

Pre-Application Information Session

RFA-FY24-GBCB-837

NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge,
Resilience Hub Network Coordination

December 19, 2023

★ ★ ★ DEPARTMENT
OF **ENERGY &**
ENVIRONMENT



GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

BACKGROUND

- The National Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration (NOAA) Climate Resilience Regional Challenge is a competitive federal grant. The District's application to NOAA is due in February, 2024.
- **RFA-FY24-GBCB-837:**
 - DOEE seeks eligible entities through this Request for Partners (RFP) to be included in DOEE's application, and to complete the activities laid out in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).
 - Applications are due to DOEE on January 8, 2024.
 - Available Funding: \$550,000. A project will only be funded if DOEE is successfully awarded a grant from NOAA.
 - Project Period: Anticipated start October 1, 2024, ending September 30, 2029.
- <https://doee.dc.gov/release/request-partners-noaa-climate-resilience-regional-challenge-resilience-hub-network>

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- The purpose of this request for partners is to identify a partner who will assist DOEE with coordinating a network of **community resilience hubs**.
- Resilience hubs are community facilities that connect residents to resources and services to help them be prepared for disruptions to daily life, chronic stressors, and acute emergencies in the District of Columbia, including those caused by climate change (e.g., flooding, storms, extreme heat).
- DOEE is currently supporting a resilience hub pilot project in Ward 7. A grant from NOAA will help prepare for the launch of a District-wide network of community resilience hubs.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- Hubs can be in a **trusted space** such as a community center, recreation facility, or multi-family housing building.
- **During emergencies**, resilience hubs are buildings equipped with physical assets like backup energy, food, water, temporary heating and cooling, and access to power, which can be deployed as needed.
- **During normal operation** (up to 99% of the time in some cases), resilience hubs also meet everyday community needs through activities like after-school programming for students, events for elders, and job training. Resilience hubs connect residents to resources, build resilience-related skills, and cultivate relationships in the communities they serve.
- By focusing on **people more than potential hazards**, resilience hubs support communities to become self-determining, socially connected, economically strong, and connected to resources. This in turn builds both individual and community resilience and improves outcomes during and after emergencies.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- Under its application to NOAA, DOEE proposes to support three additional resilience hubs—one in **Ward 6, 7, and 8**.
- The grantee should have knowledge of the concept of resilience hubs and have a history of engagement with communities in Wards 6, 7 and 8 around climate change education, emergency preparedness and/or related issues, especially with disadvantaged communities, low-income residents, people of color, and communities with higher risk from climate impacts like flooding and extreme heat, as indicated in Climate Ready DC and other plans.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- **The grantee will:**
 - Help DOEE conduct outreach to potential resilience hub organizations.
 - Assist organizations to take on the role of resilience hub.
 - Coordinate a network of resilience hubs.
- **Deliverables include:**
 - Quarterly reports, and a status report at the close of the grant period.
 - Presentations and other materials that provide information about the District's network of resilience hubs.
 - At least three operations manuals from entities that have successfully transitioned to the role of resilience hub, one in each of Wards 6, 7 and 8

SCORING CRITERIA

	Scoring Criteria	Points
1	Proposes a compelling plan to conduct outreach to potential resilience hubs.	15
2	Proposes an effective plan to assist organizations to take on the role of resilience hub.	15
3	Proposes a quality plan to coordinate a network of resilience hubs.	15
4	Demonstrates experience with meaningful community engagement with District residents in Wards 6, 7 and 8 on environmental and climate change issues.	15
5	Demonstrates subject matter expertise on community resilience to climate change and disaster preparedness planning.	10
6	Demonstrates a proven track record of collaborating with District government agencies on outreach, planning and other initiatives.	10
7	Includes a detailed project timeline that demonstrates successful project implementation.	10
8	Includes a detailed budget and budget narrative.	10
9	Extra Points for local entity (Appendix 5)	5

HOW TO APPLY

- **Eligible Entities:** Nonprofit organizations, including those with IRS 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) determinations; Faith-based organizations; and Private Enterprises.
- **Application Deadline:** 1/8/2024 at 11:59 p.m.
 - All applications must be received at <https://doee.dc.gov/page/active-grants-application-portal>
 - DOEE will not receive an application as a hard copy, emailed copy, or faxed copy unless technical issues arise with the Grants Management System (GMS) and these issues are documented before 5:00 PM one business day before the application deadline

HOW TO APPLY

- **How to Submit:** The contents of the application are specified in Section 3 of the NOFO. All required documents specified in the RFP must be submitted in the designated places in the Grants Management System (GMS). Information on how to use the System can be found by scrolling to the bottom of the active grants portal at <https://doee.dc.gov/page/active-grants-application-portal>.
- All new applicants must submit a request through <https://doee.dc.gov/page/active-grantsapplication-portal> to gain access to the GMS.
- Each organization is only allowed one email address that all members of the team will be expected to use and have access to its inbox.
- **Register your entity early and allow for up to 2 business days to receive an invitation to the GMS.**

HOW TO APPLY

- Questions about the RFP should be sent to CRRC2023@dc.gov with “RE: RFA-FY24-GBCB-837” in the subject line.
- DOEE will publish updates and Questions and Answers (Q&A) regarding the RFP at doee.dc.gov.
- The cutoff date for receipt of any questions is one week prior to the application deadline.
- DOEE will also create an email list to send updates and information regarding the RFP. A person can be put on the email list by immediately emailing CRRC2023@dc.gov with the subject line “RE: RFA-FY24-GBCB-837 - Add me to the email list.”

QUESTIONS?