

Opportunity Announcement for the Climate Equity and Resilience Through Action (CERTA) Home Weatherization Incentive Program

Opportunity Announcement No. 25-039 for:

An \$800,000 funding opportunity through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), Section 60114 (Climate Pollution reductions Grant), to support reducing greenhouse gas emissions from buildings by funding home weatherization measures.

Address: Oregon Department of Energy

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Salem, OR 97301

Email: weatherization@energy.oregon.gov

Schedule

Event	Date	
Opportunity Announcement Published	July 28, 2025	
Application Submission Opening	July 28, 2025	
Deadline for Questions Relating to Application	September 24, 2025	
Evaluation		
ODOE to Post Final Q&A	September 25, 2025	
Closing of Opportunity Period & Applications Due	September 29, 2025	
Application Review	September 30, 2025	
Award Notifications Start (approximate)	October 3, 2025	

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Section 1: Purpose and General Information

1.1 Introduction

The 2022 Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) established a federally funded Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG). On February 29, 2024, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality submitted Oregon's Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In July 2024, the EPA announced that Oregon would receive \$197 million in funding to implement climate pollution reduction measures outlined in the PCAP (corresponding to IRA Section 60114). Oregon will distribute these funds to residents, businesses, non-profits, and Tribes through Oregon's Climate Equity and Resilience Through Action Grant (CERTA) program. Led by DEQ's Office of Greenhouse Gas Programs, this work is a multi-agency effort that funds programs implemented by DEQ, Oregon Departments of Energy (ODOE), Housing and Community Services, State Health Authority, and Energy Trust of Oregon. These programs will focus on measures reducing greenhouse gas emissions from buildings, housing, transportation, and waste.

1.2 Objectives

The CERTA Home Weatherization Incentive Program provides subgrants to:

- Expand access to weatherization incentives for existing homes served by consumer-owned utilities (COU). (Note: there are separate programs for weatherization for IOUs).
- 2. Reduce state greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by lowering residential energy use thereby reducing household energy costs.
- 3. Prioritizing weatherization assistance in low-income and other communities of interest by supporting housing affordability and reduced energy costs in households facing disproportionate energy burdens.
- 4. Improve the health and safety of existing homes and promote housing stability by lower costs and increasing the usable life of residences.

1.3 Grant availability

ODOE (or The Department) has \$800,000 in grant funds available for an open CERTA subgrant opportunity announcement.

Subgrant amounts will be calculated based on the number of qualified applicants and available funding.

1.4 Eligibility

- 1. Funding from this subgrant program is available to consumer-owned utilities serving residents in the state of Oregon.
- 2. Funding from this subgrant must support an existing residential weatherization program.

- 3. Funding from this program may not be combined with other incentives or funding streams.
- 4. Funding must be distributed to program beneficiaries by incentives equaling no more than \$2,000 per qualifying household for any combination of weatherization measures including:
 - a. attic, floor, and/or wall insulation
 - b. window replacement
 - c. door replacement
 - d. duct sealing
 - e. air sealing
- 5. Weatherization measures must meet the minimum energy efficiency standards of the existing residential weatherization program.

1.5 Reporting Requirements:

The CERTA program requires quarterly performance reporting, which includes capturing metrics applicable to your project. Please review the data requirements for reporting purposes. Applicants must be able to capture and report all data points for each weatherization installation. Required data includes:

- 1. Year residence was built
- 2. kWh saved by measure (where available)
- 3. Square foot of residence
- 4. Square footage of new insulation (for insulation measures)
- 5. Types of weatherization measures
- 6. Incentive amount
- 7. Location (zip code or census tract)
- 8. Type of structure (single or multifamily)
 - a. If multifamily, how many residences are affected

1.6 Federal Requirements:

Special terms and conditions apply to projects funded by this opportunity, relating to:

- 2. Access to records by Inspectors General and the Government Accountability Office;
- 3. Protecting whistleblowers and requiring prompt referral of evidence of a false claim to an appropriate inspector general;
- Certification and registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) as described in 2 CFR 180.300;
- 5. Reporting, tracking and segregation of incurred costs, per 2 CFR 200 as amended by part 910;
- 6. Foreign national participation.

Section 2: Application Requirements & Process

2.1 Submission of Applications

Applications must be submitted with all the requested information by email to weatherization@energy.oregon.gov. Access to the application and associated materials are available on the Oregon Department of Energy website.

Applications that are submitted improperly or are incomplete may be rejected. The Department must receive complete applications no later than the due date on the cover of this opportunity announcement. The Department may request additional information from the applicant if additional information is required.

A complete subgrant application includes, at a minimum:

- (1) An application form with all fields completed.
- (2) Applicant eligibility information and contact details.
- (3) Attestation of using vetted contractor pool.
- (4) The name of the current program this subgrant will support.

2.2 Questions

Questions, including requests for explanations of the meaning or interpretation of provisions of this opportunity announcement, must be submitted via email to weatherization@energy.oregon.gov. The Department will respond to questions concerning the application and its contents by September 24th, 2025 to ensure the Department's ability to provide any resulting guidance to all applicants through a Q&A document posted on the program website. This deadline does not apply to programmatic questions not related to application evaluation.

Section 3: Review Process

3.1 Overview of Review Process

The Department will evaluate all applications for completeness and eligibility. All complete and eligible applications submitted before the closing date listed on the cover page of this opportunity announcement will be awarded funding. Funding will be calculated based on the number of residential households in an applicant's territory. Applicants that are approved for awards will be offered a performance agreement.

The Department will only consider the information submitted in the application. Unless specifically requested by the agency, information submitted outside of the application will not be considered during review. All comments and questions must be submitted via email to weatherization@energy.oregon.gov.

3.2 Review of Applications

The Department staff will review all applications on a pass/fail basis to determine if each application is eligible and complete, meaning it includes all the minimum required elements described in section 2.1 of this opportunity announcement. Only those applications that meet the minimum requirements will be considered for funding. Incomplete and/or ineligible applications will not be considered for funding. The Department will provide written notification to the applicant when an application has not been approved for funding.

The scoring criteria for the application review are outlined below.

Criterion	CERTA Home Weatherization Incentive Program Review Criteria	Pass/Fail
A	Applicant is a consumer-owned utility serving residential customers in the state of Oregon.	If application does not meet criteria, it will not be considered
В	Subgrant funding will be used to support an existing home weatherization incentive program providing funding to residents residing within the applicant's district.	
С	Applicant can supply the Department with requested data and reporting documents by stated deadlines.	

3.3 Offer of Performance Agreement

Successful applicants will be offered a Performance Agreement. Successful applicants will have 30 days to return the signed Performance Agreement, after which the Department may revoke the offer.

Section 4: Subgrant Process and Payment

4.1 Reporting

Once a Performance Agreement is executed, successful applicants will be required to submit progress reports as specified in the Performance Agreement.

4.2 Disbursing Subgrant Award

Once a Performance Agreement is executed, subgrant funds will be provided to the subrecipient on a cost reimbursement basis, at a frequency to be determined in the subrecipient's Performance Agreement. Subgrant amounts cannot exceed the cost of the project, less other incentives.

4.3 Compliance Monitoring

The Department may conduct reviews, audits, inspections, and other compliance monitoring as it deems appropriate with respect to each subgrantee and its partners to verify compliance with the program requirements.

Section 5: Additional Information

5.1 Public Information, Confidentiality

The State of Oregon's Public Records Law (ORS 192.311 through 192.478) applies to filings and applications submitted to the Department. The law states every person has a right to inspect any public record of a public body, subject to certain exceptions. Applications are public records, and the Department may be required by law to disclose information in the application to the public on request. An applicant may request confidentiality of certain information in its application by marking the information confidential. Marking information does not guarantee that it will be kept confidential, however, and the Department will make any decisions regarding public disclosure of information contained in this application in accordance with Oregon Public Records Law.

Subgrant funding from the state of Oregon may be reported on <u>Oregon Transparency</u>, a state agency tool available for Oregonians to learn about how state government works, taxes are used, and more. The data and information on this website are provided to users for general knowledge and information. It excludes data and information that is confidential, protected, or private under state and federal laws, and is unaudited.

The Department may publicly announce awarded subgrantees under this program. The public announcement may include but is not limited to: the eligible entity's name, partner's names, and the awarded subgrant amount. Awardees are asked not to issue announcements about the program without checking with the Department first.

5.2 Reservation of Department Rights

The Department reserves all rights regarding this opportunity announcement, including, without limitation, the right to:

1. Amend, delay, or cancel the opportunity announcement without liability if the Department finds it is in the best interest of the State of Oregon to do so.

- 2. Not consider any or all applications received upon finding that it is in the best interest of the State of Oregon to do so.
- 3. Deem incomplete any application that fails substantially to comply with all prescribed opportunity announcement procedures and requirements.
- 4. Allocate a subgrant amount less than the amount requested by applicant, at its discretion.

5.3 No Obligation

The Department is not obligated as a result of the submission or acceptance of an application to award a subgrant through a performance agreement to an applicant. Agency's obligation to pay any amounts, perform any activities or provide any items under this Agreement is conditioned upon Agency receiving funding, appropriations, limitations, allotments, or other expenditure authority sufficient to allow Agency, in the exercise of its reasonable administrative discretion, to meet its obligations under the Agreement.

5.4 Sunset Information

If awarded, a subgrant applicant's performance agreement will outline the timeframe required to receive the subgrant award.

Section 6: Additional References and Resources

6.1 References

For reference, background on the CPRG and CERTA Programs and their general requirements, may be found as follows:

- 1. Section 60114 of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).: Inflation Reduction Act.
- 2. Oregon Climate Pollution Reduction Planning Grant web site: <u>Climate Pollution</u>
 Reduction Planning Grant | Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.
- 3. Oregon's Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP), submitted to EPA Feb. 29, 2024.
- 4. Oregon Climate Equity and Resilience Through Action program web site: Climate Equity and Resilience Through Action Grant | Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.
- 5. Oregon's Climate Equity and Resilience Through Action Grant Workplan Narrative, submitted to EPA March 29, 2024.

6.2 Resources

The following website contains information and links to application resources: <u>Climate</u> Equity and Resilience Through Action Grant Weatherization Program | Oregon Department of Energy.