



# Climate Equity and Resilience Through Action Grant COU Weatherization Program Guidance

**OREGON  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ENERGY**



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# CERTA PROGRAM GUIDANCE

## Executive Summary

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, for Oregon Departments of Energy, Housing and Community Services, the State Health Authority, and Energy Trust of Oregon. These programs will focus on measures reducing greenhouse gas emissions from buildings, housing, transportation, and waste.

The Oregon Department of Energy has been awarded \$800,000 to support existing residential weatherization programs. \$680,000 in grants will be awarded in round two of this grant opportunity. Eligible weatherization programs are those that serve residential customers in the state's consumer-owned utility (COU) service areas, which include areas served by municipal electric utilities, consumer-owner utilities, electric cooperatives, and peoples' utility districts.

# CERTA PROGRAM GUIDANCE

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Who We Are</b> .....	1
<b>What We Do</b> .....	1
<b>Purpose</b> .....	1
<b>Funding Availability</b> .....	2
<b>CERTA Timeline</b> .....	2
<b>Eligibility</b> .....	2
<b>Federal Requirements</b> .....	2
<b>Definitions</b> .....	2
<b>Application</b> .....	3
<b>Application Content</b> .....	3
<b>Notifications</b> .....	5
<b>Administrative Costs</b> .....	5
<b>Payments</b> .....	5
<b>Reporting</b> .....	5
<b>Insurance Requirements:</b> .....	6
<b>For More Information</b> .....	7

# CERTA PROGRAM GUIDANCE

## Who We Are

The Oregon Department of Energy helps Oregonians make informed decisions and maintain a resilient and affordable energy system. We advance solutions to shape an equitable clean energy transition, protect the environment and public health, and responsibly balance energy needs and impacts for current and future generations.

- We listen and aspire to be inclusive and equitable in our work.
- We are ethical and conduct our work with integrity.
- We are accountable and fiscally responsible in our work and the decisions of our agency.
- We are innovative and focus on problem-solving to address the challenges and opportunities in Oregon's energy sector.
- We conduct our agency's practices and processes in a transparent and fair way.

## What We Do

On behalf of Oregonians across the state, the Oregon Department of Energy achieves its mission by providing:

- A Central Repository of Energy Data, Information, and Analysis: We research, collect, and analyze data and information to inform state energy planning, regulation, program administration, and policy development.
- A Venue for Problem-Solving Oregon's Energy Challenges: We convene constructive conversations about Oregon's energy challenges and opportunities that consider a diverse range of perspectives, foster collaboration and innovative solutions, and facilitate the sharing of best practices with consumers and stakeholders.
- Energy Education and Technical Assistance: We provide technical assistance, educational resources, and advice to support policy makers, local governments, industry, energy stakeholders, and the general public in solving energy challenges and meeting Oregon's energy, economic, and climate goals.
- Regulation and Oversight: We manage the responsible siting of energy facilities in the state, regulate the transport and disposal of radioactive materials, and represent Oregon's interests at the Hanford Nuclear Site.
- Energy Programs and Activities: We manage and administer statutorily authorized energy programs to save energy, support the state's decarbonization efforts, make communities more resilient, and position Oregon to lead by example.

## Purpose

The purpose of this guide is to provide information on the Oregon Department of Energy's CERTA Weatherization subgrant program. This document is meant to be informative. All requirements of the program are listed in the funding Opportunity Announcement, [Oregon's Priority Climate Action Plan \(PCAP\)](#), [Oregon's Climate Equity and Resilience Through Action Grant \(CERTA\)](#), and Section 60114 of the [Inflation Reduction Act \(IRA\)](#).

# CERTA PROGRAM GUIDANCE

## Funding Availability

ODOE will award up to \$680,000 in subgrants to qualifying COUs. Awards will be based on the number of qualified applicants and residential accounts.

## CERTA Timeline

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Open</b>	January 30, 2026
<b>Application Deadline</b>	March 27, 2026
<b>Award Notification</b>	April 6, 2026
<b>Program Start Date</b>	Date of Performance Agreement Execution
<b>Subgrant Period</b>	Program Start – September 30, 2029

## Eligibility

Funding for the CERTA Weatherization subgrant is available to COUs with an existing weatherization incentive program that serves residential customers in their service territory. Subgrant funding is meant to expand their reach and impact and provide weatherization assistance to a much greater number of households than those currently served under the state’s existing programs.

## Federal Requirements

Awardees of this opportunity will be subrecipients of funds awarded to ODOE and will be identified as subrecipients selected for a subaward. Performance Agreements between ODOE and subrecipients will include required federal terms and conditions, including the flow down requirement of terms and conditions to subrecipient contractors and subcontractors, as applicable. Applicants can find these requirements listed in the application.

## Definitions

**Activities** means the weatherization measures that are installed in a residence.

**Department** means the Oregon Department of Energy.

**Director** means the director of the Oregon Department of Energy.

**Contractor** means a person or construction company that provides services related to energy efficiency including roofing, glazing, insulation, HVAC, electrical, and plumbing. This may include direct contractors or subcontractors.

**COU** means a consumer-owned utility, which includes 20 electric co-ops, 12 municipal utilities, and 6 People’s Utility Districts.

# CERTA PROGRAM GUIDANCE

**Dwelling** means real or personal property within the state inhabited as the principal residence of a dwelling owner or a tenant.

**Energy Efficient** means the method by which less energy is used to produce the same task or result.

**Energy Conservation Standards** means the standards for the efficient use of energy for space and water heating in a dwelling. Energy conservation standards address the weatherization of existing dwellings.

**Environmental Justice Communities** mean communities meeting the definition of environmental justice communities under Oregon Revised Statutes 2023 Edition, 469A.400(5). The definition 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.

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** means a formal non-binding agreement between two or more parties that outlines the intentions, roles, and objectives of the partnership.

**Resident** means the owner or tenant occupying a dwelling as their principal residence.

**Weatherization** measures which reduce a dwelling's heat exchange with its external environment. Weatherization measures are those measures in [OAR 330-062-0025 \(Advisory Energy Conservation Standards\)](#).

## Application

Applicants must submit a completed application. All fields must be completed. If a field is not applicable to the proposed program, enter "N/A." Submit the application and all required documentation by email to [weatherization@energy.oregon.gov](mailto:weatherization@energy.oregon.gov) by the submission deadline on the opportunity announcement. Applicants should consider submitting the application early to avoid disqualification for any submission delays.

Applicants must have a Unique Entity Identifier (previously a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number) obtained in the [System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#) (formerly CCR database) to be eligible for federal funding. See the above web sites for more information. The applicant's employer identification number (EIN) is also required.

## Application Content

### Applicant Information

Information about the applicant is provided in this section. Additionally, please identify whether the application will contain confidential and/or trade secret information that may be exempted from disclosure under Oregon's Public Records Law or the Freedom of Information Act. Specifically, please provide the page numbers in which confidential information may be present within the application.

The information provided in this section must include all the following.

# CERTA PROGRAM GUIDANCE

- Applicant organization name. Applications must be submitted only by eligible applicants and, if awarded, will be the entity responsible for fulfilling the subgrant award and conditions.
- Legal address of the applicant. Include the zip code.
- Federal Tax Employer Identification Number (EIN).
- Federal Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). (A UEI is provided through the System for Award Management (SAM) (formerly CCR database).)
- Applicant Principal Investigator (i.e., Project Manager) with Name, Phone Number, and Email Address. This should be the primary point of contact for the project.
- Applicant Business Officer with Name, Phone Number, and Email Address. This should be the authorized representative and person with the authority to approve and sign the performance agreement with the State.

## Program Information

This subgrant provides additional funding for existing weatherization programs. Applicants must include the name of the existing program and what weatherization measures are currently provided to households. Each qualifying household may receive no more than \$2,000 from this program for weatherization upgrades.

## Data 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

## Customers

Funding allocations are based on the number of residential households the applicant serves in relation to the total residential households served by all awardees. Applicants must list the number of residential households in their service area. Award amounts will be listed in the offer letter, should an applicant qualify.

Example of award amount: 10 COUs apply and qualify for awards. The total number of residential households serviced by all 10 COUs is 500,000. The applicant has 100,000

# CERTA PROGRAM GUIDANCE

residential households in its service area. The applicant would be awarded \$136,000 (100,000/500,000=20%, \$680,000\*20%=\$136,000).

## **Business Assurances and Disclosures**

Awardees must comply with all requirements for Federal subrecipients under [2 CFR 180.300, 200.331, 200.332, and 200.333](#). Applicants must attest to compliance with these regulations.

## **Notifications**

Applicants will be notified when the application has been received. Notifications will be sent out after the application completeness review process. Eligible applications that have been determined to be complete will be awarded funds and offered a Performance Agreement. Successful applicants will have 30 days to return the signed Performance Agreement.

## **Administrative Costs**

This subgrant program does not include administrative costs. Funding from this subgrant is to be used only for participant support costs in the form of direct weatherization rebates.

## **Payments**

Payments will be on a reimbursement basis. Recipients may request reimbursement of subgrant funds through submission of invoices monthly. The invoices must describe all work performed on the project with particularity, including by whom it was performed, must itemize and explain all project costs for which reimbursement is claimed and must itemize and explain all match expenditures on the project since the last invoice. Each invoice must be accompanied by supporting documentation of the costs for which reimbursement is claimed. Such supporting documentation copies of paid contract and equipment invoices. Supporting documentation for volunteer activities or donated materials, including the basis for valuation, must also be provided. The Department will be responsible for auditing program progress and budgets. The Department may request additional information from subgrantees as needed. Any discrepancies in expenditures may be deducted from future payments or the Department may request reimbursement of overpayments. Any funds from the approved budget that are unspent will be forfeited.

## **Modifications to Performance Agreement**

If a Subgrantee wishes to amend the Performance Agreement, the Subgrantee must submit written notice to the Department. The modification must be such that the program meets the requirements of the funding Opportunity Announcement. The Department will determine if the amendment meets all requirements outlined in the Opportunity Announcement.

## **Reporting**

Subgrantees are required to collect data and maintain records to provide reports to the Department. Detailed records and receipts for all expenses will be required for accurate reporting. Reported expenses should correspond to budget expenses and program activities. The Department will provide a template for reporting expenditures.

# CERTA PROGRAM GUIDANCE

Additional data such as type of weatherization, incentive amount, kWh saved or year built, square footage, location (zip or census tract), and type of structure (multi or single) must be collected for monthly reporting purposes. The Department will provide guidance on what additional data is expected.

All reported data will be collected and used for reporting on CERTA grant performance and effectiveness. Data may be used by the Department for program auditing purposes. Subgrantees may be required to provide further information as requested by the Department. If deficiencies are found by the Department in program performance, the Department may issue a deficiency notice. Data reporting will be required monthly with additional data and budget reporting due at semi-annual dates. Below is a schedule of semi-annual reporting dates. Please note that the close out date for programs are specified in the Performance Agreement and may differ from the schedule below.

Type of Reporting	Program Quarter	Report Due
Semi-annual	April 1, 2026 – Sept 30, 2026	October 7, 2026
Semi-annual	October 1, 2026 - March 31, 2027	April 7, 2027
Semi-annual	April 1, 2027 – Sept 30, 2027	October 7, 2027
Semi-annual	October 1, 2027 - March 31, 2028	April 7, 2028
Semi-annual	April 1, 2028 – Sept 30, 2028	October 7, 2028

## Insurance Requirements:

Subgrantee, and any private contractors or subcontractors, must obtain and maintain insurance covering the Department in the types and amounts indicated in the Performance Agreement.

If the Project includes the construction, remodel, or repair of real property or improvements to real property, Subgrantee must insure the real property and improvements against liability and risk of direct physical loss, damage, or destruction at least to the extent that similar insurance is customarily carried by entities constructing, operating, and maintaining similar property or facilities.

# CERTA PROGRAM GUIDANCE

## For More Information

The Oregon Department of Energy

550 NE Capitol Street NE

Salem, OR 97301

503-378-4040 | 800-221-8035

[weatherization@energy.oregon.gov](mailto:weatherization@energy.oregon.gov)

<https://www.oregon.gov/energy/Incentives/Pages/weatherization.aspx>



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