

# GRANT ALERT

May 23, 2023

## Ride and Drive Electric Grant Program

DEADLINE	PROGRAM NAME & LINK
<p><b>Concept Papers Due– Friday, June 16, 2023, 5:00 p.m. EST</b></p> <p><b>Submission Deadline - Friday, July 28, 2023, 5:00 p.m. EST</b></p> <p><i>(Applicants must obtain an UEI from the SAM to uniquely identify the entity and register through the EERE eXCHANGE to apply. If an application is selected for negotiation of award, applicants must be registered with FedConnect to receive the award.)</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Ride and Drive Electric Grant Program   Department of Energy</a></p>
DESCRIPTION	
<p>This discretionary grant program will directly advance the goal of building a national network of EV chargers for all Americans by supporting EV charging reliability, resiliency, equity, and workforce development. Enhancing and expanding EV infrastructure nationwide will also indirectly contribute to the goal of having 50% of all new light-duty vehicle sales be electric by 2030. Through this program funding will be provided for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electric vehicle (EV) charging resiliency planning for continuity of operations and services for all EV users</li> <li>• Equitable business model development and deployment for EV charging</li> <li>• Workforce development that supports EV charging</li> <li>• Increased industrial capacity, competition, and redundancy for validation testing and certification in the United States of Alternating Current (AC) Level 2 and/or Direct Current (DC) fast chargers</li> <li>• Assessing performance and reliability of DC fast charging stations.</li> </ul> <p><b>What’s New this Round?</b> N/A; This is a new program</p>	
ELIGIBILITY	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Applicants</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutions of higher education</li> <li>• For-profit entities</li> <li>• Non-profit entities</li> <li>• State and local governmental entities</li> <li>• Indian tribes</li> <li>• Incorporated consortia</li> <li>• Unincorporated consortia</li> </ul>	

## Projects

Applicants may use funds under this program to fund projects which are covered by the following topics:

### Enhancing EV Charging Resiliency

- Projects to develop, share, and refine specific and actionable plans and strategies that ensure continuity of operations and services of EV charging infrastructure for all EV users in a given region.

### Community-Driven Models for Electric Vehicle Charging Deployment

- Projects that will assess, develop, and/or test business models that integrate EV and/or charger deployment in ways that deliver mobility, economic, or other benefits to Justice40 and underserved communities.

### Workforce Development

- Projects to support a diverse and highly skilled workforce within the electrified transportation industry to support the deployment and maintenance of EV charging related equipment including equipment that will be supported by the FHWA NEVI and CFI grant programs.

### Increasing Commercial Capacity for Testing and Certification of High-Power Electric Vehicle Chargers

- Projects to increase industrial capacity, competition, redundancy, and broad access to validation testing and certification in the United States of DC fast chargers with rated power capacity between 150 kW and 1 MW.

### Validating Public EV Charging Infrastructure Real-World Performance and Reliability

- Projects to establish teams to assess the performance, reliability, and usability of AC Level 2 charging and/or DC fast charging (DCFC) stations across the United States. The teams will develop a scalable, in-field methodology to assess AC Level 2 and/or DCFC performance, reliability, and customer experience.

## FUNDING

Up to \$51 million to be awarded for FFY 2023.

Program	Award Total	Minimum Award	Maximum Award	Cost Share
<b>Enhancing EV Charging Resiliency</b>	\$17,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000	20%
<b>Community-Driven Models for Electric Vehicle Charging Deployment</b>	\$10,000,000	\$250,000	\$1,500,000	0% - non-deployment 50% - deployment
<b>Workforce Development</b>	\$10,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000	0%
<b>Increasing Commercial Capacity for Testing and Certification of High-Power Electric Vehicles</b>	\$6,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$3,000,000	50%
<b>Validation Public EV Charging Infrastructure Real-World Performance and Reliability</b>	\$8,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$4,000,000	0%

## APPLICATION & SELECTION CRITERIA

### Application and Selection Criteria

#### Concept Paper

- Only applicants who have submitted an eligible Concept Paper will be eligible to submit a Full Application
- Limited to a single concept or technology
- Criterion
  - The applicant clearly describes the problem being addressed by the project, the project goal, and what project approach will be used within the scope of the project.
  - The applicant demonstrates adequate involvement from intended partnerships.
  - The applicant has the qualifications, experience, capabilities, and other resources necessary to complete the proposed project.
  - The proposed project clearly meets the requirements of the Topic area.
  - The proposed work, if successfully accomplished, would have a meaningful impact on the problem targeted by the Topic area.

#### Full Submission

- Technical review criteria
  - Project approach and impact
  - Project plan
  - Project team and qualifications
  - Community benefits plan

### Project Benefits

#### Key benefits of the Grant Program:

- Development of specific and actionable plans and strategies that ensure continuity of operations and services of EV charging infrastructure for all EV users in a given region.
- Help communities identify, develop, and test business models, such as for shared mobility or fleet-based services, that complement or integrate operation of EV charging infrastructure.
- Help develop a high-quality workforce within the electrified transportation industry to support the deployment and maintenance of equipment related to EV charging (i.e., electric vehicle service equipment (EVSE)).
- Increase industrial capacity, competition, and redundancy for validation testing and certification in the United States of DC fast chargers with rated power capacity between 150 kW and 1 MW.
- Assess the performance and reliability of DC fast charging (DCFC) stations across the United States.
- Create opportunities for underserved communities and groups, measured through metrics such as new jobs and training resources, partnerships with Minority Serving Institutions and Indian tribes, engagement with labor organizations, community engagement activities, and other relevant indicators from the Community Benefits Plan.

## PROJECT TIMEFRAME

DOE anticipates making awards that will run 24 months maximum duration, except for Topic 3 (Validating Public EV Charging Infrastructure Real-World Performance and Reliability) awards that will run 30 months maximum duration, comprised of one or more budget periods. Budget Periods are typically 12 months.

# ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

## Bipartisan Infrastructure Law-Specific Requirements

Special terms and conditions apply to projects funded by the BIL relating to:

- 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
- Requiring all of the iron, steel, manufactured goods, and construction materials used in the infrastructure activities of applicable projects are produced in the United States;
- Ensuring laborers and mechanics employed by contractors or subcontractors on BIL-funded projects are paid wages equivalent to prevailing wages on similar projects in the area;
- Protecting whistleblowers and requiring prompt referral of evidence of a false claim to an appropriate inspector general; and
- Certification and registration.

## PENNDOT ROLE

### PennDOT Emphasis

PennDOT, as described in the PA NEVI State Plan and the PA EV Mobility Plan ([PA NEVI State Plan](#), [EV Mobility Plan](#)), seeks to strategically deploy electric vehicle charging stations throughout Pennsylvania to create an interconnected EV network. Through the Ride and Drive Electric grant program, Pennsylvania has the opportunity to continue the buildout of the EV network through multiple means including public/private partnerships. The grant program also provides the means to increase workforce development in the growing EV space and to the creation of EV opportunities for underserved communities throughout the Commonwealth. The Ride and Drive Electric grant program provides the opportunity for the Commonwealth to focus on resilience, equity and workforce development associated with EV's and the EV network.

### PennDOT Support

Transportation Federal Funding Opportunities Resource Account:

[RA-PDTRANSFEDFUNDOPP@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PDTRANSFEDFUNDOPP@pa.gov).

PennDOT will consider providing support for regionally supported grant proposals as applicable. PennDOT support may include offering data and subject matter expertise as available.

**The deadline for requesting PennDOT support is July 14, 2023.**