

Notice of Opportunity for Technical Assistance  
for Remote Alaska Communities Energy  
Efficiency Competition  
[AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov](mailto:AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov)

NOTA Webinar  
DE-FOA-0001479  
December 22, 2015

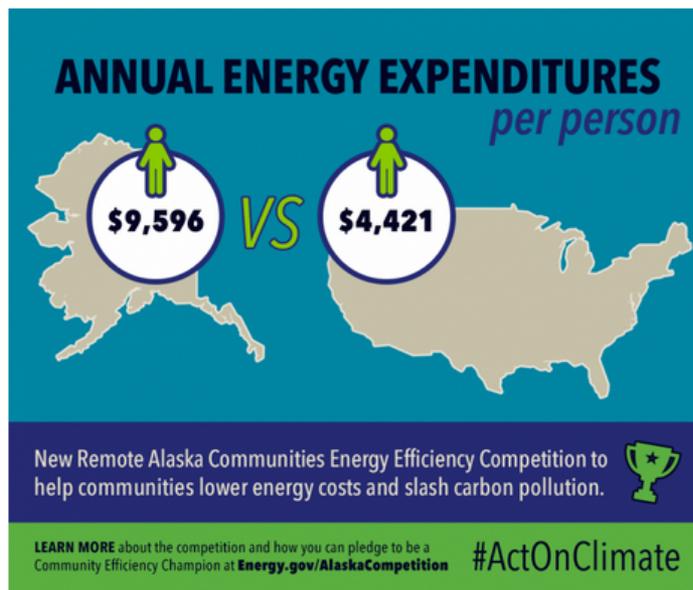
# Protocol for questions during this Webinar

- All questions asked during this presentation will be recorded and then posted and answered on EERE eXCHANGE
- Questions can also be emailed to [AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov](mailto:AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov) and answers will be posted on EERE Exchange under the NOTA
- In addition, all information provided during this Webinar, including this presentation, will be posted on EERE eXCHANGE

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## Working with Alaska to Reduce Energy Use and #ActOnClimate

December 21, 2015 - 4:35pm



### RELATED ARTICLES

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[Energy Department Announces Request for Information on the Remote Alaskan Communities Energy Efficiency Competition](#)
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New Energy Department competition to help rural Alaskan communities save energy and fight climate change. | Graphic by [Carly Wilkins](#), Energy Department



**Dr. Elizabeth Sherwood-Randall**  
Deputy Secretary of Energy

During my first year as the Deputy Secretary of Energy, I had the privilege of visiting Alaska at the invitation of Senator Lisa Murkowski. Together we flew over the state, above the magnificent Denali National Park, and met with Alaskans to hear about the energy challenges they face.

Two facts are very clear: one, remote Alaskan communities are already experiencing the alarming effects of climate change – and two, as a result of some of the highest energy costs in the nation, Alaskans are actively seeking ways to increase energy efficiency and reduce costs. Deploying sustainable energy solutions in Alaska is a uniquely powerful solution to these two urgent priorities.

Alaska's vast geography is one of the reasons that the warming climate is having such tangible effects. For example, because it has a longer coastline than all the other U.S. states combined, Alaskan villages are facing powerful storm surges due to lack of sea ice. The same vast distances that create those consequential climate effects also pose challenges to the implementation of energy solutions that will cut heat-trapping emissions and deliver affordable energy to remote Alaskan communities. Since Alaska is warming at the fastest rate of any state, time is short.

That's why, as part of President Obama's commitment to fight climate change and assist remote Alaskan communities with their energy challenges, the Energy Department announced the Remote Alaskan Communities Energy Efficiency (RACEE) Competition in September. RACEE is a \$4 million initiative that will significantly accelerate efforts by remote Alaskan communities to adopt sustainable energy

### KEY FACTS

- Remote Alaskan communities experiencing effects of climate change and have some of the highest energy costs in the nation.

- New Remote Alaskan Communities Energy Efficiency Competition to help these communities adopt

# Notice of Opportunity for Technical Assistance for Climate Action Champions

## Anticipated Schedule:

<b>NOTA Issue Date:</b>	<b>December 18, 2015</b>
<b>NOTA Informational Webinar:</b>	December 22, 2015
<b>Submission Deadline for Applications:</b>	Phase 1: Applications for Pledge Designation may be submitted beginning December 18, 2015 until 5 p.m. ET on January 26, 2016. Phase 2: Applications for Energy Efficiency Technical Assistance may be submitted beginning March 1, 2016 until 5p.m. ET on March 31, 2016.
<b>Expected Date for EERE Selection Notifications:</b>	For Phase 1: February 24, 2016 For Phase 2: April 27, 2016

# Notice

- All applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully read the Announcement for this Notice of Technical Assistance (DE-FOA-0001479) (“**NOTA**”) and adhere to the stated submission requirements. The NOTA can be accessed at:

<https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/#Foald0910a5e2-771f-47f9-a113-f94f10649767>

This presentation summarizes the contents of the NOTA. If there are any inconsistencies between the NOTA and this presentation or statements from DOE personnel, the NOTA is the controlling document and applicants should rely on the NOTA language and seek clarification from EERE.

- If you believe there is an inconsistency, please contact [AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov](mailto:AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov)

# Agenda

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- 1) DESCRIPTION AND TOPIC AREAS
- 2) INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY
- 3) APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION
- 4) APPLICATION SUBMISSION
- 5) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING EXCHANGE
- 6) ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

# Description

The purpose of this Notice of Technical Assistance (NOTA) is to support the goals of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Remote Alaskan Communities Energy Efficiency Competition (RACEE Competition), announced by President Obama.

The RACEE Competition will empower Alaskan communities and native Alaskan villages to develop effective tools to advance the use of reliable, affordable, and energy efficient solutions that are replicable throughout Alaska and other Arctic regions. This NOTA is intended to implement the first two phases of the RACEE Competition: Phase 1 will designate qualified Alaskan communities that pledge to reduce energy use as "Community Efficiency Champions". These "Champions" will gain access to a peer network and become qualified to apply for Phase 2, which will provide Technical Assistance (TA) to selected Community Efficiency Champions.

Applicants that become designated as Community Efficiency Champions will be expected to actively share information, best practices and lessons learned with their peers related to their energy efficiency plans and actions. This will be done through quarterly reporting for Phase II recipients and participation in monthly peer network activities for all recipients.

# Phase 1: RACEE Community Efficiency Champions

Phase 1 of the NOTA will collect pledges with commitments to reduce energy use, take action and share information in the peer network.

DOE will select qualified Alaskan communities and native villages for designation as “Community Efficiency Champions”. Together the “Community Efficiency Champions” communities will comprise a peer network made up of Remote Alaskan communities and native Alaskan villages that pledge to reduce energy use by a minimum of 15% (per capita) by 2020, and participate in the DOE-recognized peer network.

DOE hopes to engage a large group of Alaskan communities and native villages in the Pledge process. To ensure the pledge is a firm commitment, communities will be encouraged to provide baseline energy use data. Data collection consists of building inventory, energy use measurement and benchmarking and can be conducted before the pledge to provide accurate data in the pledge, or, after the pledge, to the communities selected in Phase 2 as part of the Technical Assistance provided to the Champion. Additional outreach by the Alaskan partner will help communities determine energy use and provide them with the necessary tools

## Phase 2: Notice Of Technical Assistance

Phase 2 of the NOTA will provide up to 20 communities with Technical Assistance to gather baseline energy data and develop plans to implement energy efficiency improvements. The plans will be comprehensive and enable the communities to apply for appropriate loan and grant programs. Technical Assistance deliverables for each plan include: project scope, energy baseline, cost estimate, project business plan, management team that addresses any organizational issues between tribes in a community or between a village and a tribe living within, design team, financing plan, and permitting strategy.

The goals of the Phase 2 Technical Assistance are to accelerate community energy planning, from current status to a point where they are ready to apply for implementation funding, either via a grant or loan. The Community Efficiency Champions network will provide peer exchange on energy related education and training activities to ensure that any participating communities regardless of limited human capital or other resources, are not functionally excluded from implementing energy efficiency.

# Summary Information

<b>Means of Submission</b>	<p><b>Applications for both Phases will be accepted:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>online through the online application portal; EERE Exchange at <a href="https://eere-exchange.energy.gov">https://eere-exchange.energy.gov</a>,</b></li> <li>• <b>via email at <a href="mailto:AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov">AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov</a></b></li> <li>• <b>via fax at 240-562-1640</b></li> </ul>
<b>Total Value of Technical Assistance to be Provided</b>	<p>Up to \$600,000</p>
<b>Value of Technical Assistance Provided Per Project</b>	<p>DOE anticipates providing approximately \$5,000 to \$100,000 per selected project in the form of Technical Assistance provided by Technical Assistance teams.</p>
<b>Period of Performance</b>	<p><b>For Phase 1:</b> The pledge designation and Community Efficiency Champion peer network will be active for up to 48 months.</p> <p><b>For Phase 2:</b> Technical Assistance period of performance will be for up to 36 months.</p>
<b>Eligible Entities</b>	<p><b>For Phase 1:</b> Alaskan communities with no more than 8,000 residents</p> <p><b>For Phase 2:</b> Entities designated as Community Efficiency Champions under Phase 1</p> <p>For detailed Eligibility Qualifications refer to Section II. D. of this NOTA</p>
<b>Cost Share Requirement</b>	<p>There is no Cost Share Requirement for either Phase under this Notice</p>
<b>Submission of Multiple Applications</b>	<p>Applications may request Technical Assistance for multiple projects. Only one application may be submitted per community. Though an organization may apply on behalf of multiple communities, only one application may be submitted per community.</p>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>Additional information can be found at <a href="http://energy.gov/remote-alaskan-communities-energy-efficiency-competition">http://energy.gov/remote-alaskan-communities-energy-efficiency-competition</a></p>

# Technical Assistance-NOT Financial Assistance

**There is no direct funding to the applicant under this Notice of Technical Assistance. Selected Applicants will receive Technical Assistance, not funding.**

The Community Efficiency Champions selected under Phase 2 of this Notice will receive Technical Assistance provided through DOE by entities organized as Technical Assistance teams by DOE. It is anticipated that Technical Assistance under this NOTA will be provided via Technical Assistance agreements between (1) a Technical Assistance Provider and (2) Selected Community Efficiency Champions. DOE will provide the funding for the selected Technical Assistance project directly to the Technical Assistance Provider. With DOE's approval, the Technical Assistance Providers can use the funds to support the selected Community Efficiency Champions on their Technical Assistance projects. In limited circumstances, the use of a Work for Others Agreement, a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA), or a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) may be used instead of a Technical Assistance agreement. In addition, communities selected under Phase 2 will become eligible to apply for a future FOA for funding to implement projects.

# Eligibility

Only the following types of Applicants are eligible to apply to this NOTA. Applicants that do not meet the requirements of this subsection will be deemed ineligible and their applications will not be reviewed or considered.

In accordance with EPart 2005 authorities and consistent with 2 CFR 910.126(b), eligibility for award under this NOTA is restricted to: (1) an Indian Tribe; or (2) Tribal Energy Resource Development Organization; and on whose (3) Indian Lands the project(s) will be located. More specifically,

EERE and IE intend to restrict eligibility for this NOTA to the following class of recipients:

Eligible communities will be Alaskan communities and native Alaskan villages with a population no greater than 8,000 residents.

“Communities” are defined as Alaskan local and tribal governments, or consortia thereof. For the purposes of this initiative, local governments may include a village, borough, municipality, town, township, local public authority (including any public and Indian housing agency), school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments, any other regional or interstate government entity, or any agency or instrumentality of a local government.

# Eligibility cont.

To be considered as a tribal government for the purposes of this Announcement, the entity must be any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, including any Alaska Native village or regional or village corporation as defined in or established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (85 Stat. 688) [43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.], which is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Native populations because of their status as Native populations.

To be considered eligible, an “Indian Tribe” (including Alaska Native villages, but not regional or village corporations), must be federally recognized as listed in Indian Entities Recognized and Eligible to Receive Services from the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs, published by the Department of Interior’s Bureau of Indian Affairs in the Federal Register on January 14, 2015, 80 FR 1942.

a) “Tribal Consortium” (plural consortia), for purposes of this announcement, means a group of Indian tribes (as defined above), that have chosen to submit a single application. Under this announcement, a Tribal Consortium is eligible to submit an application provided the application is submitted by a single Indian tribe representing the Consortium.

# Eligibility cont.

b) “Tribal Organization,” for purposes of this announcement means any legally established organization of an Indian Tribe, which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by the recognized governing body of that Indian Tribe. A “Tribal Organization” may include, but is not limited to, a subsidiary, subdivision, or instrumentality of an Indian Tribe, established under Congressional, State or Tribal law to act on behalf of an Indian Tribe. Applications may be submitted by an authorized “Tribal Organization”, provided evidence of the authority to submit an application, relative to the proposed project, is supplied as part of the application. Evidence may include, but is not limited to, a constitution, resolution, ordinance, executive order, charter or other legal documentation. DOE will determine the sufficiency of the authorization based on the evidence submitted as part of the application.

c) “Inter-Tribal Organization,” for purposes of this announcement, means any organization comprised of two or more Indian Tribes, established under Congressional, State, or Tribal law to act on behalf of the participating Indian Tribes. “Inter-Tribal Organizations” may include, but are not limited to, inter-tribal councils, regional tribal organizations or associations, and tribal federations. Applications may be submitted by an authorized “Inter-Tribal Organization”, provided evidence of the authority to submit an application, relative to the proposed project, is supplied as part of the application. Evidence may include, but is not limited to, a resolution, ordinance, executive order, charter, P.L. 93-638 contract, self-governance compact, or other legal documentation. DOE will determine the sufficiency of the authorization based on the evidence submitted as part of the application.

# Eligibility cont.

- 2) “Tribal Energy Resource Development Organization” for purposes of this announcement means an “organization” of two or more entities, at least one of which is an Indian Tribe (see “Indian Tribe” above) that has the written consent of the governing bodies of all Indian Tribes participating in the organization to apply for a grant or loan, or other assistance under 25 U.S.C. § 3503, where “organization” means a partnership, joint venture, Limited Liability Company (LLC) or other unincorporated association or entity that is established to develop Indian energy resources.”
- 3) “Indian Lands” or “Indian Country” for purposes of this Announcement, is defined as:
- (a) any land located within the boundaries of an “Indian reservation” (see definition below), pueblo, or rancheria;
  - (b) any land not located within boundaries of an Indian reservation, pueblo, or rancheria, the title to which is held –
    - (i) in trust by the United States for the benefit of an Indian Tribe or an individual Indian;
    - (ii) by an Indian Tribe or an individual Indian, subject to restriction against alienation under laws of the United States; or
    - (iii) by a dependent Indian community; and
  - (c) land that is owned by an Indian Tribe and was conveyed by the United States to a Native Corporation pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. § 1601 et seq.), or that was conveyed by the United States to a Native Corporation in exchange for such land;
  - (d) lands held in fee simple (purchased or owned);

# Eligibility cont.

- (e) lands under a long-term Federal land lease (at least 20 years); and
- (f) land that was conveyed to a Native Corporation pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. § 1601 et seq.) and subsequently conveyed to another entity, provided that entity is either a Native village or Tribal governmental entity or the land is held, invested, managed for and on behalf of a Native village or Tribal governmental entity.

For purposes of this Announcement and as defined under Part 503 of EAct 2005, the term “Indian Reservation” includes an Indian reservation in existence in any State or States as of the date of enactment of Title V of EAct 2005; a public domain Indian allotment; and a dependent Indian community located within the borders of the United States, regardless of whether the community is on original or acquired territory of the community; or within or outside the boundaries of any State or States.

# Eligible Uses of Technical Assistance

Eligible Technical Assistance will include baseline data collection, monitoring and analysis, community training and education activities, feasibility planning, policy and regulatory planning, tools, modeling, engineering and design assistance, and other project development assistance. Communities selected to receive Technical Assistance can indicate their interest to field-test diesel fuel meter systems.

Applicants may request Technical Assistance that is complementary to that provided by other Federal agencies supporting the RACEE Competition. However, applications that request Technical Assistance that has already been received by that community and/or is duplicative of that provided by other Federal agencies will not be considered under this Notice.

# Evaluation Process

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**For Phase 1**, applications may be submitted beginning December 18, 2015, but no later than 5:00 PM ET on **January 26, 2016**

**For Phase 2**, applications may be submitted beginning March 1, 2016, but no later than 5:00 PM ET on **March 31, 2016**

This program is intended to accelerate the Community Efficiency Champion's efforts and the period of performance must be completed within 36 months. Applicants will be expected to meet certain baseline requirements to receive Technical Assistance, as described below.

# Criterion Phase 1:

Community Efficiency Champion Applications will be reviewed and will be assigned a rating of Qualified or Not Qualified. The application must meet all requirements below to be determined Qualified under Phase 1:

## **Determination of Qualified or Not Qualified Applications:**

Applicant must include a completed pledge form with signatures from all relevant community organizations and/or governments. This will include an agreement to:

1. Pledge to reduce energy use by at least 15% per capita by 2020;
2. Establish agreement among all local leadership (e.g. City, Tribe, Village Corporation) to work together toward the pledge;
3. Participate in the Community Efficiency Champion peer network;
4. Develop a community-wide plan and schedule to achieve energy savings pledge including past successes with energy efficiency projects, barriers to energy efficiency projects and any Technical Assistance received previously on energy efficiency projects, name and description of the potential building or project, including estimated costs, suggested technical providers and partners to implement projects; and the source of the estimates;
5. Identify and develop methods to track energy use and the impact of energy efficiency measures;

# Criterion Phase 1 cont.

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6. Provide Community name, population, current energy cost description, residential, proximity to large population center, major employer type and name, economic burden of energy on the community and any other major issues that affect the community;
7. Share information on the energy efficiency implementation models used to achieve the energy savings pledge; and
8. Provide regular progress reports on energy efficiency improvements, energy savings across the community, and energy performance at the facility level as the basis for recognition.

# Criterion Phase 2:

## Criterion: Technical Merit, Innovation, and Impact

- Content of the pledge and the plan to achieve the energy usage reductions.
- Applicant's ability to manage and report on the project including commitment of community members;
- Alignment and clarity of requested Technical Assistance with Community Efficiency Champion's energy usage profile and community economic considerations;
- Level of expected energy saved for the building, project, and/or for the community as a whole;
- Replicability of proposed project to other remote communities in other Alaska or Arctic regions;
- Sustainability (i.e. lasting for multiple years) of project for which Technical Assistance is sought;
- Level of impact to the local community including demonstrated needs (for example, economic need, high energy costs, need for maintenance and/or retrofits);
- Use of partnerships to leverage resources and knowledge; and
- Transformative aspect of the project for which Technical Assistance is sought.

# Application Submission

## Applications for both Phases will be accepted through:

- The EERE online application portal; EERE Exchange at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov>
- Email at [AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov](mailto:AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov). or
- Via fax at 240-562-1640
- When faxing please include a cover page with the following information:
  - To: DOE RACEE NOTA Applications
  - From: Applicant Name and Contact information
  - ATTN: Steven Palmeri
  - # of Pages

The Applicant's Principal Investigator (PI) should receive acknowledgement of receipt of the application within 24 hours. Please contact [AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov](mailto:AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov) if a receipt is not received.

# Content and Form of the Application- Phase 1:

For Phase 1, the applicant must provide the following:

**Pledge Forms for Phase 1 must not exceed five pages.**

- A completed, signed Pledge Form, (available in EERE Exchange under the NOTA “Pre- Application Attachments” section, or available through email request to [AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov](mailto:AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov)) or by phone request to U. S. Dept. of Energy, Golden Field Office at 720-356-1764
- The applicant will be required to submit a form with all required fields completed in accordance with the instructions on the form. The completed Pledge form will contain the following information:
  - 1) Community name;
  - 2) Community population;
  - 3) Community proximity to large population center;
  - 4) An Established agreement among all local leadership (e.g. City, Tribe, Village Corporation) to work together toward the pledge;
  - 5) The name and description of the potential building or project, including estimated costs;

# Content and Form of the Application-Phase 1 cont.

- 6) Brief statement how the community tracks energy use now and how TA could improve this;
- 7) A pledge to
  - a) Reduce energy use by at least 15% per capita by 2020;
  - b) Participate in the Community Efficiency Champion peer network;
  - c) Develop a community-wide plan and schedule to achieve energy savings pledge, including past successes with energy efficiency projects;
  - d) Share information on the energy efficiency implementation models used to achieve the energy savings pledge; and
  - e) Provide regular progress reports on energy efficiency improvements, energy savings across the community, and energy performance at the facility level as the basis for recognition

# Content and Form of the Application-Phase 2:

For Phase 2, the applicant must provide the following:

**The Project Summary for Phase 2 must not exceed ten pages.**

1. A completed, signed Application for Federal Assistance (Form SF-424) in PDF format (available in EERE Exchange under the NOTA “Full Application Attachments” section or available through email request to AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov) or by phone request to U. S. Dept. of Energy, Golden Field Office, 720-356-1764
2. Complete all required fields in accordance with the instructions on the form. The list of certifications and assurances in Field 21 can be found at <http://energy.gov/management/office-management/operational-management/financial-assistance/financial-assistance-forms> , under Certifications and Assurances.
3. A Project Summary file with the following information for each project:
  1. Provide information about the community and energy use, including:
    - a. Targeted buildings or projects ;
    - b. High cost of energy or a high percentage of energy costs for heating Energy
    - c. Current methods to track energy use;
    - d. Current energy usage estimate and corresponding methodology;

# Content and Form of the Application-Phase 2 cont.:

- e. Economic burden of energy on the community and any other major issues that affect the community; and
- f. Current methods to track energy use
- 2. Project name with Community Efficiency Champion's name, organization, primary point of contact (principal investigator, or PI) name, email, and phone number;
- 3. Specific needs for energy usage measurement, analysis, efficiency maintenance and/or retrofits;
- 4. Strategy to achieve the reduction goal including, a community-wide plan and schedule to achieve energy savings pledge, description of past successes with energy efficiency projects, barriers to energy efficiency projects and any TA received on energy efficiency projects previously;
- 5. Identification of a provider (if known) that can implement the community project;
- 6. Description of previous Technical Assistance work including:
  - a. Provider, amount and timeframe
  - b. If any of the following were developed and when they were developed:

# Content and Form of the Application-Phase 2 cont.:

- i. Project Plan;
- ii. Energy usage baseline, savings and methodology;
- iii. Building audits;
- iv. Estimated project costs;
- v. Engineering studies;
- vi. Management and design team;
- vii. Permitting strategy
7. Potential impacts:
  - a. Explanation of how this Technical Assistance is expected to help your community achieve your goal(s) and provide anticipated impacts of the proposed work on the community (economic, quality of life, social, health, etc.);
  - b. Explanation of how this Technical Assistance could be replicated in future projects in other Remote Arctic Communities;
8. Provide a list of existing partnerships to leverage resources and knowledge;

# Multiple Applications

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Applications may request Technical Assistance for multiple projects. Only one application may be submitted per community. Though an organization may apply on behalf of multiple communities, only one application may be submitted per community.

# Means of Submission

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Applications for both Phases will be accepted:

- online through the online application portal; EERE Exchange at <https://eere-Exchange.energy.gov>,
- via email at [AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov](mailto:AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov)
- via fax at 240-562-1640

# Applicant Points-of-Contact

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- Applicants must designate primary and backup points-of-contact in their applications with whom DOE will communicate to conduct negotiations

# Registration Requirements if Applying in Exchange

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- To submit in Exchange Applicants must register in Exchange and Obtain a “control number” at least 24 hours before the submission deadline.

# Questions

- Questions about this NOTA? Email [AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov](mailto:AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov)
- EERE will attempt to respond to a question within 3 business days,
  - Problems logging into EERE Exchange or uploading and submitting application documents with EERE Exchange? Email EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov.
  - Include NOTA name and number in subject line
- All questions asked during this presentation will be posted on EERE Exchange