



Iowa Energy Saving Loan Pilot Program

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opportunityiowa.gov/community/energy/iowa-energy-saving-loan-program

Thank you for joining!

This meeting is being recorded.



Please use the Q&A function
to submit questions.
Attendees are muted and
chat is disabled.



I will aim to answer
questions as they arise.
There will be additional time
for questions at the end of
the call.



Slides and recording will be
made available through the
[program website](#).

Agenda



Program Background



Participant Eligibility



Project Eligibility



How to Apply



Q&A



Program Background



In 2024, Iowa received an award to begin a revolving loan fund promoting building energy efficiency

Awarded through the Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund Capitalization Grant Program

- [Sec. 40502](#) of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- All loans issued through the program **must comply with federal requirements**, including Davis Bacon, Build America, Buy America, NEPA, and Federal Procurement

BIL goal for the program:
“...the state shall provide loans and grants for **commercial and residential energy audits, upgrades, and retrofits to increase the energy efficiency, physical comfort, and air quality of existing building infrastructure.**”

On July 21, IEDA began accepting applications to the Iowa Energy Saving Loan pilot program

\$1 Million of funding available for:

- Multifamily buildings (20+ units) participating in IFA affordable housing programs
- Energy audits, retrofits, and upgrades
- Loans start at 0% interest and include a 1% origination fee

Additional funding will be made available in 2026



Loan Terms

- 0% interest rate loans will be available to most borrowers
- Loans will be subject to a 1% Origination Fee. Loans may also incur fees for title opinions, abstract updates, or appraisals, depending on loan size.
- Loans must be paid back by the expected life of the measures, up to seven years.
- Loans may cover up to 90% of project costs. Loans between \$50,000 and \$1,000,000 are preferred for this program.
- Loans will generally be structured as subordinate mortgages.



Participant Eligibility

Eligible Participants

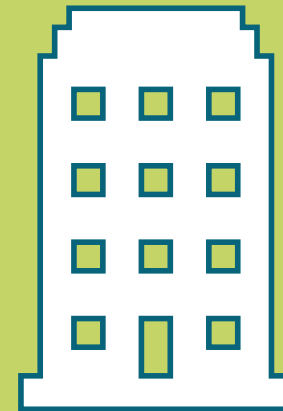


Owners

- Businesses or organizations that own or operate a multifamily housing facility

Buildings

- In Iowa
- Multifamily building with 20 or more units
- Buildings participate in affordable housing programs through IFA including HOME, Low Income Housing Tax Credit, and Section 8 programs





Project Eligibility

Eligible Audits (1/2)

1. Be performed by a building auditor certified by a national organization and demonstrating sufficient experience as an auditor.
2. Utilize eligible software. DOE recommends utilizing [Audit Template](#) for mid- to high-rise multifamily buildings.
 - IEDA must approve alternate software.
3. Use the same evaluation criteria as the [Home Performance Assessment](#) used in the Energy Star program.
4. Identify and recommend lifecycle cost-effective opportunities to reduce the energy consumption of the facility of the eligible recipient.
5. Recommend controls and management systems to reduce or redistribute peak energy consumption.

Eligible Audits (2/2)

6. Compare the energy consumption of the residential building of the eligible recipient to comparable residential buildings in the same geographic area.
 - To meet this requirement, auditors are required to supplement the Audit Template report with the comparison output of the [Energy Star Portfolio Manager platform](#).
7. Provide a Home Energy Score, or equivalent score (as determined by DOE), for the residential building by using DOE's Audit Template audit software.
 - DOE considers the “Annual Energy & Cost Savings” and “Payback with Incentives” output summary in Audit Template as an equivalent score to the Home Energy Score.
8. Include a blower door test or provide justification for why one was not performed.

Additional Audit Resources

[Audit Template](#) is a free, DOE web-based tool for entering building energy audit data, performing data validation, and exporting data in various formats, including for energy audit reports.

Audit Template is the recommended audit software for residential multifamily buildings that have 4 or more floors and commercial buildings. See the previous slide for information on how to meet RLF residential energy audit requirements while using Audit Template.

Audit Template Resources

- Start here: [Audit Template Quick Start Guide \(EE-RLF\)](#)
- Published trainings: [Audit Template Demonstration with RLF Program](#)
- Example: [Audit Template PDF Report Example](#)

TIP: Request support for the [Audit Template](#).

Eligible Projects

Loan funding is available for projects that meet the following requirements:

- 1) Each upgrade or retrofit is recommended in a qualifying energy audit completed for the building
- 2) Satisfy at least 1 of the criteria in the [Home Performance Assessment](#) used in the Energy Star program
- 3) Is life-cycle cost effective
- 4) Either reduces the energy intensity of the building **or** improves the control and management of energy use of the building during peak times
- 5) Addresses at least one of the following:
 - a) The energy efficiency of the building,
 - b) The physical comfort of the building for occupants, or
 - c) The air quality of the building.

Note: If an audit recommends pre-requisite measures (e.g. outdated wiring or electric panels) this is allowable as part of a *package* that meets all requirements.

Eligible Projects (Examples)

- Insulation applied to building structures, ducts, hot water heater tanks, and heating pipes.
- Air sealing applied to building structures and/or ducts.
- Programmable and smart thermostats.
- Installation of energy efficient lighting.
- Upgrading, retrofitting, tuning, repairing, and/or replacing of existing heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment.
- Repairing and/or replacing water heating system equipment.
- Energy or water monitoring and control systems.
- Retrofitting, repairing, and/or replacing of windows and doors, including installation of energy efficient storm windows and energy-saving window attachments.
- Retrofitting or replacing of energy efficient pumps and motors for uses such as wastewater treatment plants, where it would not alter the capacity, use, mission, or operation of an existing facility.
- Installation of Combined Heat and Power System – systems sized appropriately for the buildings in which they are located, not to exceed peak electrical production at 300kW.

Additional Program Requirements

- Must comply with federal requirements.
 - Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements, including use of LCPtracker by all contractors and subcontractors
 - Build America, Buy America for publicly owned projects
- Must reasonably be completed within two years of project approval.
- Ensure any installed equipment is appropriately sized.
- Project must **not** include any of the following: tree removal, tree trimming, or ground-disturbing activities.



How to Apply

How to Apply

Applications will be available and accepted through [IowaGrants](#).

- Applications will be accepted through **February 1, 2026**, or as long as funds are available.
- Organizations planning to apply must have or create an IowaGrants account.
 - Allow a minimum of two weeks to register and activate a new account.
- Applicants must obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) from the federal System for Award Management (SAM), if not already obtained.
 - Allow several weeks to obtain a UEI.
- Applicants must participate in an interview with IEDA before receiving an award

Review [the Application Guide](#) for additional detail

Application Components

The application package will include:

- Completed digital application form.
 - Questions requesting descriptions of the work to be performed and their impacts are intended to prompt brief and high-level responses.
- A copy of the [Energy Saving Project Cost and Timeline Spreadsheet Template](#), which includes:
 - List of upgrade measures included in the project.
 - Preliminary project plan with timeline.
 - Itemized project costs.
- Vendor quote estimating cost.
- Completed qualifying energy audit.
 - Although a qualifying audit must be completed before applying for a project loan, applicants seeking a loan to cover the cost of the audit may apply prior to completion of the audit.
- 12-month history of utility bills (due at time of interview).

Application Review

IEDA will review applications on a first-come, first-served basis.

- Applications will be screened by the program manager for eligibility and completeness.
- IEDA and Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) staff will review the applications, request additional information from applicants when needed, and prepare recommendations for funding.
- IEDA will notify applicants in writing of the approval or denial of an application. If the application is approved, the notice will include conditions and terms of the loan.

Application Approval Criteria

- Each applicant must clearly demonstrate how the proposed project will meet program requirements. Considerations include:
 - The eligibility and quality of the proposed scope of work.
 - A completed project plan.
 - The applicant and project partners.
 - Ability to repay loan.



Q&A

Questions?

Please connect with us.



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ESL Program Webpage:

<https://opportunityiowa.gov/community/energy/iowa-energy-saving-loan-program>



THANK YOU

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Iowa Economic Development Authority