

**Program category.** *We are only considering nominations for programs in the categories below.* Please list ONE category per program. If a program covers more than one category (e.g., a low-income residential program that incorporates health and safety), then choose the category that best highlights the program's strengths.

### Residential Weatherization

- Residential (1-4 unit) comprehensive weatherization programs

This award recognizes programs that offer comprehensive weatherization for single-family homes and multifamily homes of up to 4 units. At a minimum, a program must offer weatherization services (e.g., air sealing, insulation) to be eligible for an award. Special consideration will be given to programs that offer additional services like health-and-safety repairs, appliance upgrades, equipment replacement, customer education, and solar installation.

In your summary description of your residential weatherization program, consider how it addresses these criteria:

- Number of households and percentage of eligible households served
- Additional (non-weatherization) upgrades offered, including electrification measures or renewable energy installation

- Multifamily programs

This award recognizes programs that offer comprehensive weatherization for multifamily homes with 5 or more units. At a minimum, a program must offer weatherization services (e.g., air sealing, insulation) to be eligible for an award. Special consideration will be given to programs that offer additional services such as electrification or solar, serve renters in addition to homeowners, and have addressed common barriers to reaching multifamily residents (e.g., landlord-renter split incentive, convincing building owners to upgrade residents' units).

In your summary description of your multifamily program, consider how it addresses these criteria:

- Number of buildings and households and percentage of eligible buildings and households served
- Additional (non-weatherization) upgrades offered, including electrification measures or renewable energy installation
- Whether the program serves owners, renters, or both
- Innovations that address common barriers to multifamily program participation

- Low-income programs

This award recognizes residential energy efficiency programs that specifically serve low-income households. To be eligible for this award, a program must be accessible only to customers whose incomes are below a certain threshold. Special consideration will be given to programs that were significantly shaped by equitable community engagement and programs that partner with other organizations serving low-income households.

In your summary description of your low-income program, consider how it addresses these criteria:

- Number of participants and percentage of eligible participants reached
- Community engagement activities ranked on the Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership
- Comprehensive offerings that cover significant costs for upgrades and other energy efficiency measures

### Non-Residential

- Commercial retrofit programs

This award will go to an energy efficiency program that offers comprehensive retrofits of commercial buildings. To be eligible, a program must offer more than one type of energy upgrade for commercial buildings; programs that only offer lighting installation or HVAC replacement are not eligible. Special consideration will be given to programs that include and target traditionally underserved building types (e.g., schools, houses of worship) and those that address efficiency improvements for entire building systems.

In your summary description of your commercial retrofit program, consider how it addresses these criteria:

- Number of buildings and percentage of eligible buildings served
- Number and types of upgrades offered

- Industrial process improvement and motor systems programs

This award recognizes energy efficiency programs that serve medium and large industrial customers, which can be defined by sector (e.g., manufacturing). Although this award will focus on technological changes to improve energy efficiency of industrial processes and motor systems, programs that incorporate strategic energy management (SEM) to achieve comprehensive savings for manufacturing facilities will also be considered.

In your summary description of your industrial program, consider how it addresses these criteria:

- Number of participants and percentage of eligible participants
- Industry-specific upgrades offered
- Reductions in industrial electric load

Workforce programs

An exemplary workforce program is one that successfully trains workers and prepares them for long-term careers in the clean energy sector. This award will focus on training for various types of jobs for providing energy efficiency services but may also consider programs that train workers for beneficial electrification and solar installation. Special consideration will be given to programs that encourage hiring from diverse backgrounds and support diversity, equity, and inclusion practices/recruit participants from disadvantaged backgrounds.

In your summary description of your workforce program, consider how it addresses these criteria:

- Number of participants who earned certification/licenses
- Technical and soft skills that the program teaches
- Demographics of program participants, including participants from disadvantaged communities
- Programs that support hiring/network of program allies/contractors from diverse background

Joint utility and government (state and local) programs

For this award, a program can be a state or locally run program that receives utility funding or administered by both a utility and a government body. Although these joint programs can serve both residential and commercial customers, this award focuses on recognizing utility-government partnerships that effectively deliver benefits to many customers. Special consideration will be given to programs that serve customers in disadvantaged communities and reach many customers from disadvantaged backgrounds.

In your summary description of your joint utility and government program, consider how it addresses these criteria:

- Percentage of eligible customers served
- Types of services offered by a program
- Demographics of program participants
- Innovations in outreach and services for underserved customer groups

### Special Topics

Health and energy programs

An exemplary health and energy program is one that seeks to improve occupants' health, comfort, and safety in addition to improving a building's energy performance to reduce energy burdens. Such a program could set aside funding for health and safety repairs that could make a building ready for weatherization. A program could also intentionally incorporate healthy housing principles when implementing upgrades.

In your summary description of your health and energy program, consider how it addresses these criteria:

- Whether a program sets aside funding or braids funding from an outside source to address health-and-safety repairs
- Tracking of health-related outcomes (e.g., reduced hospital and doctor visits, better comfort) in addition to energy and bill savings
- Whether a program accounts for health and environmental benefits in cost-effectiveness testing

Beneficial home electrification programs

Also known as strategic electrification or equitable home electrification, this award will go to a comprehensive program that replaces a home's fossil fuel appliances and equipment with more efficient electric alternatives and improves the energy efficiency of the building envelope (through weatherization) to reduce energy use. Home electrification upgrades can include replacing a gas, oil, or propane furnace with a heat pump; replacing a gas, oil or propane water heater with a heat pump water heater; replacing a gas stove with an induction or radiant electric stove; replacing a gas clothes dryer with an electric dryer; and installing an EV charger. Special consideration will be given to programs that target residents from disadvantaged backgrounds, replace gas-powered lawn equipment with electric alternatives, and take additional steps to mitigate electric load growth.

In your summary description of your beneficial home electrification program, consider how it addresses these criteria:

- Number of electrification measures covered
- Assistance for residents upgrading their electrical panels to accommodate electrification
- Requirement of energy efficiency upgrades prior to electrification measures

Zero-ready new construction programs

This award recognizes programs that construct new homes to net zero energy or carbon standards, either zero including on-site energy generation, or zero-ready (high-efficiency and constructed so that adding solar later will be easy).

In your summary description of your zero-ready new construction program, consider how it addresses these criteria:

- Degree of energy efficiency required (e.g. Passive House or DOE's Zero Energy Ready Homes program)
- Emphasis on zero, zero-ready or incremental improvement
- Training and technical assistance provided
- Efforts to involve many architects and builders