

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Loan Program

What does this program do?

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Loan Program (EECLP) provides funds to help consumers save money, reduce the need to purchase or generate energy, reduce electricity emissions, and help strengthen rural economies through energy efficiency and conservation projects.

Who can apply for this program?

EECLP loans are available to utilities that provide retail electric service to people in rural areas in the following ways:

- **Retail electric service to consumers**
- **Wholesale electric supply to distributors**
- **Transmission servicers**



Energy Efficiency and Conservation Loan Program Website

What is an eligible area?

Rural towns or unincorporated areas that have a population of 20,000 inhabitants or fewer are eligible. Eligible communities can be combined into service territories that exceed 20,000.

We encourage you to contact your General Field Representative (GFR) to see if your program is eligible. A list of all GFRs is available at this link: tinyurl.com/RUSGFR-E

How can funds be used?

Funding can be used to:

- Attract new business and create jobs in rural communities by investing in energy efficiency
- Encourage the use of renewable energy fuels
- Improve energy efficiency and reduce peak demand on the customer side of the meter
- Reduce energy system demand
- Use existing electric facilities more efficiently

Examples of projects include:

- Energy audits
- Community awareness and outreach programs
- Power factor correction equipment
- Energy efficient lighting
- Distribution generation for on- or off-grid renewable energy investments

How do we get started?

- We accept applications year-round.
- We encourage you to contact your GFR to begin the application process. A full list of GFRs is available at this link: tinyurl.com/RUSGFR-E.
- Contact the Rural Electric Program's Office of Loan Origination and Approval (OLOA). A list of contacts is available at this link: tinyurl.com/RUSOLOA.

Who can answer questions?

- Contact the GFR in your area. A full list of GFRs is available at this link: tinyurl.com/RUSGFR-E.
- Contact the Rural Electric Program's Office of Loan Origination and Approval (OLOA). A list of contacts is available at this link: tinyurl.com/RUSOLOA

What governs this program?

- The Rural Electrification Act of 1936, as amended through P.L. 118-22, enacted November 17, 2023, available at this link: tinyurl.com/RuralElecAmend
- The Code of Federal Regulations 7 CFR 1710 Subpart H, available at this link: tinyurl.com/CodeFedRegs.
- EECLP Final Rule, available at this link: tinyurl.com/EECLPFR

NOTE: Because information changes, always consult official program instructions or contact your local USDA Rural Development office for help. A list is available at this link: tinyurl.com/RDStateOffices. You will find additional RD program resources at rd.usda.gov. Information about other USDA programs and services is available at this link: ask.usda.gov/s/. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.