

**Questions & Answers:  
Education on Residential Energy Efficiency and Electrification. (RFA) 859**

Updated 1/23/25

Q1: Is there a goal number of residents that need to be reached? Is there a desired number of trainings and discussions?

A1: Applicants should propose numbers that they believe are reasonable when they submit their application.

Q2: Is the grantee expected to set up a social media page or just provide graphics for the agency to post?

A2: The grantee is not required to set up a social media page nor are they precluded from doing so. Applicants should propose how they will complete the project outputs and deliverables.

Q3: Can you clarify the intended audience for this grant? Is it residents in buildings eligible for the Affordable Home Electrification Program (AHEP)? A3: The intended audience is District residents, with a focus on low-income and disadvantaged communities.

Q4: Can you explain how these educational efforts will be connected to resources on the supply side? In my experience, efficiency upgrades can be somewhat of an easy sale, but it's finding qualified contractors that is the problem.

A4: The primary outcome of this RFA is to educate District residents on energy efficiency and electrification. If applicable, DOEE will facilitate coordination between the DC Sustainable Energy Utility (DCSEU) and the grantee to address policies, programs, or resident concerns related to residential contractor capacity.

Q5: Are you looking for an engagement campaign that is mainly putting out educational messaging, or are you also interested in focus groups and other engagement with residents to get feedback from residents?

A5: Applicants can propose a program that they believe is reasonable and achievable.

Q6: Are you planning on selecting one grantee, or is there a possibility that you'll select multiple grantees, for instance if there's a focus on different audiences?

A6: One grantee will be selected for this RFA, though DOEE may select additional grantees at its discretion.

Q7: Do all entities need the insurance or if one entity on a team has the required insurance, is that sufficient?

A7: Any and all subgrantees, contactors, subcontractors and subrecipients are required to have the same insured required of the lead grantee. The grantee may propose different insurance requirements prior to the commencement of work by the subgrantee, contactors, subcontractors and subrecipients.

For more information on the Insurance Requirements, please click [here](#).

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Q8: When do you expect to announce awards? What is the earliest the grant period could start?

A8: Awards are expected to be announced in February 2025 with the grant period to start shortly thereafter.

Q9: Is DOEE planning on issuing any additional RFAs related to the Home Energy Rebates?

A9: There are two additional RFAs related to home energy efficiency and electrification:

1. [Affordable Housing Tenant Engagement](#). Deadline for Applications: January 24, 2025.
2. [Residential Electrification Home Energy Coaching](#). Deadline for Applications: 2/7/ 2025.

Q10: Where can questions about the RFA be sent?

A10: Questions about the RFA can be sent to: [2025ElectrificationOutreach.grants@dc.gov](mailto:2025ElectrificationOutreach.grants@dc.gov) with “RE: RFA-FY25-DBD859” in the subject line.

Q11: Can you share the difference between RFA-FY25-DBD859 and RFA-FY25-DBD861?  
RFA-FY25-DBD860 reads like a campaign but 861 reads similarly.

A11: RFA-FY25-DBD859 is focused on public education, with a focus on low-income and disadvantaged communities, whereas RFA-FY25-DBD861 is focused on advisory services for specific energy projects.

Q12: How are you defining the output “education of residents?”

A12: Applicants should propose specific metrics to define or measure the “education of residents”.

Q13: Are you requesting digital or print educational materials? Is it the grantee’s responsibility to disseminate the materials?

A13: Both digital and print materials and the grantee will take part in disseminating materials.

Q14: Is the focus of this RFA residents of smaller buildings (single-family and buildings up to 4 units), or is the focus on residents of buildings of all sizes (to include big buildings with renters as well as condos or co-ops)?

A14: Applicants can engage residents from single family or of multifamily buildings as long as they reach the target population of low-income residents and disadvantaged communities.

Note: A separate request for applications focused on residents of large multifamily buildings that are participating in the Affordable Housing Retrofit Accelerator can be accessed here: <https://doee.dc.gov/node/1758371>.

Q15: Has the de minimis rate of 10% for Indirect Costs has been updated to align with the 15% for Federal grants, which came into effect in October 2024?

A15: DOEE follows the federal guideline for funding to include the revised de minimus rate.