

DEEP Climate Resilience Fund 2025

Frequently Asked Questions

Updated 10/30/2025

Program structure and scoring

Q: Is the Energy Resilience Construction RFP a part of the Deployment section or is it separate?

A: The Energy Resilience Construction RFP is part of the Deployment funding category, but the RFP will have a separate application form and due date for full applications. The final Energy Resilience Construction RFP will be released, after addressing written comments, on November 10, 2025 and posted to [BETP's Energy Filings](#) and the [DEEP Climate Resilience Fund webpage](#).

Q: Are the available funds only matching funds? If so, have the federal funds already been appropriated to the state or are they also at the mercy of the administration?

A: DCRF 2025 has funding categories for Planning, Advancement, and Deployment. Planning and Advancement will award state funds with no match requirements. The Deployment category includes 1) Matching Funds for Community Resilience, which will award state funds to serve as a match commitment for future federal funds sought by the applicant, and 2) an Energy Construction RFP, which will award a blend of state and federal funds from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) grid resilience program. The IIJA grid resilience funds have been appropriated by Congress and obligated to DEEP. However, any party that enters into an agreement with DEEP for a project as a result of the RFP will need to agree and acknowledge that the contract, the funding and all deliverables are subject to the availability of appropriations and continued support for program implementation from the DOE to DEEP. Should the DOE take actions to suspend, delay or terminate program funds, the parties will agree to cooperate in taking all necessary actions, such as suspending all contract activity and accounting for costs in accordance with federal termination laws and CFR 200.340.

Q: Does the environmental justice status enhance potential for grants/funds?

A: The review criteria for all DCRF funding categories award points to projects that would provide benefits to vulnerable communities, including communities that are defined as environmental justice communities in [C.G.S. § 22a-20a\(a\)\(1\)](#). At least 40% of the funds from each round of DCRF are awarded to environmental justice communities.

Eligibility

Q: Are planning phase projects for building community resilience to significant heat and humidity events eligible for funding?

A: Yes, eligible projects may address any climate-driven natural hazards that pose risks to life, health, infrastructure, and essential services, including reliable energy. See [DCRF 2025 priorities](#).

Q: Can applicants submit more than one application to DCRF?

A: Eligible entities may submit one application to each funding category. For example, an entity may submit three applications, one to each of Planning, Advancement, and Deployment. Because DEEP aims to fund projects across a [diversity of municipalities](#) – taking into account factors such as size, geographic location, and demographics – a case of awards to a single entity across multiple categories is most likely to occur when there are exceptional or transformational projects.

Q: How do private or for-profit entities apply on behalf of an eligible public entity?

A: For the Advancement and Matching Funds for Community Resilience funding categories, DEEP may consider applications from private or for-profit entities applying on behalf of an eligible public entity. These cases should be to address capacity limitations of the public entity. Applications should include letters of support from the appropriate public entities that demonstrate commitment to the project and communication throughout the project period. The private entity, if awarded, would be the lead applicant on the project and therefore responsible for timely project management and communication with DEEP. The private entity [must be able to execute a contract with the state](#) and should be selected according to the public entity's standard procurement process.

Project requirements

Q: Is it possible to substitute other engagement activities (e.g. tabling at a community event) for one of the required public meetings.

A: DCRF's requirements for meaningful community engagement are meant as a baseline from which applicants should develop an engagement plan that is most appropriate for the communities that the project will serve. For many communities, tabling at a community event would be a more effective approach than holding an online webinar and therefore would be a reasonable substitution. DEEP will work with awarded entities to ensure that community engagement plans meet [DCRF requirements](#).