE-VEEP List Server. Follow the link <u>list.state.ak.us</u>, scroll down until you find the listserve "aea.efficiency," click on it, and follow the subscription instructions.

Application: A copy of the application can be found at the Alaska Energy Authority's (AEA) website at: Alaska Energy Authority > What We Do > Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs > Energy Efficiency & Conservation > Renewable Energy-Village Energy Efficiency Program (akenergyauthority.org)

Public Records Notice to Applicants:

- AEA is subject to the Public Records Act, Alaska Statute (AS) 40.25, and materials submitted to AEA may be subject to disclosure requirements under the act if no statutory exemptions apply.
- All applications and information received will be posted on AEA's website after determinations on the award of sub-award grants have been made.

Contact:

Malakai Erskine, (907) 771-3000, grants@akenergyauthority.org

AEA's grants manager is responsible for accepting applications, coordinating communications with Grantees, and posting any changes or clarifications to the application process.

<u>Deadline: Applications must be submitted to AEA by 4:00 PM on Friday, February 27, 2026, by email or physical delivery.</u> Faxed applications will not be accepted. See Section 1.12 of this RFA for instructions and details.

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Section 1 – Introduction: describes program and procedural requirements for preparing and submitting an application.

Section 2 – Application Requirements: describes project information that is required to be discussed in each application.

Section 3 – Application Evaluation Process and Criteria: describes the criteria that will be used to evaluate and rank each application.

Section 4 – Appendices: provides additional reference material to assist in application preparation, application forms, grant documents, and applicable law.

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The State of Alaska received a one-time disbursement of federal funds through the U.S. Department of Energy's State Energy Program: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (SEP BIL) under Section 40109 to enhance energy security, advance state-led energy initiatives, and increase energy affordability.

Of the overall award, \$1,000,000 in SEP BIL funds from the U.S. Department of Energy was directed to support RE-VEEP, a program that will finance building-scale renewable energy, energy efficiency, and conservation projects in public buildings and facilities located in rural Alaska.

RE-VEEP supports Federal Administration and Congressional goals to (1) improve U.S. energy resilience and reduce exposure to energy-related risk, (2) invest in modernized and upgraded infrastructure that improves reliability and enables consumer access to affordable energy, (3) support the deployment of innovative and cost-effective energy solutions that strengthen domestic energy systems and supply chains, and (4) create and sustain good-paying jobs.

All Grant awards made under RE-VEEP shall comply with applicable law, including regulations contained in 2 CFR Part 200 as amended by 2 CFR Part 910 and 10 CFR Part 420.

1.2 Introduction

This RFA sets out the purpose, instructions, requirements, evaluative criteria, and other information for submitting an application to AEA for consideration of sub-award grants to eligible entities under the RE-VEEP.

1.3 Government Roles and Responsibilities

AEA is a public corporation of the State of Alaska with the mission to reduce the cost of energy in Alaska by carrying out the powers and duties assigned to it. Under the authorizing statutes of Section 40109 of the IIJA and as authorized by the Office of Governor Michael Dunleavy of the State of Alaska; AEA has been selected as the sole Eligible Applicant and has been charged with administering sub-award grants, through this RFA, for RE-VEEP.

AEA's grants manager is responsible for accepting applications, coordinating any communications with Grantees, and posting any changes or clarifications to the application process. AEA's Energy Efficiency Program Manager is responsible for coordinating the evaluation of all applications.

The program manager will clarify grant requirements, review progress reports and billings, and review and accept deliverables of the grant project. The program manager will also support technical assistance as needed, which is anticipated to include a broad range of eligible entity

questions regarding the application process, potential projects, reporting metrics, etc. The Executive Director of AEA, in conjunction with decisions and/or determinations made by the U.S. DOE or a designee, will approve the final grant and carry out all other duties as defined in applicable statutes, regulations, and this RFA.

Applicants applying for a RE-VEEP grant should be advised that special terms and conditions apply to projects funded SEP BIL relating to the following:

- Reporting, tracking, and segregation of incurred costs;
- Reporting on job creation and preservation;
- Publication of information on the Internet;
- Access to records by Inspectors General and the Government Accountability Office;
- Ensuring that iron, steel, manufactured goods, and construction materials used in infrastructure projects are produced in the United States;
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) limitations/requirements;
- Ensuring wage rates are comparable to those prevailing on projects of a similar character;
- Protecting whistleblowers and requiring prompt referral of evidence of a false claim to an appropriate inspector general; and
- Certification and Registration.

Recipients of funding appropriated by the IIJA must comply with requirements of all applicable Federal, State, and local laws, regulations, DOE policy and guidance, and instructions in the prevailing US DOE Administrative and Legal Requirements Document ("ALRD"). As the administrator of RE-VEEP, AEA is obliged to flow down the requirements to sub-recipients (i.e., sub-awardees) to ensure the sub-recipient's compliance with the requirements. Such requirements are at the full discretion of US DOE and are subject to change at any time, these requirements will be incorporated as part of the sub-award agreement as related to this solicitation, and may be subject to amendment throughout the course of the term of the sub-award.

1.4 Eligible Entities

An applicant committed to representing the interests of the entire community in developing an effective work plan and implementing energy efficiency and conservation measures to maximize cost savings from the community's use of electricity and heating energy is eligible to apply for and receive a grant. Eligible applicants include, but are not limited to municipalities, school districts, unincorporated villages, Native corporations, tribal consortiums recognized as nonprofit entities under 26 U.C.S. 501(c)(3), regional housing authorities, councils organized under 25 U.S.C. 476, and traditional councils.

1.5 Eligible Projects / Use of Funds

Communities may use grant funding for the following types of building-scale renewables, energy efficiency, and conservation projects.

- (1) energy efficiency audits of public buildings and facilities; **not more than 20 percent** of the grant money may be used for **energy efficiency audits**;
- (2) energy efficiency improvements to public buildings and facilities, including those affecting the
 - (A) thermal envelope; improvements affecting the thermal envelope include installing insulation or weather sealing, and replacing windows and doors; and
 - (B) heating, domestic hot water, air conditioning, or ventilation systems;
 - (C) lighting systems and controls, both indoor and outdoor; and
 - **(D)** other electrical load of the building or facility, including motors, pumps, water heaters, heat trace timers, occupancy sensors, other control equipment, exit signs, refrigeration, appliances, and other electric loads;

(4) Implementation of building-scale renewable energy projects must make direct use of renewable energy resources to generate energy or to make a fuel that can be used to generate energy.

"Building-scale renewables" are systems or technologies that are designed and implemented at the scale of individual buildings. These systems or technologies are installed on or integrated with buildings to generate clean and sustainable energy for on-site use or to contribute surplus energy back to the grid. Designed to the specific energy needs and characteristics of the building, building-scale renewables encompass various technologies, such as solar photovoltaic (PV), solar thermal systems, building-integrated photovoltaics (BIPV), heat pumps, and more.

Other examples of eligible renewable energy resources include:

- (A) wind, solar, geothermal, waste heat recovery, hydropower; or
- **(B)** low-emission nontoxic biomass based on solid or liquid organic fuels from wood, forest and field residues, or animal or fish products; or
- (C) dedicated energy crops available on a renewable basis; or
- (D) landfill gas and digester gas.

"Waste heat recovery" means systems for the recovery of unused heat from systems or processes in operation when the applicant applies for a grant. Grant funds will be allocated only to the portions of existing systems that are required for the capture and distribution of heat.

1.6 Funding

The total amount of funding available for all sub-awards through this solicitation is \$1,000,000. Awarded projects must both start, and complete, construction within a 2-year performance period. AEA will score applications using a systematic approach that considers various criteria to ensure a mix of projects and an equitable and effective distribution of resources.

All expenditures must be allowable, allocable, and reasonable in accordance with the applicable federal cost principles. The Office of State and Community Energy Programs (SCEP) determines the allowability of costs through reference to <u>2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)</u> part 200 as amended by 2 CFR part 910.

Refer to the following applicable federal cost principles for more information:

• 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E - Cost Principles for all other non-federal entities.

Costs to support or oppose union organizing, whether directly or as an offset for other funds, are unallowable.

1.7 Eligible Entity Prioritization

In making grants to eligible entities (i.e. sub-awardees) using funds made available to the applicable State under RE-VEEP, the State shall give priority to projects that, in the determination of the State, will generate the greatest community benefit.

1.8 Cost Match Requirements

There are no cash or in-kind match requirements for projects submitted under this RFA.

1.9 Timeline

Below is an anticipated schedule of critical dates related to this request and the award of the sub-award grants. Actual dates after the application due date are tentative and subject to change based on the number and complexity of applications received.

Task	Anticipated Dates
Funding Announcement	December 29, 2025
Application Due Date	February 27, 2026, at 4:00 PM Alaska Standard Time
AEA Review of Applications	March 2 to March 23, 2026
Notification of Awards	April 3, 2026, or earlier
Submit sub-grant agreements, financial arrangements, and any other required paperwork *Contingent upon AEA receiving all documentation needed for award.	April 3 to May 1, 2026
Provide necessary support to sub-grantees to ensure successful project implementation.	Duration of the award
Deadline for all work to be completed	March 31, 2028
Final reports and grant closeout, if not completed sooner.	May 30, 2028

^{*}Actual award dates may vary depending on timing of AEA approval and any modifications that may be required to the Grantee's proposal prior to grant award.

1.10 Modifications to the RFA

Applicants may submit written requests for clarifications or modifications to this RFA to the grants manager no later than **February 13**, **2026**. Please be advised that AEA cannot modify requirements of section 40552 or 40109 of the IIJA, or related sections, and those federal requirements stated therein.

Acceptance or denial of the request is solely at the discretion of AEA and the US DOE. The grants manager has 10 calendar days to respond to each request received. Failure of the grants manager to issue a written clarification or modification within 10 days from submittal of request shall be considered a denial of the request. The grants manager will post the answers to questions that result in changes to the application process on the program webpage

Modifications to this RFA may be issued at any time prior to the February 27, 2026, application deadline, subject to approval by the US DOE and AEA, as applicable. If modifications are issued within 10 days of the application deadline, the application deadline may be extended to allow time for applicants to respond to changes. All modifications to this RFA will be in writing and posted to the RE-VEEP webpage at: Alaska Energy Authority > What We Do > Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs > Energy Efficiency & Conservation > Renewable Energy-Village Energy Efficiency Program (akenergyauthority.org) and AEA will provide email notice to those registered as described on the cover page of this RFA.

1.11 RE-VEEP Website

The program webpage address is: <u>Alaska Energy Authority > What We Do > Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs > Energy Efficiency & Conservation > Renewable Energy-Village Energy Efficiency Program (akenergyauthority.org).</u>

1.12 Filing an Application

Applicants may either submit their applications by (1) attaching their application and supporting documents to an email and sending it to AEA, or (2) by having their applications physically delivered to AEA. Please be as accurate and concise as possible to avoid delays in processing or disqualification.

Preferred Method of Submittal

- Complete the application form and other PDF-fillable documents on a computer, typing responses in the spaces given. If you do not have an electronic signature, please print, sign, and scan the completed application and completed signature page.
- If entering the information on a computer is not possible, please fill out the application forms in legible print.
- <u>Email</u> the completed application and associated forms to **grants@akenergyauthority.org**.
- Please keep a copy for your records.

Applicants choosing to submit their application via email are asked to address the email to grants@akenergyauthority.org with the subject line of "RE-VEEP Sub-award Application". Applicants are asked to submit the application and applicable documentation in searchable PDF or other word searchable electronic format. Applicants using this method are encouraged to use delivery receipt and read receipt. It should be noted that AEA's email system limits attachments to 40MB and will not accept .zip files or executables.

Alternative Method of Submittal

- Complete the application form and other PDF-fillable documents on a computer, typing responses in the spaces given. If you do not have an electronic signature, please print, sign, and scan the completed application and signature page.
- If entering the information on a computer is not possible, print and neatly complete the application form by hand.
- Mail or hand deliver printed documents to the address below.
- Please keep a copy for your records.

If you are having issues with submitting application, please contact us via **grants@akenergyauthority.org** or call us at (907) 771-3000.

Applicants choosing to submit their application via physical delivery method are asked to submit one (1) electronic version on an electronic storage device (i.e. thumb drive) in a searchable PDF or other word searchable electronic format.

Additionally, if a hard copy of the completed application is submitted, AEA requires that the hard copy be printed on double-sided pages with minimal binding, including appendices that can be duplicated. Physical delivery of either of the above must be in a sealed envelope(s) clearly labeled:

Submit Applications to:

Email: grants@akenergyauthority.org

Mail: Alaska Energy Authority
Attn: RE-VEEP
813 West Northern Lights Blvd
Anchorage, AK 99503

1.13 Application Preparation Costs

AEA shall not pay for any costs incurred by the applicants to prepare and submit their application. No costs incurred by the applicants in preparation of their application may be charged as an expense of performing the grant.

The only reimbursable costs will be those allowed in the grant agreement signed by AEA.

1.14 Application Deadline

All applications must be received no later than Friday, February 27, 2026 at 4:00 PM, Alaska Standard Time.

Please be as accurate and concise as possible to avoid delays in processing or disqualification.

The applicant is solely responsible for complete and timely submission of its application. AEA accepts no responsibility for submission of applications or for applications that are received after the application deadline, whether because they were misdirected, delayed, erroneously addressed, or for any other reason. While clarifying questions may be asked by AEA after this deadline, no new significant information will be accepted in support of an application.

Failure to meet the deadline will result in the application being rejected.

Questions that require clarification or interpretation of this RFA that the applicant cannot answer by careful review of the RFA should be submitted in writing (letter or email) no later than **February 13, 2026** (about 10 business days before the application due date).

The grants manager may contact the applicant directly by phone or email to respond to questions that will not result in changes to the application process. The grants manager will post the answers to questions that result in changes to the application process on the RE-VEEP webpage.

1.15 Confirmation of Receipt

A confirmation of the receipt of your application will be made via email to the primary contact within two business days of receiving your application.

1.16 Review of Applications - General

Applications will first be reviewed by the AEA for completeness and to ensure the proposed communities and projects meet the AEA regulations and the limitations on the eligible projects for which the funding under this RFA is available.

To ensure effective use of the funding, AEA has developed scoring criteria by which to evaluate complete and eligible applications. The review and evaluation criteria is listed in Section 3.

If an application is rejected, the applicant will be notified in writing that their application has been rejected and the basis for rejection.

AEA may waive minor requirements of the RFA that do not result in a material change in the requirements of the RFA and do not give an applicant an unfair competitive advantage.

At any stage in the review process, AEA may request additional information, and the applicant will have a specified amount of time to respond to the request for information. Failure to respond timely or provide adequate information may result in the application being rejected.

1.17 Reconsideration/Appeal Process

An applicant whose grant application is denied may request reconsideration to the executive director of the authority. The request for reconsideration must be in writing, must state the basis for reconsideration, and must be received by the authority not more than 10 days after notification of denial has been received.

The executive director on reconsideration may accept or overturn the decision to deny the grant application or request additional information from the applicant before making a decision. The decision of the executive director on reconsideration is the final agency decision. If the

executive director fails to issue a decision within 30 days, the request for reconsideration is considered denied, unless the executive director extends the time for reconsideration.

1.18 Contact Information

Applicants should carefully review all documents and AEA's website prior to contacting the agency with questions.

Malakai Erskine, (907) 771-3000, grants@akenergyauthority.org

AEA's grants manager is responsible for accepting applications, coordinating any communications with Grantees, and posting any changes or clarifications to the application process.

1.19 Grant Agreement

Approved applicants will be notified of their awards and will be required to sign a Grant Agreement prepared by AEA that contains the terms and conditions in the Grant. AEA may modify its standard form grant agreement if necessary for RE-VEEP or for specific projects.

Grantees whose authorizations are less than what was requested or whose scope, schedule, or budget may have changed from their application will be required to update their application to assure the grant is consistent with the funding available. Once signed by both parties, the Grant Agreement is complete, and work may begin.

1.20 Pre-Award Obligations and Reimbursement

If a potential Grantee anticipates the award of a grant, the Grantee may NOT proceed with work on projects prior to a fully executed grant award.

1.21 Application Content Requirements

The application must address all the information required as noted in Section 2 for the type of project proposed. Applicants should download and complete the application form and other PDF-fillable documents on a computer or print and neatly fill out by hand. The application form includes a checklist, narrative worksheet, cost worksheet, budget, and authorized signers section. The application also requires additional materials be provided as attachments. The application form and other materials are provided on the RE-VEEP webpage at: Alaska Energy Authority > What We Do > Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs > Energy Efficiency & Conservation > Renewable Energy-Village Energy Efficiency Program (akenergyauthority.org).

1.22 Authorized Signature

Applications must be signed by an individual authorized to bind the applicant to its provisions and to make the commitments of the application.

1.23 Applicant's Certification

By signature on their application, applicants certify that they are complying and will comply with: 1) the laws of the State of Alaska; 2) the applicable portion of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964; 3) the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, the Americans With Disability Act (ADA) and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government; and 4) all terms and conditions set out in this RFA.

1.24 Correction, Modification or Withdrawal of Applications

After an application has been received by AEA, an application may be corrected, modified or withdrawn by providing a written request from an authorized representative of the applicant to the grants manager before the time and date set for receipt of the applications.

After applications are opened, applicants may be requested to provide additional information prior to completion of the evaluation process if AEA determines that it is in the best interest of RE-VEEP to allow modifications.

Applicants who fail to respond to requests for additional information within the period specified in the request may have their application rejected or removed from the list of recommended projects.

1.25 Failure to Proceed

If an Applicant is unable to respond and indicate acceptance of the Grant Agreement within 30 days of receipt of the Grant Agreement or provide an update to its project as may be required; then the offer of the grant may be withdrawn by AEA. Available grant funds may be offered to another eligible grant applicant subject to availability of funds and consistent with the intent of RE-VEEP.

If AEA and a Grantee are unable to complete a grant agreement within the initial 2-year period of performance, the period of performance may be extended to span the amount of time necessary for sub-grantees to complete all sub-award project efforts, at the sole discretion of approval from DOE.

1.26 Grant Regulations

All applicable regulations and requirements concerning SEP IIJA are posted at: Alaska Energy Authority > What We Do > Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs > Energy Efficiency & Conservation > Renewable Energy-Village Energy Efficiency Program (akenergyauthority.org).

1.27 Implementation Options

For the purpose of this solicitation, grant recipients will be required to implement the grant project using the grant recipient's own resources. Limited technical assistance will be available from AEA.

1.28 Reporting

Grantees will be required to file quarterly reports that follow the Authority's reporting requirements. Reports will include narrative, metric, and financial reporting, summarizing the entirety of the work performed by the Grantee. Grantees will be required to work closely with AEA staff on the completion and submission deadlines for reports. All reports must be submitted in the format and use the technology required by the Authority. For example, see drafts of the grant narrative and financial forms at: Alaska Energy Authority > What We Do > Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs > Energy Efficiency & Conservation > Renewable Energy-Village Energy Efficiency Program (akenergyauthority.org).

1.29 Payments

All grantees will be required to submit a project plan to their AEA project manager of the products and energy measures they intend to purchase/implement. The project manager will respond via email when the project has been reviewed and whether it is approved.

Grant funds will be paid on a reimbursement basis for eligible documented costs upon receipt of a complete and timely quarterly report. Additional payment requests may be made no more frequently than monthly so long as they also include a progress report on the same form as the quarterly reports. Payment for technology cannot be made unless the project manager has approved the technology.

1.30 Photographs

Recipients are encouraged to take before and after photographs of their projects to include in their quarterly and/or close-out reports. Digital photographs and brief descriptions may be emailed to the project manager, along with a photo release form if individuals are pictured. The release form is located at: <u>Alaska Energy Authority > What We Do > Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs > Energy Efficiency & Conservation > Renewable Energy-Village Energy Efficiency Program (akenergyauthority.org)</u>

1.31 Grant Close Out

Upon completion of the grant project or termination of the grant, AEA will close out the grant, and the Grantee shall return to the authority any grant money not spent on project work under the terms and conditions of the grant agreement. See grant close-out forms at: Alaska Energy Authority > What We Do > Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs > Energy Efficiency & Conservation > Renewable Energy-Village Energy Efficiency Program (akenergyauthority.org).

2. Application Form Requirements

2.1 Grant Application Checklist

Use the provided checklist to track your progress and ensure all necessary information and documents are included in your application package.

2.2 Instructions for the Grant Application Part A

Section 1 "Applicant Information": Complete all boxes in this section

- Organization EIN is the applicant's Federal Employer Identification Number, also known as a Federal Tax Identification Number (TIN).
- Organization SAM ID is a Unique ID assigned to any entity doing business with the Federal Government. For instructions, please go to: <u>Alaska Energy Authority > What We Do > Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs > Energy Efficiency & Conservation > Renewable Energy-Village Energy Efficiency Program (akenergyauthority.org).</u>
- Fiscal Year: Month and day of applicant's fiscal year-end
- Principal Contact/Project Manager: Provide the contact information for the contact person for this project, typically the applicant's project manager.

Section 2 "Project Scope": This section should be short and descriptive. List building or facility names and a very short description of your proposed project.

Example: Upgrade Tribal Hall with insulation, new boiler and LED Lights. At the water treatment plant (WTP), install three new pumps and LED lights, install LED lights in City Officeand Headstart building.

Section 2.1 "Project Name"

 Give the project a descriptive name. Please include the community name in the project name. Example: "X Community Energy Efficiency Project"

Section 3 "Period of Performance"

1. Review this section to ensure understanding of grant completion date (03/31/2028).

Section 4 "Signature Line"

2. Please include the signature of an authorized representative (i.e. executive director), the printed name and title, and the date of signature. An electronic signature is acceptable.

2.3 Instructions for the Grant Application Part B

- 1. Required: Name of eligible Applicant/Grantee
- 2. Required: Name of Community
- 3. Required: Community current population as listed in the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development (DCCED) database at (https://dcra-cdo-dcced.opendata.arcgis.com/).
- 4. Required: Provide cost per gallon of heating fuel in space provided. Applicant must also attach an actual invoice for heating fuel delivered to the community within the last 12 months.
- 5. Required: Provide cost per kWh before PCE. If the community is NOT a PCE community, please include documentation showing electric rate information.
- 6. Optional: Describe cash or in-kind contributions.
- 7. Required: Please describe if the community has been a past recipient of a state or federal-funded end-use efficiency or other energy program that may provide cost and energy-saving benefits that can be derived from running RE-VEEP in conjunction.
- 8. Required: Please describe any energy projects currently underway or planned for the RE-VEEP period of performance that may offer synergistic or value-added opportunities. For example, if there is a planned efficiency project around the same time funded through a different source, then materials procurement and labor might be shared, lowering costs for both.
- 9. Required: Please describe the community's ability to implement the project. Local skilled labor force, past experience, or if the community intends to contract out the work. Be specific.
- 10. Required: Clearly explain the anticipated energy savings or generation potential of your project.
- 11. Required: Physically describe the buildings and/or facilities and its use/purpose/value that will receive upgrades under this award.
- 12. Required: Describe the proposed project's anticipated environmental benefits.
- 13. Required: Name the program manager or community contact who will be coordinating the work.
- 14. Required: Project timeline. Keep in mind that cut sheets and/or specifications must be sent to the project manager and approved prior to ordering the products.
- 15. Required: Please respond to meet the requirement for criteria #6, administrative capability of the applicant.
- 16. Required: Buy America Build America (BABA): A description of the point of manufacture for any products that will need to be purchased with the grant to determine if they will comply with the <u>Buy America Build America</u> component of the BIL.

When necessary, applicants may apply for, and DOE may grant, a waiver from the Buy America Requirement. Waivers must be based on one of the following justifications: 1. Public Interest- Applying the Buy America Requirement would be inconsistent with the public interest; 2. Non-Availability- The types of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of a satisfactory quality; or 3. Unreasonable Cost- The inclusion of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials

produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent.

2.4 Grant Application Budget Form

Table A and B must be completed by all applicants.

2.5 Grant Application Authorized Signers Form

This form must be completed by all applicants.

2.6 Additional Documents

These forms must be completed and attached to your application package, unless stated otherwise.

- 1. W-9 Form
- 2. Media Release Form
- 3. Invoice for heating fuel delivered in the community in the last 12 months
- 4. If the community is NOT a PCE community, please attach documentation showing electric rate information.

3. Application Evaluation Process and Criteria

To ensure effective use of the funding, AEA has developed scoring criteria by which to evaluate applications.

- Each criterion is weighted and will be evaluated on a scale of 0 to 5, where 0 represents poor and 5 represents excellent, unless stated otherwise below.
- The score for each criterion will be multiplied by its assigned weight to calculate the weighted score.
- The weighted scores will be added to calculate the overall project score.
- Criterion 9 may impact the final selection to ensure that resources are distributed in a geographically equitable way.

#	Scoring Criteria	Weight	Score (0-5)	Weighted Score
1	Cost of energy – a blend of cost per kWh and per gallon for heating fuel	20%		
2	Community climate-induced energy demand i.e. heating degree days	15%		
3	Energy savings or generation	15%		
4	Environmental benefits	15%		
5	Cash or in-kind contributions (optional)	10%		
6	Administrative capability of the applicant	10%		
7	Implementation measures	10%		
8	Past, Current, or Planned participation in state or federal-funded end-use	5%		

	efficiency or other energy			
	programs			
9	Equitable geographic distribution of available award funds	-	-	-
	Total	100%		

1. Cost of Energy

- a. Applications will be given points for cost of fuel based on a 50/50 blended cost of electricity (\$/kWh) and heating fuel (\$/gallon).
- b. Electricity cost: For PCE communities, the PCE level for the most current year will be used to establish electricity costs. For non-PCE communities, a statement of cost from the utility must be provided with the application.
- c. Heating fuel cost: The applicant must provide a copy of an invoice for heating fuel in their community from within the last 12 months to establish cost.

2. Demand for Energy in the Community

a. Demand for energy will be established by heating degree days (HDD) posted by the https://akclimate.org/data/heating-degree-day-normals/; the applicant does not need to provide any information.

3. Energy Savings or Generation

- a. Clearly describe the anticipated energy savings or generation potential of your project in your application, including what measures will generate the savings and the logic on which your estimated savings is based.
 - i. Energy savings can be measured in terms of reduced energy consumption or increased overall energy efficiency, i.e. current energy use estimated energy use after project = energy savings.
 - ii. Energy generation potential can be determined by benchmarking or comparing the expected energy generation potential of your project with similar projects in the region or industry. **OR** conducting a comparison with conventional sources by comparing the expected energy generation from your renewable project with that of conventional energy sources. Highlight the environmental and economic benefits of your project, such as reduced greenhouse gas emissions, lower fuel costs, and long-term sustainability.

4. Environmental Benefits

a. Describe the anticipated environmental benefits of your project, such as reduced greenhouse gas emissions or resource conservation.

5. Cash or In-Kind Contributions (Optional)

a. In-kind contributions can include: cash, labor resources, equipment resources, and lodging and support for contract workers.

6. Administrative Capability of the Applicant

a. Applicants are expected to manage the project with limited support from AEA. Please describe administrative capabilities in the grant application Part B. For instance, what experience does your organization have managing federal grant awards in the last five years?

7. Implementation Measures

- a. The application should include a detailed project schedule that includes design, permitting, site control, and construction timeframe breakouts.
 - The application schedule should indicate whether the project will go to construction within the desired 2-year period of performance.
 (construction timeframe not addressed = 0 points, construction is not proposed within the 2-year period of performance = 0 points, construction is proposed within the 2-year period of performance = up to 5 points).
 - ii. The application schedule should include an appropriate level of detail and proposed timeframes should be adequate and reasonable (details and timeframes are not included = 0 points, schedule details and proposed timeframes provided but are not adequate nor reasonable = 0 points, schedule details and proposed timeframes are adequate and reasonable = up to 5 points).
- b. The application should include a reasonably specific and/or detailed explanation of the extent to which an eligible entity plans to utilize project labor agreements, local hire agreements, and/or has or will develop a plan to attract, train, and retain a local workforce including minority/women owned businesses (explanation excluded = 0 points, specific/detailed explanation included = up to 5 points).

8. Past, Current, or Planned Participation in State or Federal Funded End-Use Efficiency or Other Energy Programs

- a. These can be programs that offset diesel through heating system improvements such as heat recovery, biomass, ground source heat pumps, etc.
- b. If a community has or is currently participating or plans to participate in a state or federally-funded end-use efficiency or other energy program and AEA determines there are cost and energy-saving benefits that can be derived from running RE-VEEP in conjunction with said program, then the community may receive up to 5 points depending on the amount of benefit.

9. Equitable geographic distribution of awards

a. After all applications have been scored, the evaluation committee will look to ensure all available award funds are equally distributed on a geographical basis.

Applications that do not comply with all of the material and substantial terms, conditions, and requirements of this RFA may be rejected. If an application is rejected, the applicant will be notified in writing or via email that its application has been rejected and the basis for rejection.

AEA may waive minor requirements of the RFA that do not result in a material change in the requirements of the RFA and do not give an applicant an unfair competitive advantage.

At any stage in the review process, AEA may request additional information and the applicant will have a specified amount of time to respond to the request for information. Failure to timely respond or provide adequate information will result in the application being rejected.

4. Appendices

A. Grant Application Checklist

Ha	ve you completed all components of the application form?
	Part A
	Part B
	Budget Form
	Grant Documents Authorized Signers Form
	Have you completed and attached the W-9 form?
	Have you completed and attached the media release form?
	Have you reviewed and understood the contents of the Request for Application (RF
	Have you attached an invoice for heating fuel delivered in the community in the last 12 months?
	Other: If the community is NOT a Power Cost Equalization (PCE) community, please attach documentation showing electric rate information.
	Did you save all your documents?

Copies of the W-9 form, media release form, and RFA, can be found at: <u>Alaska Energy</u> Authority > What We Do > Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs > Energy Efficiency & Conservation > Renewable Energy-Village Energy Efficiency Program (akenergyauthority.org).

Submit completed application and associated forms to grants@akenergyauthority.org
OR

Alaska Energy Authority Attn: RE-VEEP 813 West Northern Lights Blvd Anchorage, AK 99503

Application Due Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 at 4:00 PM AKST

B. Other Application and Grantee Documents

For this RFA and the application form, the following documents are provided on the RE-VEEP webpage:

- W-9 Form
- Media Release Form
- Draft Grant Financial Reimbursement Form
- Draft Notice of Project and Grant Closeout Form
- Guide to Register Your Entity with SAM.gov

Additional Information:

More information can be found at: <u>Alaska Energy Authority > What We Do > Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs > Energy Efficiency & Conservation > Renewable Energy-Village Energy Efficiency Program (akenergyauthority.org)</u>. The website will continue to be updated as new information is available.

C. Definitions

For this RFA and the application form, the following definitions are provided:

- Energy conservation measures (ECM): an energy conservation measure is an action (measure) taken to reduce energy use through changing human behaviors, for example turning off equipment when not in use, or creating workplace policies that set a standard regarding employees and energy use.
- Energy audit or assessment: An energy audit or assessment is an inspection, survey and analysis of energy flows in a building, process, or system with the objective of understanding the energy dynamics of the system under study. For the purposes of these grants energy audits are conducted to understand the opportunities to reduce the amount of energy used without negatively (and sometimes positively) affecting the outputs.
- **Community:** a municipality or unincorporated village in which 25 or more individuals reside as a social unit.
- **Grant Money:** amounts awarded as grants under the Renewable Energy Village Energy Efficiency Program (RE-VEEP).
- **Public building and facility:** a building or other infrastructure that consumes electricity or heating energy, is open to the general public and is used by the community.

Additional Information:

More information can be found at: <u>Alaska Energy Authority > What We Do > Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs > Energy Efficiency & Conservation > Renewable Energy-Village Energy Efficiency Program (akenergyauthority.org)</u>, including links to materials about this grant program, grant guidance, updates to this Request for Applications, frequently asked questions (FAQs), and additional information. The website will continue to be updated as new information is available.