

Notice of Intent No. DE-FOA-0001194

Notice of Intent to Issue Funding Opportunity Announcement No. DE-FOA-0001168

The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) intends to issue, on behalf of the Buildings Technology Office, a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) entitled “Deploying Solutions to Improve the Energy Efficiency of U.S. Commercial Buildings”.

Through this FOA, DOE seeks to fund the scale-up of promising solutions to the market barriers that hinder the growth of energy efficiency in the commercial building sector. The objective of this funding is to build a path for market-ready solutions to be used at scale across the U.S. to improve building energy efficiency.

According to the US Energy Information Agency, in 2013, 40% of total U.S. energy was consumed in residential and commercial buildings. 80 Quadrillion Btu of this –roughly half— was attributable to commercial buildings. Commercial buildings can be made much more efficient using a variety of cost effective efficiency improvements while creating jobs and building a stronger economy. However, well-documented informational, structural, and market barriers, such as split incentives, asymmetrical or inadequate information, higher first costs and high investment hurdle rates, impede the adoption of more energy efficient technologies and practices.

In order for the Building Technologies Office Commercial Building Integration Program to meet DOE’s national energy efficiency goals for commercial buildings (20% improvement by 2020; 50% by 2030), the program has invested in the development of resources, tools, and solutions designed to help overcome these barriers to energy efficiency. DOE’s Commercial Building Integration Program is interested in funding proposals that deploy these resources and solutions, through successful existing programs or innovative new ones, to increase program effectiveness and increase energy savings in commercial buildings.

It is anticipated that the FOA may include the following Areas of Interest:

1. Business solutions, such as Implementation Models, developed in the Better Buildings Challenge, available online at <http://energy.gov/BetterBuildingsChallenge>.
2. Data and analysis platforms such as the Building Energy Asset Score (<https://buildingenergyscore.energy.gov/>); the Standard Energy Efficiency Data platform (<http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/standard-energy-efficiency-data-platform>); the Buildings Performance Database (<http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/buildings-performance-database>); and energy modeling resources (<http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/energy-modeling-software>).
3. Better Buildings Workforce Guidelines and training programs (<https://www4.eere.energy.gov/workforce/node/7>) and performance based design-build (https://buildingdata.energy.gov/cbrd/energy_based_acquisition/).

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4. Guidance tools for deeper energy savings, such as the Advanced Energy Design Guides and Advanced Energy Retrofit Guides.
5. Procurement specifications for highly efficient technologies: [Commercial Buildings Technologies](#)
6. RTU or Low-cost Wireless Submeter Challenge Specification compliant technologies: (<http://www4.eere.energy.gov/alliance/activities/technology-solutions-teams/wireless-meter-challenge> and <http://www4.eere.energy.gov/alliance/activities/technology-solutions-teams/space-conditioning/rtu>).
7. Completed technology demonstration resources created through the Better Buildings Allinace (<http://www4.eere.energy.gov/alliance/activities/demonstrations>); Green Proving Ground (www.gsa.gov/greenprovingground); and ESTCP ([http://www.serd.org/Program-Areas/Energy-and-Water/\(list\)/1/](http://www.serd.org/Program-Areas/Energy-and-Water/(list)/1/)).
8. Owner-tenant collaboration on energy efficiency (addressing split incentive) including resources found at the Green Lease Library (<http://www.greenleaselibrary.com/>).

EERE retains sole discretion as to which of these topic areas appear in the FOA upon its publication. Some, all, or none of these topic areas may be included. Final topic areas are subject to programmatic priorities and available funding.

EERE envisions awarding multiple financial assistance awards in the form of cooperative agreements. The estimated period of performance for each award will be approximately 3 years.

This Notice is issued so that interested parties are aware of the EERE's intention to issue this FOA in the near term. All of the information contained in this Notice is subject to change. EERE will not respond to questions concerning this Notice. Once the FOA has been released, EERE will provide an avenue for potential Applicants to submit questions.

EERE plans to issue the FOA in late calendar year 2014 via the EERE Exchange website (<https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>). If Applicants wish to receive official notifications and information from EERE regarding this FOA, they should register in EERE Exchange. When the FOA is released, applications will be accepted only through EERE Exchange.

In anticipation of the FOA being released, Applicants are advised to complete the following steps, which are **required** for application submission:

- Register and create an account in EERE Exchange at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>. This account will allow the user to register for any open EERE FOAs that are currently in EERE Exchange. It is recommended that each organization or business unit, whether acting as a team or a single entity, use only one account as the contact point for each submission.

Questions related to the registration process and use of the EERE Exchange website should be submitted to: EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov

- Obtain a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number (including the plus 4 extension, if applicable) at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>

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- Register with the System for Award Management (SAM) at <https://www.sam.gov>. Designating an Electronic Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC) and obtaining a special password called an MPIN are important steps in SAM registration. Please update your SAM registration annually.
- Register in FedConnect at <https://www.fedconnect.net/>. To create an organization account, your organization's SAM MPIN is required. For more information about the SAM MPIN or other registration requirements, review the FedConnect Ready, Set, Go! Guide at https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/PublicPages/FedConnect_Ready_Set_Go.pdf
- Register in Grants.gov to receive automatic updates when Amendments to a FOA are posted. However, please note that applications will not be accepted through Grants.gov. <http://www.grants.gov/>. All applications must be submitted through EERE Exchange.

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