

Local Government and Saving Costs with Energy- Efficient Buildings

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Washington State
Department of
Commerce

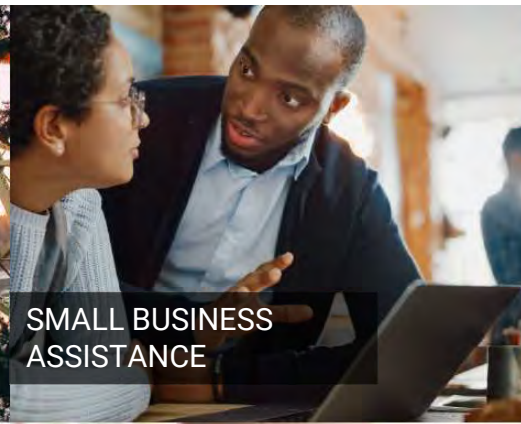
We strengthen communities



HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS



INFRASTRUCTURE AND BROADBAND



SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE



ENERGY



PLANNING AND TECH ASSISTANCE



COMMUNITY SERVICES



CRIME VICTIMS AND PUBLIC SAFETY



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Agenda

- Energy efficiency benefits
- Objectives
- Energy Efficiency Retrofits grants
- Savings and preparing to apply
- Clean buildings performance standards
- Other CBPS state funding
- Federal funding resources
- Q&A



Benefits of energy efficiency improvements

- Savings in operating costs
- Reduction in harmful emissions, with a negative impact on our environment
- Improvement in ventilation and indoor air quality
- Meet Clean Buildings Performance Standards



Energy Efficiency Retrofit grants

- Can pursue compliance with Clean Buildings Performance Standards
- 2024 solicitation recently closed; \$14 million in awards to be announced
- Small communities receive 20% of funding; there are projects in civic buildings, schools and hospitals all over the state
- Established program is likely to be funded again in 2025-2027
- Next solicitation expected in fall 2025; start planning now!

Savings with past EER projects

City of Granger (\$145,000)

- Variable frequency drives and controls upgraded for city wells
- Interior/exterior lighting for city facilities
- Controls and aerating brush for wastewater treatment plant
- **Operation cost avoided year 1**
 - \$8,056
- **Energy saved in year 1**
 - 76 kWh of electricity

Spokane Comm. College (\$316,559)

- Retrofitted a classroom building lecture hall
- Five failing HVAC units were replaced with higher-quality, more efficient equipment and more efficient fans
- **Operation cost avoided year 1**
 - \$45,654
- **Energy saved in year 1**
 - 215,107 kWh of electricity
 - 45,853 therms of natural gas

Prepare to apply for next solicitation

- Read the RFA to make sure it fits your situation
- Hire a qualified energy auditor to conduct an energy audit
- Identify the most cost-effective improvements based on audit
- Choose the best contractor or energy service provider for the project, then obtain rough estimates



Clean Buildings Performance Standards

- **Clean Buildings bill was signed into law in 2019 and expanded in 2022**
 - Designed to lower costs and pollution from fossil fuel consumption in nonresidential buildings
- **Commerce is the administrator for the program**
 - Program webpage has registration, support resources
 - Visit <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/cbps/>



Programs with funding to meet CBPS

- **Energy Efficiency Retrofits grants**
- **Early Adopter Incentive Program**
 - Incentives for Tier 1 building owners to make energy-efficient improvements earlier than required (similar Tier 2 program coming)
 - 85 cents/gross sq ft; drops from 50,000 sq ft to 20,000 sq ft in 2025
- **Energy Audits for Publicly Owned Buildings**
 - Level II energy audit required for most buildings; \$20M available
- **C-PACER**
 - Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy and Resilience financing tied to the property available in many counties

Energy efficiency federal funding

- **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (almost \$1 million still available)**
 - Smaller WA cities and counties not eligible for direct funding from DOE
 - Can be used for energy audits and consultants
 - Tier 1 buildings owned by an eligible county or city government can use funds for developing energy management and operations and management plans
 - No match required
 - First-come, first-serve application process



Federal funding resources

Goal: Ensure Washington pursues federal funding opportunities that align with the state energy strategy, emission reduction limits and environmental justice goals.

- ✓ Portal to identify state and federal funding opportunities
- ✓ Grant writing and technical assistance to apply for federal funding
- ✓ Assistance for clean energy tax credits

Funded by the Climate Commitment Act

These programs are supported by funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act (CCA). The CCA supports Washington's climate action efforts by putting using cap-and-invest dollars to reduce climate pollution, create jobs and improve public health. Learn more about the CCA at www.climate.wa.gov" and add hyperlink www.climate.wa.gov.



FundHub.wa.gov

Who it's for

- The FundHubWA web portal is designed for people in **Washington** to access funding opportunities that lead to economic and climate benefits
- **Specific audiences** include tribes, individuals, nonprofits, public agencies and local governments

The screenshot shows the FundHubWA website homepage. At the top left is the logo for FUND HUB WA, featuring a stylized sun and leaves. To the right of the logo are navigation links: About, Contact, News, and FAQ. A prominent orange button labeled "Explore Funding" is located in the top right corner. Below the navigation is a main heading: "Your gateway to grants and incentives". To the right of this heading are three small images: a person working on solar panels, a woman in a patterned sweater, and a person holding a plant. Below the heading is a paragraph of text: "FundHubWA connects you to climate and clean energy funding opportunities to help improve your home, business, or community. Together, we can make Washington cleaner, healthier, and more resilient." Below this text is another orange "Explore Funding" button. The bottom section of the page has a dark green background and is titled "Find funding now". It contains two dropdown menus: "I am any applicant type" and "looking for funding for any grant category". Below these are two buttons: "Show my opportunities" and "Show all funding options" with an external link icon. On the right side of this section is a large graphic of a sun with a dollar sign inside it, symbolizing funding.

FundHub.wa.gov

What is it?

- **Searchable database** of funding opportunities for tribes, public agencies, nonprofits and businesses
- **One-stop shop for applications and resources** to help you apply for grants, rebates and other incentives
- Subscription center where you can **sign up for updates** on upcoming opportunities tailored for you



Federal Funds Grant Writing Assistance Program

Who is it for?

- **Eligible Washington entities** to apply for and manage federal grants related to clean energy and climate resiliency
- **Priority entities** include tribes, community-based organizations, and local governments and agencies, with a focus on supporting vulnerable populations in overburdened communities

Federal Funds Grant Writing Assistance Program

What it does

- **Establishes a personalized grant writing program**, including providing support for writing, budgeting, formatting, presentation and review
- **Offers tailored marketing** for grant writing and grant navigation services to underserved entities via webinars, templates, toolkits, training sessions and in-person workshops
- **Provides a website** to share resources and promote available grant writing services

Federal Clean Energy Tax Credit Program

What's the problem?

- **Accessing** federal clean energy tax incentives is complicated
- **Leveraging** direct pay is burdensome for entities without tax expertise

Solution?

- Offer a new federal tax assistance program
- **Prioritize outreach** to tribes, community-based organizations, local governments and local agencies



Federal Clean Energy Tax Credit Program

What it does

- Provides **1:1 assistance and support** from clean energy tax attorneys
- **Webinars** and online technical assistance
- “Creates outreach and engagement with tribes, community-based organizations and local agencies



Where do I go?



FundHub.WA.gov



**Federal Funds Grant Writing
Assistance Program**



**Federal Clean Energy Tax
Credit Assistance Program**

Scan QR codes to learn more

Q&A

Washington State grant and
incentive program link:

<https://www.commerce.wa.gov/energy-incentives/>



Thank you!

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<https://www.commerce.wa.gov/energy-incentives/>



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