

## FUNDING CRITERIA FOR ENERGY SOLUTIONS GRANTS FUNDED BY ENERGY OUTREACH COLORADO

**DEADLINE: August 14, 2009 at 12:00 p.m.**

Applicants may edit online applications until the deadline. All applications will be submitted automatically at 12 p.m. SHARP on Friday, August 14. Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding.

### NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTS

The 2009-2010 Energy Solution Grant Application Process is significantly different than in the past. Return applicants will notice a number of additional requirements to receive Energy Outreach Colorado funding. **Please read all of the funding criteria BEFORE applying for a grant.**

Energy Solutions Grants provide funds for energy efficiency upgrades that promote energy bill savings. The grants are available to low-income housing providers and organizations that serve low-income homeowners. EOC prefers to fund projects that will financially benefit the occupants, not the property owner. In the event that the property owner is responsible for paying all or part of the energy bill, EOC will request that the grant recipient share monthly energy bills before and after the energy efficiency measures are installed to monitor energy savings.

With the guidance of an advisory committee, EOC anticipates to award grants in the range of \$10,000 to \$125,000. EOC will not fund projects that are currently in an Energy Performance Contract.

Energy Solutions Grant applicants typically fall into one of three categories which are detailed below. If your organization or project does NOT fit one of the categories, please contact Pam Packer at [ppacker@energyoutreach.org](mailto:ppacker@energyoutreach.org) for more information.

Three Applicant Categories for Energy Solutions Grant applicants:

1. **New Construction** Organizations or projects that build new single family or multi-family dwellings.
2. **Rehabilitation: On-Demand** Organizations or projects that serve single family households based on a request, referral, or crisis intervention.
3. **Rehabilitation: Housing Provider** Organizations, typically multi-family housing providers such as Housing Authorities or nonprofit housing providers.

## FUNDING CATEGORIES FOR ENERGY SOLUTIONS GRANTS

Energy Solutions Grants have four key funding areas which are detailed below. The first funding area is specific to one of the three Applicant Categories listed above. The remaining three funding areas are for ALL Applicants.

### **FUNDING AREA 1: ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES**

#### Energy Efficiency Measures Funding for New Construction Applicants

Energy Solutions Grants will fund the following measures for new construction projects:

Gas Forced Air Furnace AFUE 90%+	Gas Hot Water Heater
Gas Boiler AFUE 85%+	Gas Water Heater Combination Systems
Central Air Conditioner SEER 14+	Electric Water Heater
PTAC Unit	Interior Lighting Fixtures
Evaporative Cooling System	Dishwasher
Mini-Split Unit	Refrigerator
Multi-Split Unit	Washing Machine
Bath Exhaust Fan	Multi-Family Garage Lighting
Air Source Heat Pump	Energy Recovery Ventilation
Ground Source Heat Pump	Meters or Monitoring Systems
Water Source Heat Pump	

When applying for a New Construction grant, please indicate which item you are applying for by including the installed cost for the measure that meets code and the installed cost of a more Energy Efficient model of that Measure (EEM). **All EEMs must be Energy Star<sup>®</sup> qualified or equivalent.** The Energy Solutions Grant only funds the difference in cost between code and Energy Star qualified or equivalent measures.

A minimum of 2 bids are required for any single or bulk ordered EEM that costs over \$5,000. For example, bids are required for a single boiler system that costs more than \$5,000; or for a bulk order of furnaces with a total cost of more than \$5,000.

EOC does NOT require that the lowest bid be used for this application, but an explanation must be provided for why a particular bid was preferred over another. EOC encourages you to work with the most reliable contractor who will provide the most competitive bid.

## Energy Efficiency Measures Funding for On-Demand Applicants

Rehabilitation On-Demand Energy Solutions Grant fund organizations that serve single family households based on a request, referral, or crisis intervention. Below are new requirements for Rehabilitation On-Demand Energy Solutions Grants:

1. All homes that receive **furnace or boiler replacements will require an inspection and possible installation of attic and duct work insulation.** A better insulated home may require a smaller, more efficient furnace resulting in comfort with less energy consumption.

After you have determined that a new furnace or boiler is needed for a home, you are required to hire a professional air sealing and insulation installer to inspect and possibly install attic insulation. Exceptions to attic insulation include: improper electric wiring that may cause a fire with new insulation; leaking roof that will damage the insulation; or insulation that meets current building code. All actions regarding air sealing and insulating must be recorded for final reports.

Blocked or poorly insulated ductwork can impact the functionality of the furnace and impair the comfort for the occupant. Heating ductwork should be inspected and upgraded by a professional before a new furnace is installed.

2. In addition to new furnaces or boilers, Energy Solutions Grants will fund Energy Star qualified appliances that promote energy savings. **The grant will not fund:** renewable energy generation (solar, wind, geothermal, etc); stoves, ovens or stovetop ranges; or water conservation measures (except faucet aerators and low flow shower heads).
3. Old refrigerators and thermostats that are replaced with EOC funds **MUST be properly recycled.** A recycling receipt will be required with a final report.
4. Utility-sponsored **rebates** and **state/federal weatherization programs** must be considered for all applicable EEMs to help offset the cost of the measure and installation of each measure. All rebate information will be required with a final report.
5. Due to the type of service provided by your organization, you will need to complete a reporting form for each home that you serve. This form will be available if your project is selected for funding.

Energy Solutions Grants will fund the following measures for on-demand projects:

### **HVAC Packages**

Gas Forced Air Furnace AFUE 90%+ \*

Gas Boiler AFUE 85%+ \*

\*Insulation-Required with new furnace or boiler

\*Air Sealing-Required with new furnace or boiler

\*Weather stripping-Required with new furnace or boiler

\*Duct Inspection and Upgrades-Required with new furnace or boiler

**Hot Water Heating**

Domestic Hot Water (Tankless)  
Domestic Hot Water (Conventional)  
Domestic Hot Water (Blanket)

**Appliances**

Refrigerators  
Dishwashers  
Low Flow Faucet Aerators  
Low Flow Showerheads

**HVAC & Thermal Shell**

Doors  
Windows  
HVAC Upgrades  
Air Conditioning Unit  
Evaporative Cooler  
Evaporative Cooler Cover  
Programmable Thermostats

When applying for an On-Demand grant, please indicate which item you are applying for by including the installed cost for the measure that meets code and the installed cost of a more Energy Efficient model of that Measure (EEM). **All EEMs must be Energy Star<sup>®</sup> qualified or equivalent.** The Energy Solutions Grant only funds the difference in cost between code and Energy Star qualified measures.

### Energy Efficiency Measures Funding for Housing Provider Applicants

All Housing Provider Applicants are required to participate in a new application process. EOC has created an energy audit assistance program where energy auditors will be assigned to Housing Provider Applicants to identify EEMs and assist with the Energy Solutions Grant application.

**Step 1: To begin the application process, Housing Provider Applicants must sign and submit a Letter of Intent no later than July 17, 2009.** This Letter will trigger the energy audit assistance program, after which an energy auditor will have 48 hours to contact the Applicant to schedule and energy audit. The Letter of Intent indicates that EOC will pay for the audit if the property owner completes and submits an Energy Solutions Grant. In the event that an audit is performed and EOC does not receive a Grant application, then the property owner agrees to reimburse EOC for the auditing services.

**Step 2:** Once the audit is complete, the **energy auditor will** review the results with the Applicant and **recommend which EEMs are most appropriate** for the Energy Solution Grant application. Energy auditors will base their recommendations on projected cost savings and energy savings for each EEM which will be calculated using a special spreadsheet provided by EOC.

**Step 3:** The **Applicant will collect bids for the recommended EEMs** by the energy auditor. The energy auditor will help the applicant enter the bid data into the spreadsheet. EOC does NOT require that the lowest bid be used for this application, but an explanation must be provided for why a particular bid was preferred over another. EOC encourages you to work with the most reliable contractor who will provide the most competitive bid.

**Step 4:** The **completed spreadsheet must be uploaded with the application.** Applicants must enter the total cost of the recommended EEMs into the on-line application in order to tally the total grant request.

**Step 5: Applicants complete the entire on-line application form.**

### **FUNDING AREA 2: ENERGY EFFICIENCY EDUCATION PLAN-All Applicants-Required**

Teaching clients about energy efficient behaviors plays an important role in how well energy efficiency measures perform. Whether you are distributing brochures or teaching someone how to program their thermostat, education will make significant impacts on energy consumption behaviors and energy bills. In short, energy efficiency education can realize energy savings equivalent to new, energy efficient measures.

All Energy Solutions Grant applicants are required to develop an energy efficiency education plan that is most appropriate for their clients and specific to what is funded by the Energy Solutions Grant. Education plans can be as simple as distributing brochures, or more detailed such as training clients how to maintain EEMs that were funded by this grant. Education funds can also be used for Maintenance or Facility Manager training in place of client education.

All grant recipients will receive a cost allowance from ESG to implement an education plan which will not exceed \$50 per household or unit to cover materials and presentation expenses. The maximum allowed education budget will be auto calculated based on the number of households indicated on the application. No education budget allowance will exceed \$15,000.

Grant Applicants must explain how the energy efficiency education plan will be delivered and indicate the proposed cost for each education item. Expenses that are more than the education allowance and paid by the Applicant will be credited towards the 5% match that is required for this grant. Applicants are strongly encouraged to use free or reduced-cost handouts and brochures and cost free meeting spaces.

A final report with a detailed budget summary will be required with on September 30, 2010.

### **FUNDING AREA 3: COMPACT FLORESCENT LIGHT BULB GIVE-AWAY – All Applicants-Optional**

Compact Florescent Light bulbs (CFLs) have proven to be one of the easiest and fastest ways to save energy. A typical CFL will pay for itself in energy bill savings in less than one year. EOC will provide funding at \$3 per CFL for a maximum of 1,000 CFLs per project. Applicants must indicate how many bulbs can be purchased and installed within this grant cycle and the total will be automatically added to the grant request.

This new give-away is not intended for stock piling light bulbs. Grant recipients will be responsible for reporting the number of bulbs installed during the grant cycle, and any indication of stock piling bulbs will result in disqualification for future funding from the Energy Solutions Grant program.

### **FUNDING AREA 4: MATCHING FUNDS – All Applicants-Required**

Energy Solutions Grant applicants are required to provide a **5% match to the TOTAL GRANT REQUEST**. The total 5% match is automatically calculated and will be indicated on the grant budget summary page. The total grant request is the sum total of the EEM budget, education budget, CFL allowance, and administrative costs.

Eligible matches include but are not limited to: education outreach items that are funded by the Applicant; volunteer contributions; utility rebate programs such as Xcel Energy's 'Saver Switch' program, Xcel Energy Design Assistance program or utility cash rebates for energy efficient measures; utilizing the Governor's Energy Office Weatherization program; matching funds from other sources for this project.