Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP)
Transportation Fueling Facility (Rail/Marine) Applicant Deep Dive

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HBIIP Transportation Fueling Facility Applicant Deep Dive
Agenda

- What's New?
- Overview
- Enrollment Orientation
- Online Application System
- What's Next?
- Questions
- Additional Opportunities

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What’s New?

HBIIP – What's New?

- Quarterly competitions with $90 million available each quarter.
- Make available approximately $68.5 million to transportation fueling facility applicants, $18 million to fuel distribution facilities, and $4.5 million to home heating oil distribution facilities.
- Add home heating oil distribution facility as applicant type under Fuel Distribution Facility applicant type.
- Increase Federal cost share for eligible activities to 75 percent for transportation fueling facilities owning 10 or fewer stations and home heating oil distribution facilities.
- Updated capped costs for fuel dispensers and fuel storage tanks for transportation fueling facility applicants.

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Overview

HBIIP Overview

Of the **$90 million** available to eligible participants/owners each quarter:

- Approximately **$68.5 million** is available to transportation fueling facilities,

for activities related to higher blends of fuel ethanol, **greater than 10 percent ethanol**, including E15 and E85, and biodiesel **greater than 5 percent biodiesel**, including B20 or higher.

Transportation fueling facilities include:

Fueling stations, convenience stores, hypermarket fueling stations, fleet facilities, and similar entities with capital investments.

HBIIP Overview (continued)

Eligible Project Costs:

- Incurred after a **complete application is submitted**;
- Purchase, installation, and/or retrofitting of fuel dispensers related equipment and infrastructure to support higher blend fuel sales;
- Construction, replacement, improvements;
- Fees – construction permits, and licenses;
- Professional service fees.

Ineligible Project Costs:

- Renewable diesel projects;
- Sustainable aviation fuel projects;
- Used equipment and vehicles;
- Construction or equipment costs that would be incurred regardless of the HBIIP project;
- Purchase of real property/land or lease payments;
- Expenses associated with applying for, reporting, reimbursement, and servicing of HBIIP.

HBIIP Overview (continued)

There is a **Matching Funds** (cost sharing) requirement. Matching funds will need to cover the remaining balance that grant funds do not.

Estimated Funding:	Cash	In-kind value	All
Federal			
Applicant			
State			
Local			
Other			
TOTAL			

- Arrangements with private entities
- Commercial vendors of fuels
- Agricultural commodity/renewable fuel promotional organizations
- State-led programs and private sector efforts

HBIIP Overview (continued)

Matching Funds:

- Required to receive HBIIP grant
- Remainder – All eligible project costs not covered by Grant funds
- Consist of **CASH** and In-kind contributions
- Secured by applicant – **must** have written commitments, such as bank statements for cash or Letters of Commitment for in-kind contributions
- In-kind from applicants is not eligible
- Other Federal grants are not eligible
- Passive tax equity contributions allowed

HBIIP Overview (continued)

Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA)

- If applying as:
  - State or Local Government
  - Indian Tribe
  - Institution of Higher Education
  - Nonprofit

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Enrollment Orientation

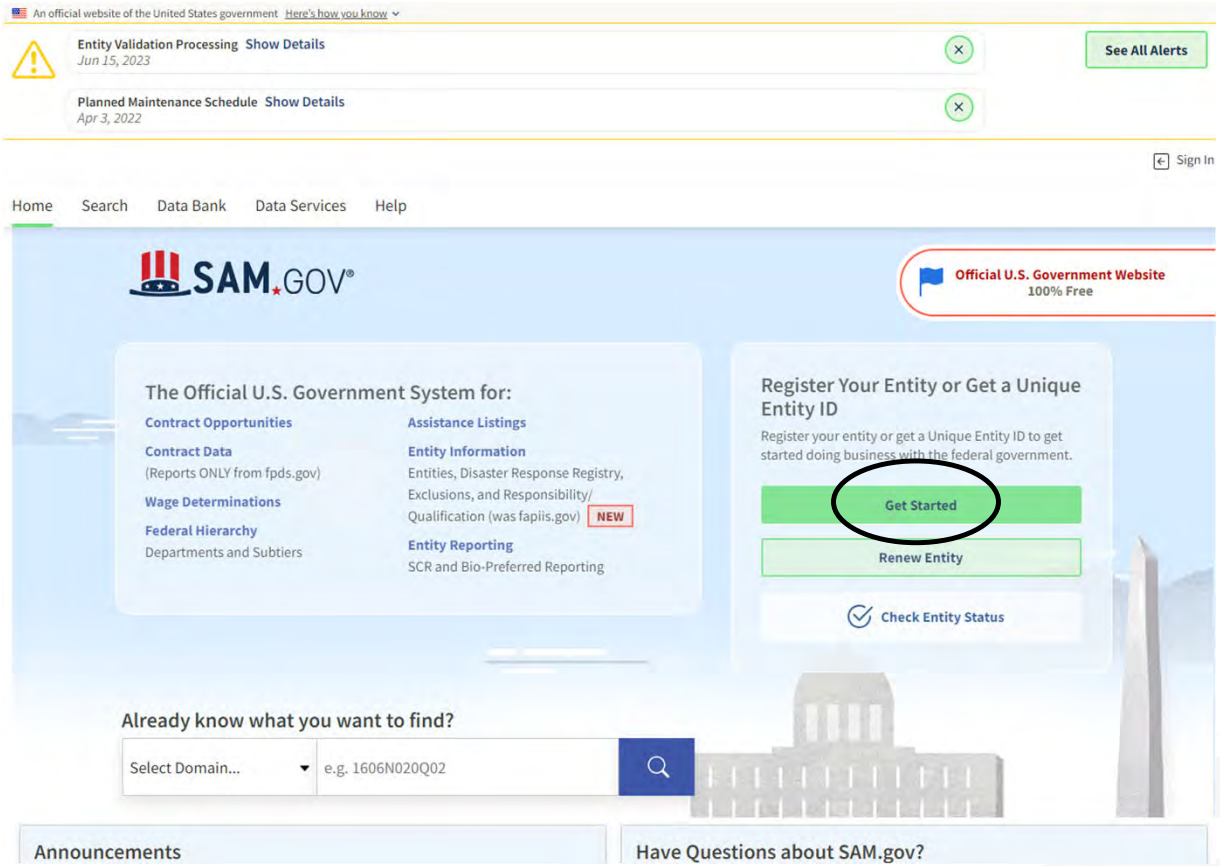
HBIIP Enrollment

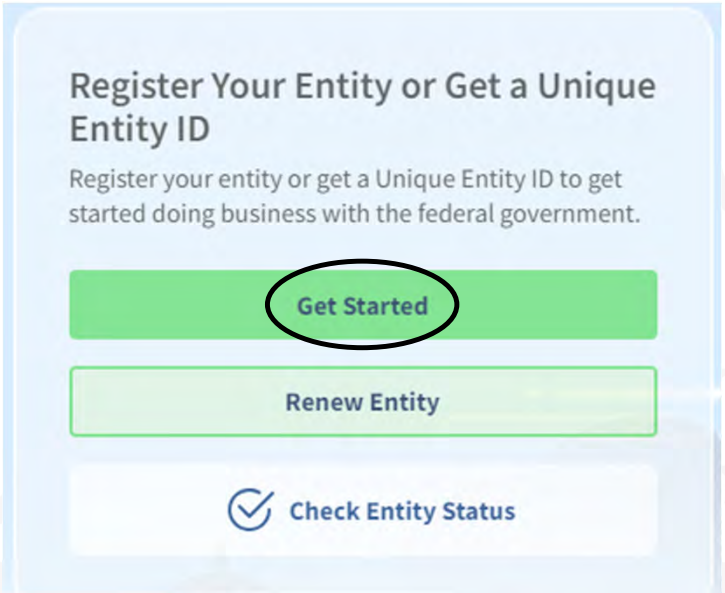
- Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
- USDA Level 2 eAuthentication/Login.gov (Coming Soon!)
- Requesting access to the Online Application System
- Obtaining access to the Online Application System

HBIIP Enrollment

- “Register Your Entity” with the System for Award Management (SAM) at www.sam.gov to obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and expiration date.
  - Make sure you complete the Certifications and Representations section when registering your entity.

To Apply
System for Award Management (SAM) Registration





CJMRSO0

HBIIP Enrollment

- Create a USDA eAuthentication Customer Account, https://www.eauth.usda.gov.
  - Level 2 (verified identity) access is required.

- Create a Login.gov Account (tentatively available after July 24, 2023), https://login.gov/.
  - Verified Identity will be required.

Slide 15

CJMRSO0 Update with Login.gov info

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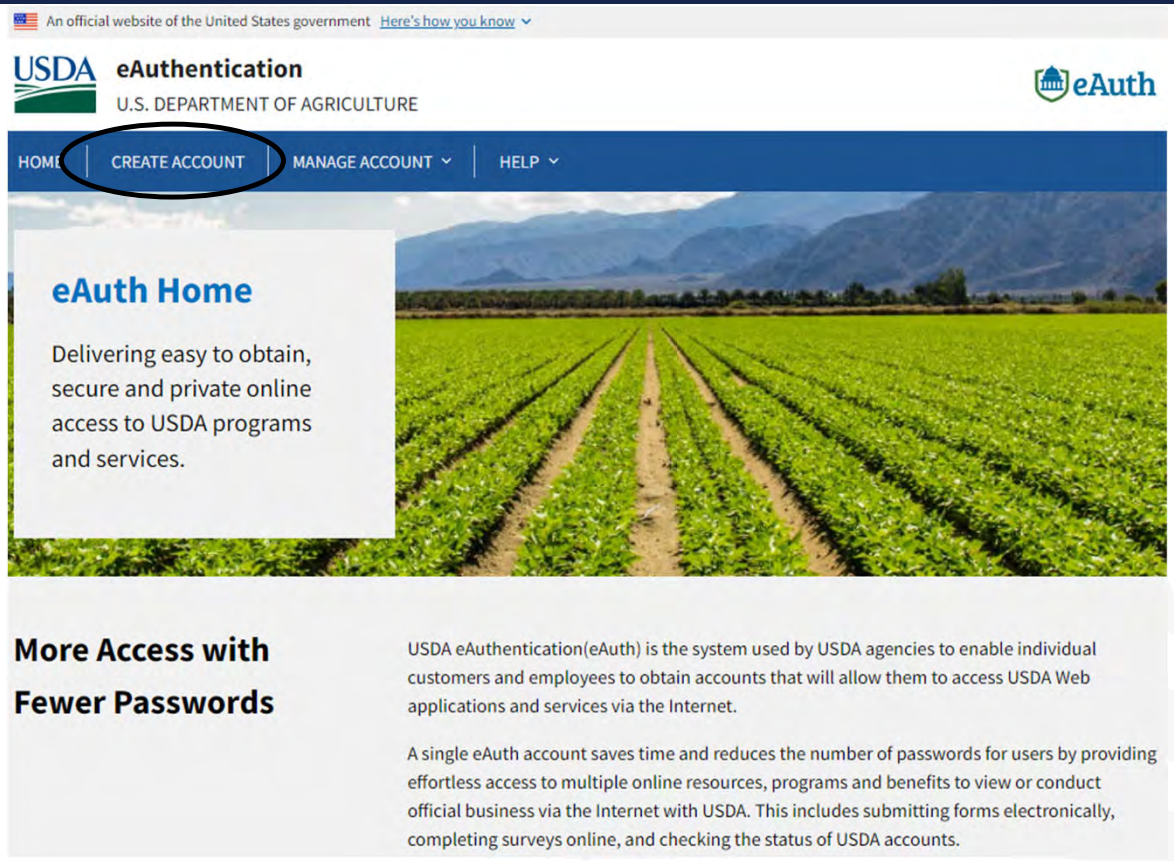
To Apply
USDA eAuthentication



To Apply
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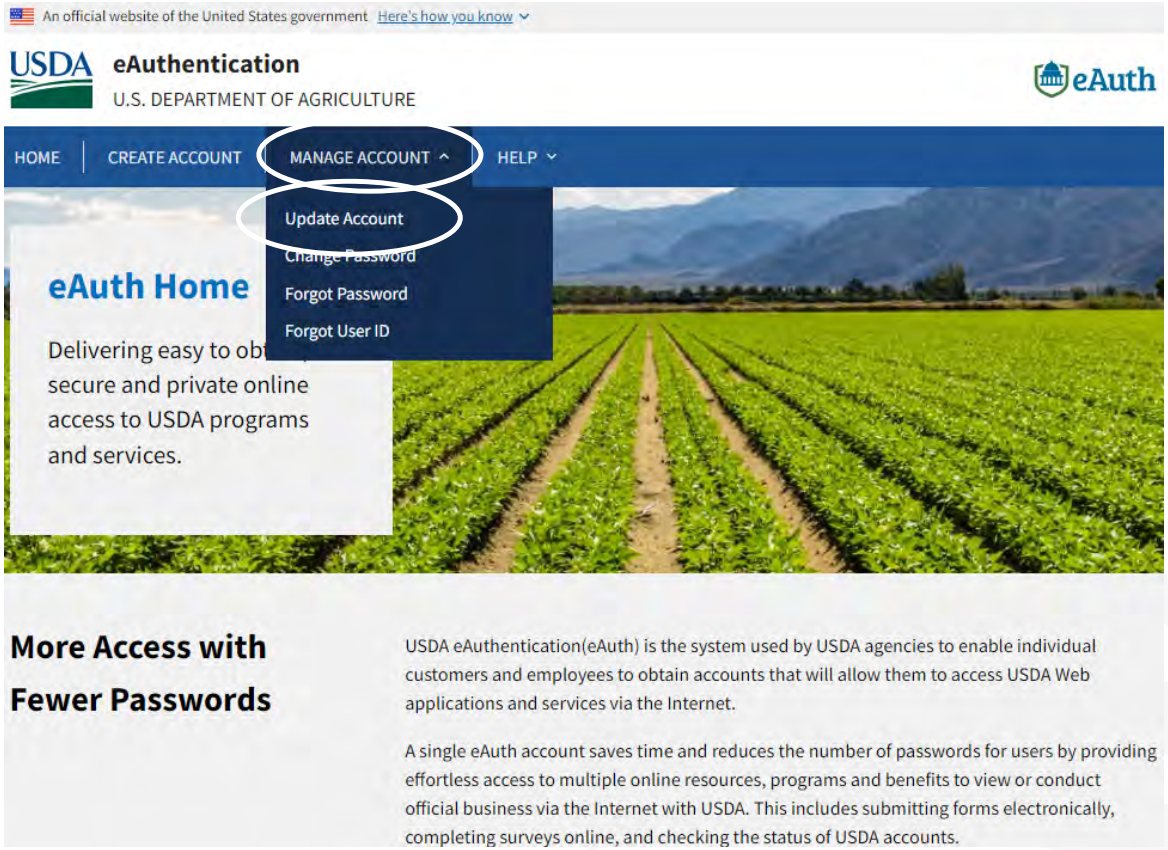

To Apply
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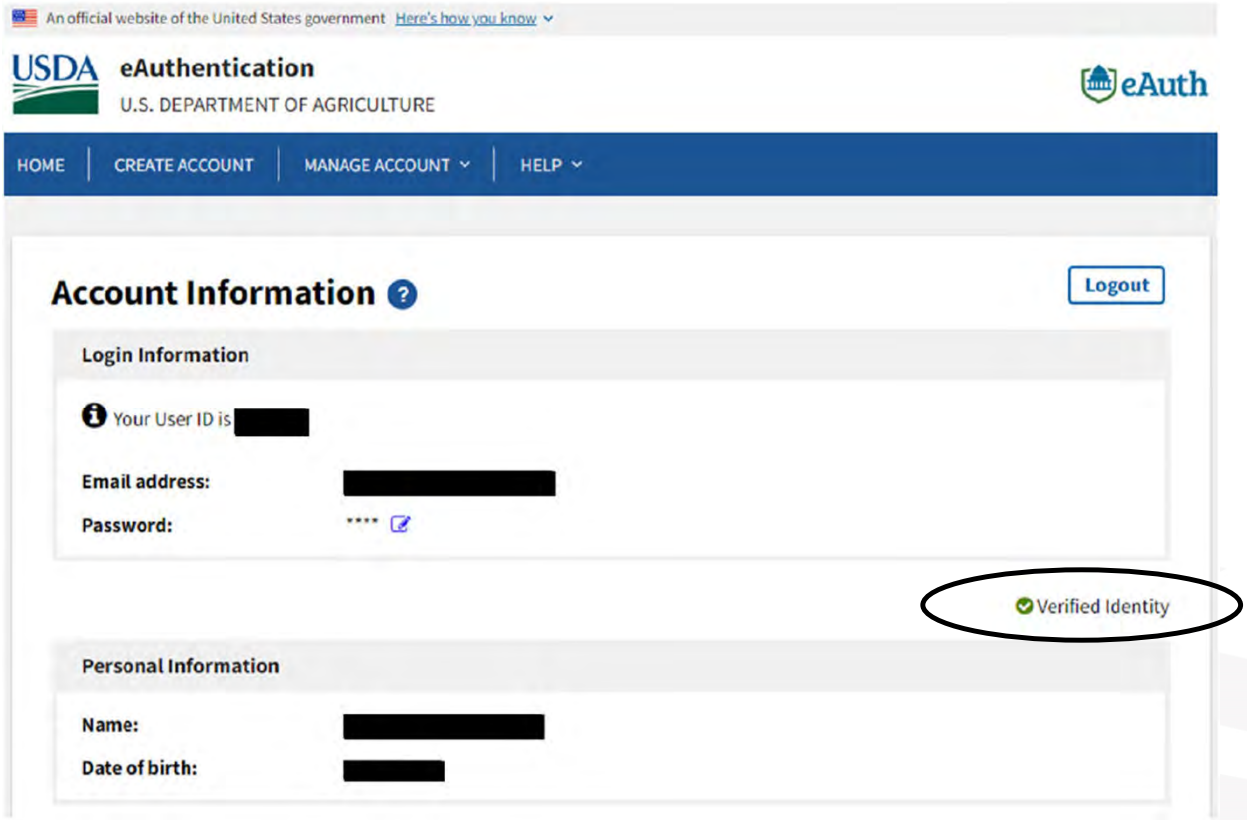
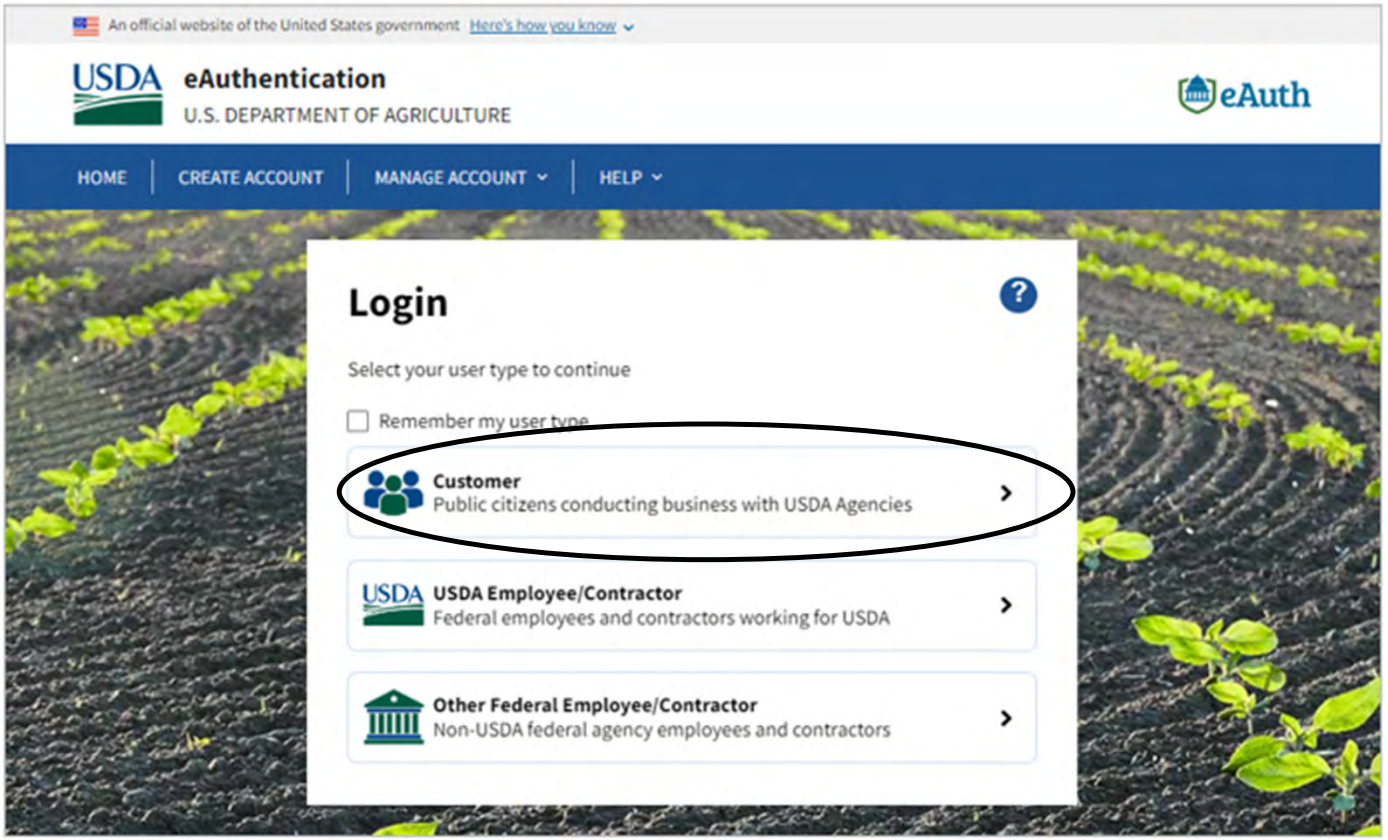


To Apply
Login.gov



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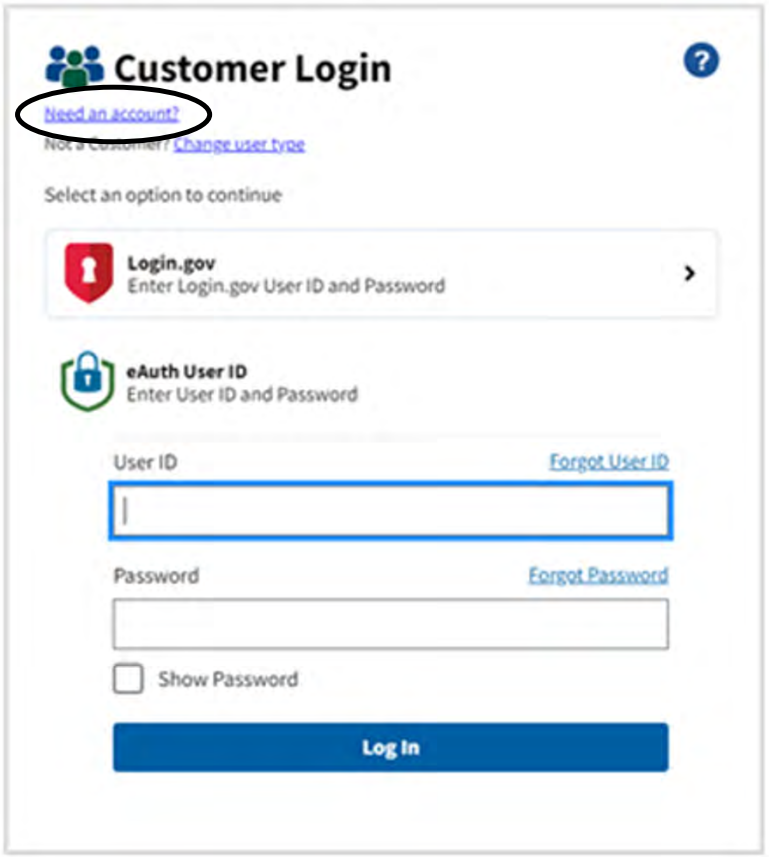

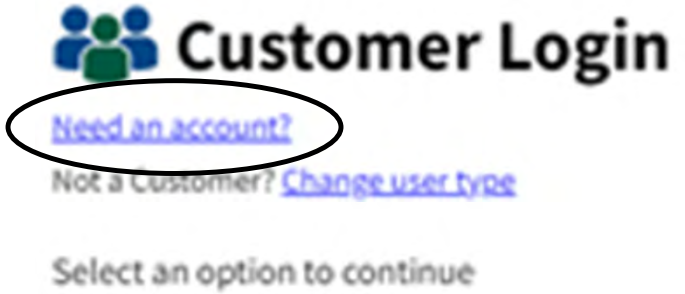

To Apply
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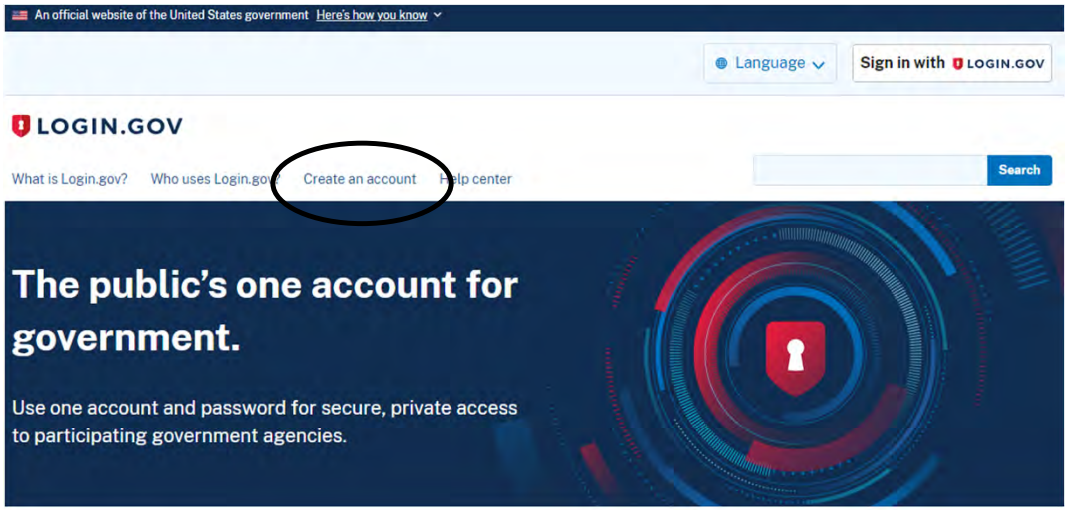

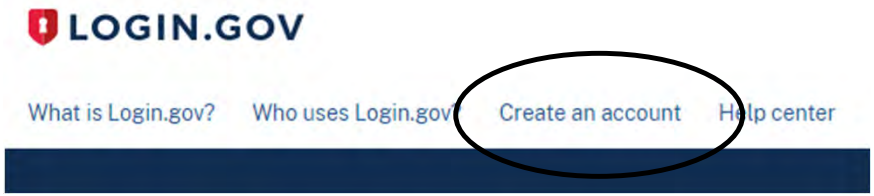

To Apply
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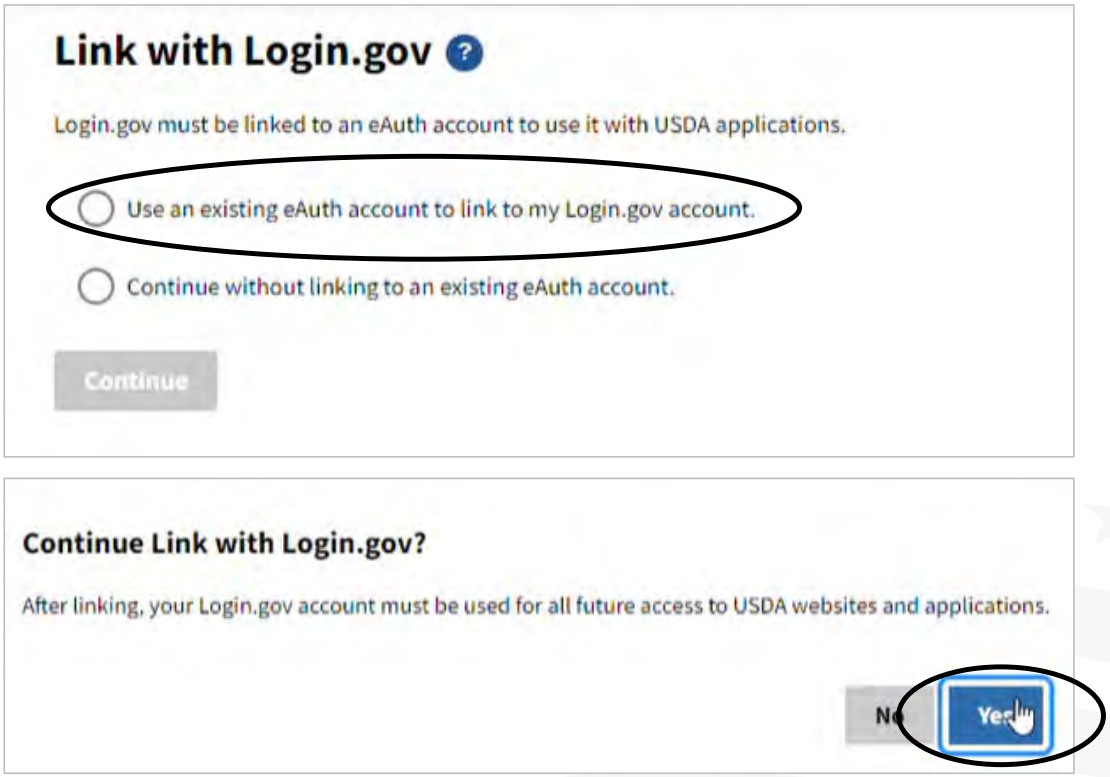
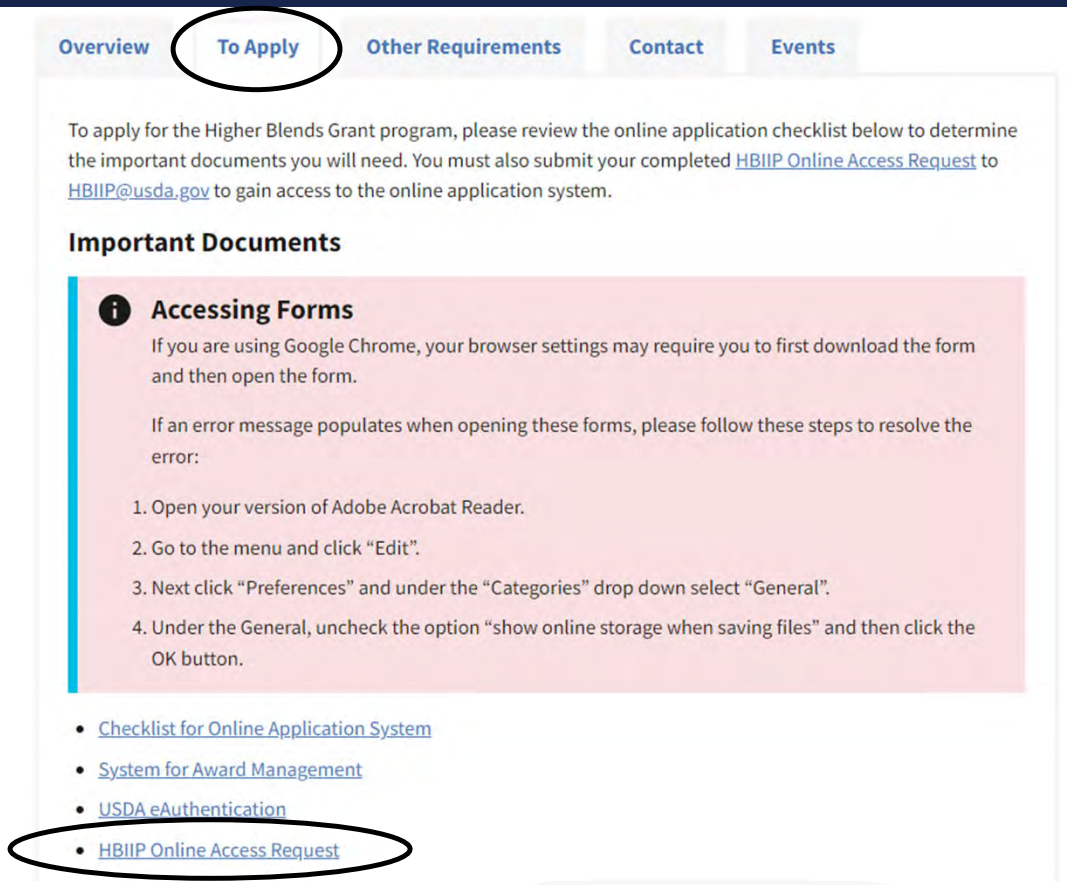
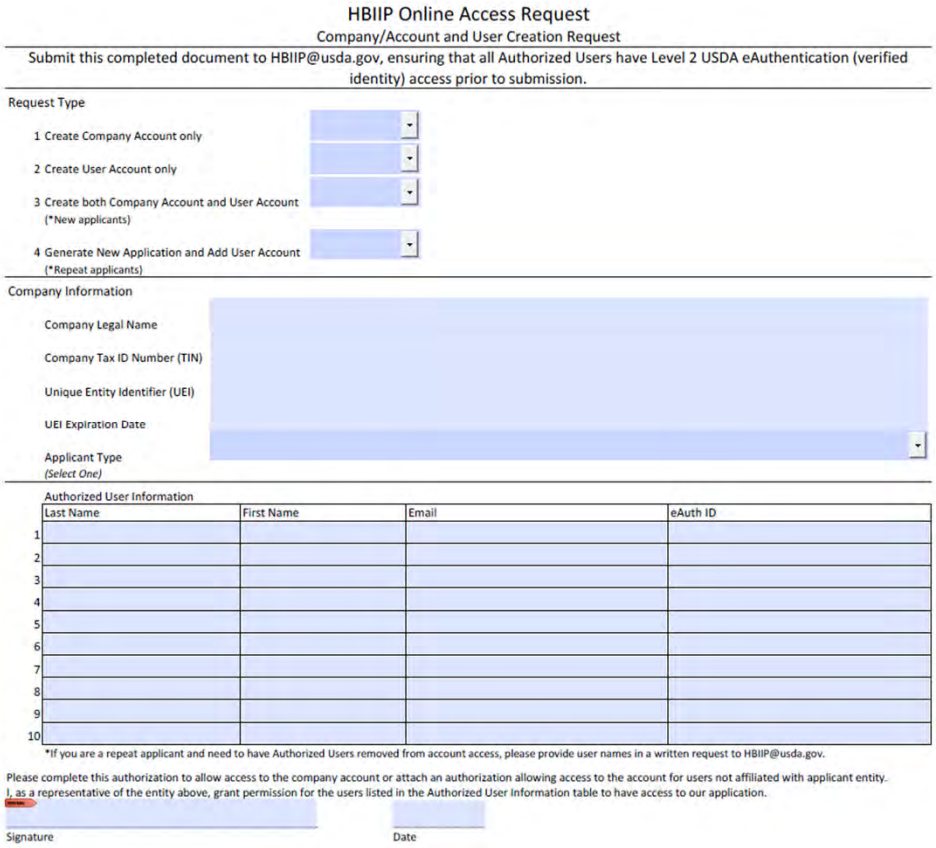


To Apply
HBIIP Online Access Request



Request to Participate



HBIIP Online Access Request

Company/Account and User Creation Request

Submit this completed document to HBIIP@usda.gov, ensuring that all Authorized Users have Level 2 USDA eAuthentication (verified identity) access prior to submission.

Request Type

1 Create Company Account only

2 Create User Account only

3 Create both Company Account and User Account (*New applicants)

4 Generate New Application and Add User Account (*Repeat applicants)

Company Information

Company Legal Name

Company Tax ID Number (TIN)

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

UEI Expiration Date

Applicant Type *(Select One)*

Authorized User Information

	Last Name	First Name	Email	eAuth ID
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

*If you are a repeat applicant and need to have Authorized Users removed from account access, please provide user names in a written request to HBIIP@usda.gov.

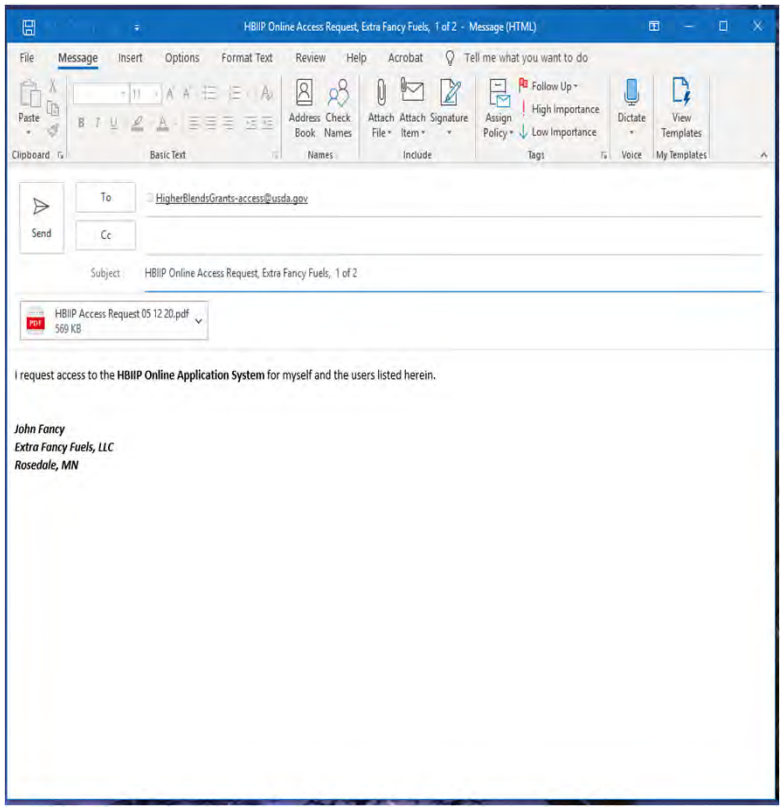
Please complete this authorization to allow access to the company account or attach an authorization allowing access to the account for users not affiliated with applicant entity.
I, as a representative of the entity above, grant permission for the users listed in the Authorized User Information table to have access to our application.

Signature

Date

- Select: Create both Company Account and User Account
- Company's Legal Name
- Company TIN
- Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
- UEI Expiration Date
- Applicant Type (Select One):
  - Owner of 10 or fewer fueling stations
  - Owner of more than 10 fueling stations
  - Fleet facility (including rail/marine)
  - Fuel Distribution Facility
  - Home Heating Oil Distribution Facility
- Provide authorized user information
- Provide authorization

Request to Participate



To request access to *HBIIP Online Application System:*

1. Send an Email attached with a completed and encrypted **HBIIP Online Access Request** to, HBIIP@usda.gov.

2. Send second email immediately with encryption password.

Please allow at least one week to process your request. If you do not receive a response after one week, please resubmit your request.

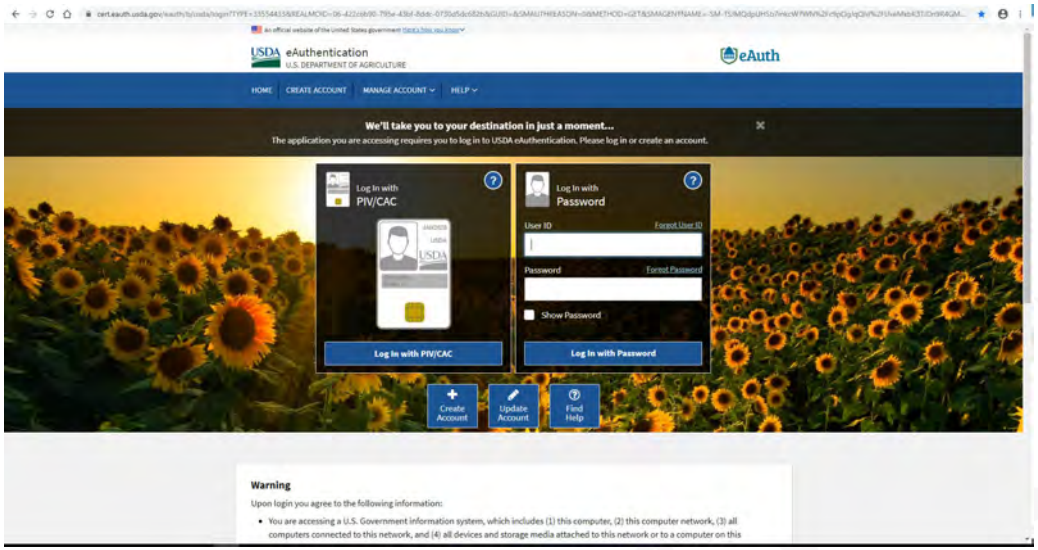
Obtaining access to the Online Application System

Upon approval, a Company's authorized/rightful users will each receive an email from HBIIP@usda.gov, with

A URL and instructions to access the system.

Copy the URL and paste it into the address bar of a **Google Chrome** internet browser and hit enter.

Bookmark the URL for future use.

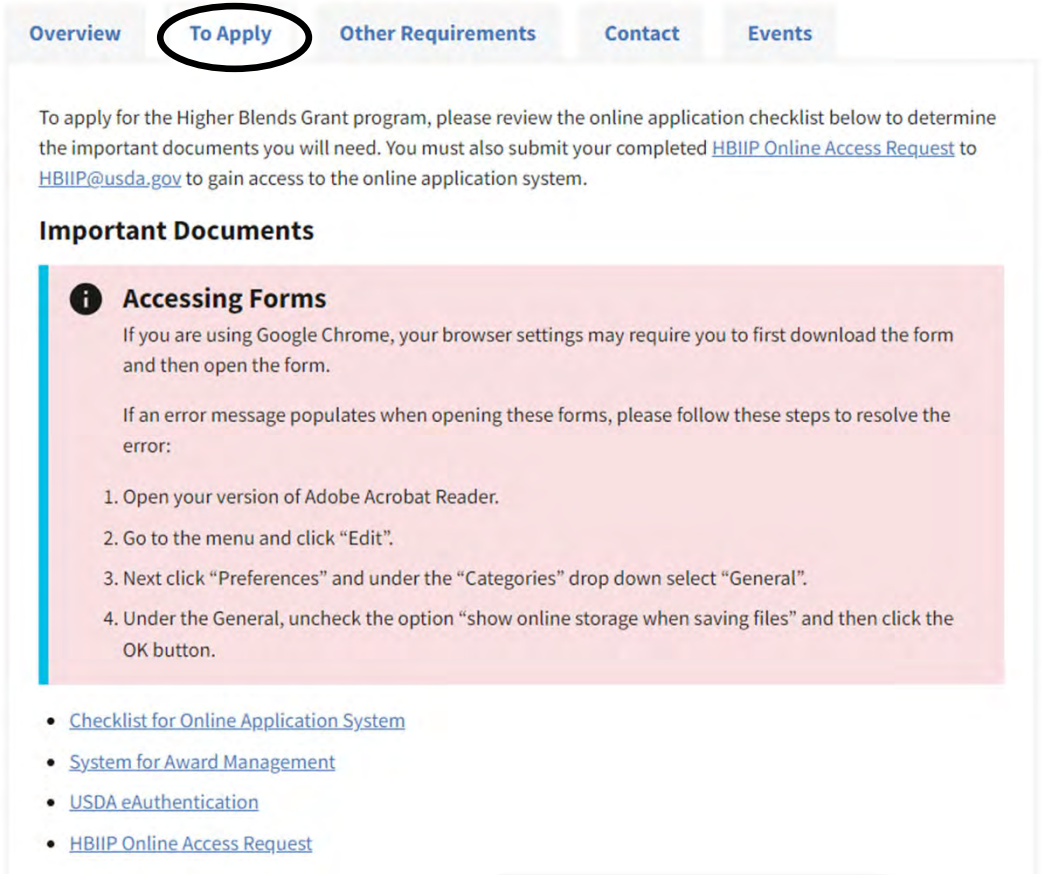


Important Dates

- June 28, 2023 - A ***Notice of Funding Opportunity*** (NOFO) published in the *Federal Register*
  - Announced Quarterly HBIIP Application Windows
  - Announced Changes to HBIIP

- Beginning of Each Quarter
  - HBIIP Online Application System Goes Live
  - Begin Accepting Online Access Enrollment Requests
  - Begin Accepting Preliminary Environmental Information Surveys

To Apply
Important Documents



Overview | To Apply | Other Requirements | Contact | Events

To apply for the Higher Blends Grant program, please review the online application checklist below to determine the important documents you will need. You must also submit your completed HBIIP Online Access Request to HBIIP@usda.gov to gain access to the online application system.

Important Documents

Accessing Forms

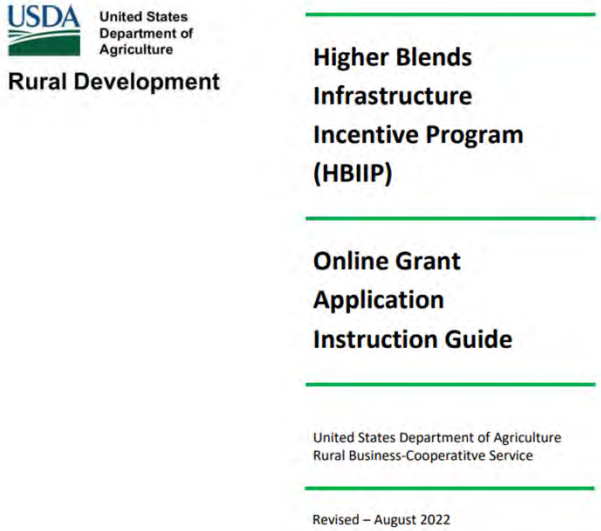
If you are using Google Chrome, your browser settings may require you to first download the form and then open the form.

If an error message populates when opening these forms, please follow these steps to resolve the error:

1. Open your version of Adobe Acrobat Reader.
2. Go to the menu and click "Edit".
3. Next click "Preferences" and under the "Categories" drop down select "General".
4. Under the General, uncheck the option "show online storage when saving files" and then click the OK button.

- Checklist for Online Application System
- System for Award Management
- USDA eAuthentication
- HBIIP Online Access Request

Online Application Instructions Guide



USDA United States Department of Agriculture

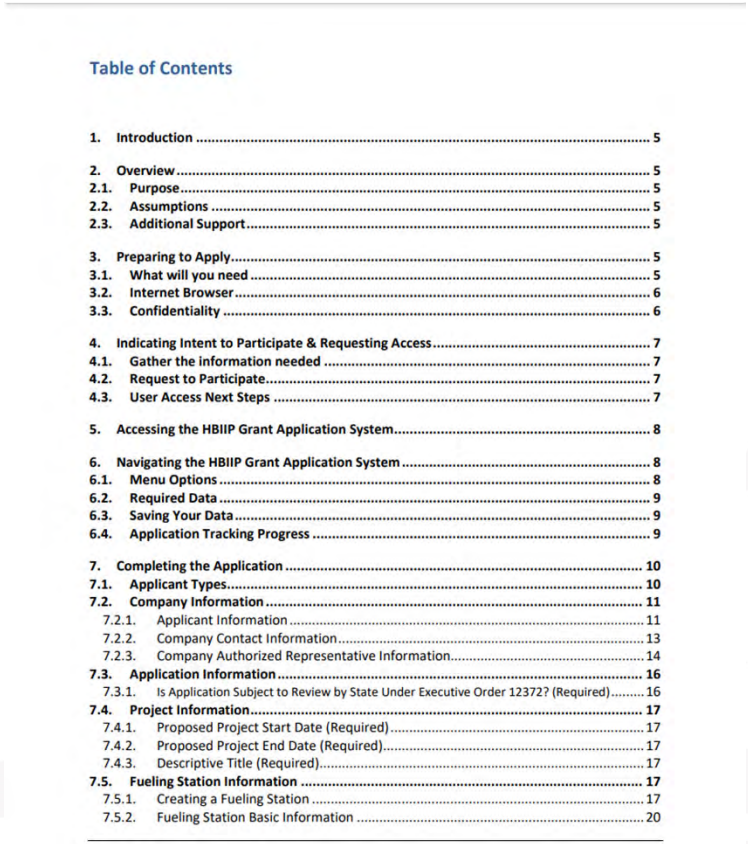
Rural Development

Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP)

Online Grant Application Instruction Guide

United States Department of Agriculture
Rural Business-Cooperatitve Service

Revised – August 2022



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Online Application System

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What’s Next?

What’s next?

- HBIIP Application Windows – Closes at 4:30 pm Eastern on the final day of each quarter
  1. July 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023
  2. October 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023
  3. January 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024
  4. April 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024
  5. July 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024

What’s next? (Continued)

- Reviews – expected to take 90-180 days from the date an application window closes
  - Agency Review for Eligibility and Completeness
  - Evaluation Panel and Competition
- Following Reviews
  - Selection, Written Communication to All Participants
  - Public Announcement of Obligations
  - Grant Agreement Execution
  - Project Completion/Reimbursement

What's next?
Training

- Planned Training Webinars – See **Events** tab
  - *HBIIP Environmental Review Process for Applicants*
  - *HBIIP Transportation Fueling Facility Applicant (Rail/Marine) Deep Dive*
  - *HBIIP Fuel Distribution Facility Applicant Deep Dive*
  - *HBIIP Post Selection Next Steps*

What's next?
Training

- Planned Training Webinars – See **Events** tab
  - *HBIIP Environmental Review Process for Applicants*
  - *HBIIP Transportation Fueling Facility Applicant Deep Dive*
  - *HBIIP Fuel Distribution Facility Applicant Deep Dive*
  - *HBIIP Post Selection Next Steps*

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Additional Opportunities

Additional Opportunities

- Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)
  - Provides financial assistance to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to make energy efficiency improvements or to install renewable energy systems
  - Types of funding
    - Guaranteed loans
      - Covers up to 75% of the eligible project costs for up to $25 million
    - Grants
      - Covers up to 50% of the eligible project costs
      - For energy efficiency improvements, there is a $1,500 minimum and $500,000 maximum
      - For renewable energy systems, there is a $2,500 minimum and a $1,000,000 maximum
  - Eligible applicants
    - Small business is eligible rural areas
    - Agricultural producers with more than 50% of their income coming from agricultural operations

Additional Opportunities (continued)

- Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) (continued)

  Examples

  - Energy Efficiency Improvements
    - Refrigeration/Freezer upgrades
    - Commercial kitchen, food prep equipment upgrades
    - Lighting upgrades
    - Heating and Ventilation (HVAC) systems
  - Renewable Energy Systems
    - Solar Array
    - Ethanol/Biodiesel Plant Retrofit
  - Visit https://www.rd.usda.gov/reap for more information. State contacts are provided by using the "Contact Your State Energy Coordinator" button.

Additional Opportunities (continued)

- Business & Industry (B&I) Guaranteed Loans
  - Provides financial assistance to rural businesses for things like business expansion, purchase of machinery and equipment, debt refinance, etc.
  - Types of funding
    - Guaranteed loans for up to $25 million
  - Eligible applicants
    - Businesses located in rural areas (population of 50,000 or less)
  - Contact your local USDA Rural Development Office by using the link below and selecting your state in the drop-down menu

https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-programs/business-industry-loan-guarantees

Thank you!

Jeff Carpenter

HBIIP@usda.gov

402-437-5554

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A recording of this Webinar, “HBIIP Overview and Enrollment Orientation” with Q&A Document will be made available at:

https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/higher-blends-infrastructure-incentive-program

Under the **Events** tab