



Preliminary Information for Entities Eligible to Apply to Be Regional Administrators of the Community Heat Pump Deployment Program

The \$10 million Community Heat Pump Deployment Program was established by [SB 1536](#) earlier this year and will provide financial assistance (loans, grants, rebates, or incentives) toward the purchase and installation of heat pumps in residences. The \$10 million will be distributed between regional administrators for 11 regions in the state, as well as any federally recognized Tribes that choose to apply. Regional administrators may partner with other organizations in the implementation of their programs, but only one entity can be the lead applicant. Regional administrators will be able to use up to 15% of the amount awarded to administer their program.

The entities eligible to apply to be regional administrators are:

- Local government
- Local housing authority
- Nonprofit organization
- Federally recognized Tribe in Oregon
- Coordinated care organization
- Community action agency
- Manufactured dwelling park nonprofit cooperative
- Electric utility

Please note that in addition to an entity fitting a category or categories above, statute requires that the entity also serve or represent an environmental justice community or communitiesⁱ within a region or serve or represent members of a federally recognized Tribe in Oregon. The entity must also have the capacity to administer grant funds received. If more than one entity in a region applies to be an administrator, ODOE must give preference to entities that have experience in administering state grant programs or programs similar to the Heat Pump Deployment Program, experience with community program development within a region or with members of a tribe, and/or connections to communities within a region or with members of a Tribe.

The regions are as follows:

- Central Region: Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson Counties
- Greater Eastern Region: Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, and Wheeler Counties
- Metro Region: Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington Counties
- North Coast Region: Clatsop, Columbia, and Tillamook Counties

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- Northeast Region: Baker, Union, and Wallowa Counties
- Mid-Valley Region Marion, Polk, and Yamhill Counties
- North Central Region: Hood River, Sherman, and Wasco Counties
- South Central Region: Klamath and Lake Counties
- South Coast Region: Coos, Curry, and Douglas Counties
- South Valley/Mid Coast Region Benton, Lane, Lincoln, and Linn Counties
- Southern Region: Jackson and Josephine Counties
- The territories of any federally recognized Tribe in Oregon

The statewide program calls for each regional administrator to design their own program that works best for their region, and the application that ODOE will share in the new year will ask for many details of that plan. The applications will be reviewed and applicants will be selected based on criteria that includes readiness to launch a program ahead of the cooling season in 2023.

The statute has some parameters that each regional program must include. Funding must prioritize environmental justice communities, individuals who rely on propane, wood, oil, or electric resistance heating, or individuals who do not have functional heating or cooling.

Regional administrators – and any entity that plans to apply to be a regional administrator – should consider the following program elements ahead of the application process so that they will be ready to apply and launch the program as soon as possible.

Program Elements:

Applicant Eligibility: Who will be eligible to apply for grants, rebates, or loans?

Project Eligibility: What types of projects are eligible? Funding can support heat pumps, heat pump installations, and upgrades required to support a heat pump on the HVAC or electrical system.

Rebate/Grant/Loan Amounts: How much will each rebate, grant, or loan be? Will the program use all three or just one or two of these incentive types?

Eligibility of Prioritized Applicants: How will the program define, identify, and prioritize members of an environmental justice community or someone with propane, wood, oil, or electric resistance heating, or no functional heating or cooling system?

Reservation Process: How will applicants apply for your program? How will those applications be reviewed?

Rebate/Grant/Loan Request: After applicants have reserved a rebate/grant/loan, how long will they have to complete the project? How will they request payment after a project is completed?

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Allocation of Funds: How will payments be processed? How will applicants demonstrate project completeness?

Compliance: How will the regional administrator ensure that grantees/rebate recipients/borrowers comply with program requirements? How will the regional administrator comply with the provisions of the contract with the Oregon Department of Energy?

What's Next?

The Oregon Department of Energy has recently filed draft administrative rules to the Secretary of State. A public hearing for those draft rules is coming up on Thursday, January 5, 2023, from 2 - 3 p.m. For more information on the draft rules or to submit comments in writing or at the hearing, visit the Rulemaking webpage at [State of Oregon: GET INVOLVED - Community Heat Pump Deployment Program](#).

In addition to the draft rules, an interested eligible applicant could review [SB 1536](#), pages 10-14, to see what the statute lays out for the Community Heat Pump Deployment Program.

After the rulemaking process closes, the agency plans to launch an opportunity announcement for all eligible entities to be regional administrators. The agency will hold webinars to allow eligible entities to learn more and ask questions about the application process. We will email notice of those webinars to you, as well as share the opportunity announcement when it is posted.

If you have questions, please email community.heatpump@energy.oregon.gov.

ⁱ "Environmental justice communities" includes communities of color, communities experiencing lower incomes, tribal communities, rural communities, coastal communities, communities with limited infrastructure and other communities traditionally underrepresented in public processes and adversely harmed by environmental and health hazards, including seniors, youth and persons with disabilities.



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