

## Energy Equity for Renters Technical Assistance Overview



Dramatically reducing greenhouse gas emissions from residential buildings is vital for tackling climate change. Rental homes present an added challenge: They are less energy-efficient than others, on average, consuming 15% more energy per square foot than owner-occupied homes. These inefficient homes also mean renters spend a lot on energy bills, with nearly one-third having high energy burdens, spending more than 6% of their income on energy bills. ACEEE's *Energy Equity for Renters* initiative will help tackle the challenge of reducing energy waste in rental housing. Our goal: protect the climate, reduce energy costs, and preserve affordable neighborhoods.

### Participants

The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) is offering no-cost technical assistance services to at least five local governments and their community-based organization (CBO) partners. This opportunity will be focused on those that are seeking to improve the energy performance of local rental housing while also preserving and/or expanding housing affordability. Technical assistance work must involve CBOs working alongside local governments to ensure that any initiatives launched as a result of this work are community-driven.

### Application and Timeline

Applications for this technical assistance will be released in early October and accepted through November 22, 2021. Applicants will be asked to characterize the following:

- Active and planned work to advance rental energy efficiency
- Resources or information needed to complete active/planned work
- Description of how technical assistance will be beneficial
- Relationship between the applying local government and CBO(s)

Local government applicants will also be asked to submit a letter of support from participating CBO(s). We will announce our selections in December 2021 and will provide an estimated 125-150 hours of ACEEE staff support services to each participating community over the period of January 2022 – June 2023.

### Activities and Deliverables

Aligning with ACEEE's policy guide [A New Lease on Energy](#), our technical assistance services for local governments and CBOs will be available to support active or planned work to analyze the rental market, engage community, determine possible rental energy efficiency policy options, and implement these initiatives. Technical assistance will primarily focus on growing local governments' and CBOs' knowledge, resources, planning and evaluation procedures, and information sharing with one another.

ACEEE will provide staff time to conduct research, analysis, and other supportive services in efforts that advance equitable rental energy efficiency initiatives. Our activities can include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Guiding quantitative and qualitative research to assess the pressing needs of rental housing and renters
- Conducting a scan of existing government policies/programs and their performance to identify new or expanded opportunities for reducing rental home energy use
- Developing procedures to ensure that policy planning and implementation remains accountable to the interests of historically marginalized communities (e.g. applying research from ACEEE's [City Clean Energy Scorecard](#) and the [Leading with Equity Initiative](#))
- Supporting stakeholder engagement processes (e.g. review engagement plans, conduct stakeholder interviews, prepare and share materials/information for stakeholders, connect stakeholders with ACEEE and other industry experts)
- Outlining policy/program provisions and implementation procedures that will ensure an initiative is adaptable to changing circumstances, particularly those impacting marginalized communities and people