

Illinois Solar for All Expansion: SolarApp+ Adoption and Implementation Grant Responses to Applicant Questions

Notice of Funding Opportunity

[IFA-SFA-01](#)

May 5, 2025 – May 9, 2025

Question: Are for-profit businesses eligible?

Response: No, only units of local governments are eligible.

Question: Is this grant exclusive to the adoption of SolarApp+ or would other similar solar programs also be eligible?

Response: This is exclusive to the adoption of SolarAPP+.

Question: Does the IFA or the groups running these webinars have availability to meet with nonprofits before submitting to answer specific questions/help think through specific types of outreach?

Response: No. Unfortunately, State law associated with Illinois grants is designed to ensure all grantees have the same information, so we are not allowed to meet with applicants or provide individual technical assistance.

Question: When can applicants expect to hear if they have been selected and how soon is work expected to start?

Response: IFA/CB will get responses back to applicants within a month after they close, and work will start quickly after. Project start date will vary by grant.

Question: What is the timeline of the Climate Bank in terms opening additional funding opportunities? Are these all the NOFOs the Climate Bank will be releasing this year?

Response: For the Solar for All programs, these are the only two grant programs opening this year. IFA/CB does have a number of Solar for All financing (loan) programs that we're working to get out by the end of the year, but they won't involve NOFOs. For CPRG, IFA/CB is working on a number of programs that were outlined within the initial workplan application that went to U.S. EPA. There will be additional NOFOs for new programs under CRPRG. We are working diligently to get those programs up and running. There are also a number of other programs that IFA/CB works on, including the 40101(d) Grid Resilience grants. Another NOFO under that program will open soon. IFA/CB will continue to have webinars as other NOFOs/programs open.



Question: Will these grants open up again in the near future? Or are they only being funded for this FY?

Response: If we do not receive enough qualified applications from these programs during this application window, IFA/CB reserves the right to open a later application window later this year, no earlier than June. Each of these grants has multi-year funding at this time, so we plan to open NOFOs yearly each spring for the next 5 years. However, if there is a lack of interest or we receive feedback on the program, IF/CB may change its plans for future rounds of funding.

Question: For educational/ school districts, which grant opportunities would be appropriate for them to apply for? Additionally, would houses of worship be eligible for these grants and if so, which ones?

Response: Only units of local government with permitting power are eligible for the SolarAPP+ Adoption grants. Houses of worship would be eligible for the Residential Solar Outreach grants. Educational school districts are eligible to apply for both, but they may not be the best fit for these programs. For Climate Pollution Reduction Grants programs, the Stretch Code Adoption Grants are intended for units of local government. The Small Utility Clean Energy Planning grant is intended for municipal or electric utilities. We don't think either of these entities are the intended audience for these grants, but if you disagree, you are free to apply.

April 28, 2025 – May 2, 2025

There were no questions submitted this week.

April 21, 2025 – April 25, 2025

Question: I'm understanding that applicant must meet ILSFA IE or R3 criteria, have relatively current codes or the ability to update codes within two years, and already have an automated permitting process. Correct?

Response: Your understanding regarding SolarApp+ is generally correct, although I'm not sure that the applicants need to already have an automated permitting process. If they feel that they could use the funding to move to such a process using SolarApp+, they would be qualified to apply.



The last day for question submission is May 9th at 5:00 PM CT.