

Energy Efficiency Financing for Michigan Communities

Energy Efficiency Grant and Loan Financing Opportunities

This document contains opportunities and resources for energy efficiency financing that may be available to Michigan Municipalities, districts, public buildings, and other public entities. These resources and opportunities are not an exhaustive list, but rather certain financing opportunities that have been brought to the attention of the Michigan Energy Office. We encourage those looking for energy efficiency financing opportunities to review the financing resources listed below for additional opportunities.

Limited Opportunities

[Consumers Energy \(Electric\) - Commercial Energy Efficiency Program](#)

Passage of the Clean, Renewable and Energy Efficiency Act of 2008 paved the way for the Consumers Energy Business Solutions Program to provide incentives for customers who upgrade facilities with energy efficient equipment. This incentive program is available to all customers who receive electric delivery service from Consumers Energy. Common areas of multi-family or mixed-use buildings are eligible if on an eligible rate schedule, [click here](#).

[Consumers Energy \(Gas\) - Commercial Energy Efficiency Program](#)

Prescriptive incentives are available for energy efficiency equipment upgrades and are paid based on the quantity, size and efficiency of the equipment. Custom incentives are available to customers for more complex energy saving measures and must have a payback period of between 1 and 10 years. Custom incentives are paid based on the first-year energy (kWh or MCF) savings, and are eligible for both gas and electricity rebate amounts. Other Consumers Energy incentives are available through the Small Commercial Direct Install, New Construction, Pilot, Michigan Saves and Self Direct Programs. Additionally, a bonus incentive of 15% may be available to customers who purchase equipment manufactured in Michigan. [click here](#).

[Grants Available for Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency Projects](#)

The Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Economic Development Assistance Program provides grants to support job creation in economically distressed areas of the United States. EDA grants can support local renewable energy, green building, energy efficiency, and recycling projects. [Click here](#) for a copy of the RFP.

Closing date(s):
September 14 for funding cycle 1 of FY 2013

Ongoing Opportunities

[Energy Revolving Loan Fund – Public Entities](#)

In January 2010, Michigan enacted the Public Act 242 of 2009, which established the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Revolving Loan Fund Program. The Public Entities portion of the loan program is available to cities and villages located in Michigan for energy efficiency and renewable energy systems. Applicants are evaluated based on minimum credit standards. Program funds cannot be used for any costs incurred before the date of the loan agreement.

[Water and Environmental Programs \(WEP\)](#)

Water and Environmental Programs provides loans, grants, and loan guarantees for drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste and storm drainage facilities in rural areas, cities and towns with populations of 10,000 or less.

Public bodies, non-profit organizations and recognized Indian tribes may qualify for assistance. WEP also makes grants to nonprofit organizations to provide technical assistance with their water, wastewater, and solid waste problems.

Community Facilities

This program offers direct and guaranteed loans and grants to finance and facilitate the development of over 80 different types of essential community facilities serving rural areas. These facilities include, but are not limited to: hospitals; nursing homes; health clinics; police, fire or rescue facilities, equipment or vehicles; libraries; and municipal or county buildings. Special emphasis is given to projects that involve first responders, public safety and health care.

Grants and Loans offered per region

Michigan Finance Authority

MEA offers effective low-cost financing to public and private agencies providing essential services to the citizens of Michigan, including:

- Municipalities
- Public, Private, and Charter Schools
- Higher Education

Energy Efficiency Resources & Best Practices

About Performance Contracting

Performance Contracting offers a way to finance energy saving measures through the energy savings from the implementation of those measures. When contracting with an Energy Services Company (ESCO) a guarantee of energy cost savings will set. If savings don't materialize, the ESCO will pay the difference. This type of financing is an attractive way to get projects done with little to no upfront costs.

For more information about Performance Contracting, please visit the Energy Services Coalition page at <http://www.energyservicescoalition.org> and check out the Resources and Info tab.

Federal Grant Opportunities

Resource to find and apply for federal grants, managed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency (DSIRE)

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U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

Michigan Charitable Organizations

The Office of the Attorney General website has a searchable database of Michigan Charities, many of which are involved with renewable energy and energy efficiency. The database can be searched by name, keyword, and location, depending on the public entity's financing needs.

[National Governors Association Center for Best Practices](#)

State Clean Energy Financing Guidebook

[EPA Clean Energy Financing Programs](#)

The Decision Guide includes many useful Resources

[EPA ENERGY STAR](#)

Financing Guidebook for Energy Efficiency Program Sponsors

[EPA Combined Heat and Power Partnership](#)

[ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability USA](#)