

Brightening Ohio Communities Program

PCFO IGAP Grant Snapshot

November 14, 2023

<u>Agency:</u> Ohio Department of Development	<u>Bureau:</u> N/A
<u>Application Deadline:</u> December 15, 2023	<u>Max Award:</u> \$500,000

Description

The State of Ohio received over \$3 million through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Group (EECBG) program to create the Brightening Ohio Communities (BOC) Program. The BOC program is designed to provide grants to implement cost-effective, energy efficiency improvements for streetlights, perimeter lighting, and municipal-owned parking lot lighting in communities across Ohio.

Eligible Recipients

Any Ohio local unit of government, including a county, township, municipal corporation, or other body responsible for governmental activities.

Preference will be given to local governments located within Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) as defined by the [DOE Justice Dashboard](#) and/or the [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#).

Eligible Projects

Phase 1 (\$130,030 - \$5,000 max award)

Phase 1 will fund administrative costs to prepare for the phase 2 application for project implementation. Phase 1 is limited to applicants located in disadvantaged communities. Eligible projects may include:

- Administrative costs relative to grant preparation and submission.
- Contracting with a certified engineer or architect on preliminary project plans and planning.
- Hiring additional staff, such as a grant writer to assist in the creation of the phase 2 application for project implementation.

Phase 2 (\$3 million - \$500,000 max award)

Phase 2 will fund the implementation of projects that replace street lighting with energy efficient technology. Eligible applicants must submit an ASHRAE Level II energy audit during the application process to show current energy usage of streetlights. Eligible projects may include:

- 10% of funds may be used to cover administrative costs and energy audit costs

- 90% of funds must be used for project implementation including the replacement of street lighting, perimeter lighting, and municipal owned parking lots with energy efficient lighting technologies including, but not limited to:
 - Light emitting diodes (LEDs)
 - Solar streetlights
 - Low angle direct light fixtures
 - Lighting control systems such as motion sensor streetlights
 - Any other technology of equal or greater energy efficiency

Development will limit awards to \$500,000 per county to encourage equal opportunities across the state.

Matching Grant Requirements

Utilizing matching funds is strongly encouraged but not required.

New or Existing Program

New

Tips for Being Competitive

- 40% of funds are set aside for projects located in disadvantaged communities.
- Additionally, 60% of funds must go to communities that did not receive EECBG funding directly from DOE, [listed here](#).

Labor Requirements

Awardees must comply with the prevailing wage requirements set by the Davis-Bacon Act.

Agency Contact

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Total Allocation

\$3,130,030

Anticipated Award Date

Winter 2023

Resources

- [Program Page - Ohio DOD](#)
- [Program Guidelines - Ohio DOD](#)
- [Application - Survey Monkey](#)