

**Questions and Answers for Request for Applications RFA-FY25-GBCB-853**  
DC Climate Commitment Grant RFA

**Q1:** It sounds like the District is looking for a community-wide consumption-based emissions inventory (CBEI), looking at consumption-based emissions from all households in the District. Most other US cities that have prepared CBEIs have done so at the community scale. However, for sector-based emissions, this project is only looking for a municipal operations inventory. Can you confirm that the CBEI should be at the community scale, not focused on municipal operations?

**A2.** Correct, the CBEI should be done at the community level and cover the District as a whole.

**Q2.** The existing government operations inventory does not include Scope 3 emissions from procurement (purchased goods and services, or consumption). Should the refined inventory also consider Scope 3 emissions from procurement?

**A2.** The grantee should look to other jurisdictions and established inventory protocols for most common practices in conducting these municipal operations inventories. In the course of conducting the District-wide CBEI and other research, the grantee may identify potential new opportunities for achieving significant emission reductions from Scope 3 emissions in municipal operations.

**Q3.** Has DOEE ever awarded similar grants that aim to reduce the District's carbon footprint? If so, what did that successful grant proposal look like?

**A3.** DOEE has made awards that use a technical model to understand carbon neutrality timelines – Carbon Free DC is the most recent example. In the past, successful grant proposals have addressed the scoring criteria found in the relevant RFA. The scoring criteria for this RFA can be found on page 26. Keep the scoring criteria in mind when proposing your approach and budget.

**Q4.** Is the action plan intended to be released as a public resource or serve as an internal resource?

**A4.** The action plan should serve multiple purposes, engaging both a public and technical audience who would be able to implement the action plan.

**Q5.** Will there be internal or external engagement as part of this effort related to a task force or other?

**A5.** The RFA addresses stakeholders on page 25, under project outputs: “Sufficient engagement with government staff and other relevant stakeholders to inform potential strategies and gaps to reaching carbon neutrality.” The RFA also states that the action plan should propose “policies that will deliver benefits to local communities.” The applicant may propose their method for engaging with relevant stakeholders to create their action plan as part of their application.

**Q6.** By when do you anticipate the answers to questions being published?

**A6.** DOEE strives to respond promptly to all questions received on the RFA. Usually, responses are posted in 1-2 business days.

**Q7.** What incentive is there for universities to apply for the grant?

**A7.** There is no additional incentive for universities or any other entities to apply. This RFA is competitive. Each Applicant must demonstrate its ability to carry out the activities for the grant. A review panel will evaluate the applications according to the stated list of criteria in the RFA's project description and scoring criteria. The most responsive application will be recommended for a grant.

**Q8.** Is there interest for us to submit one application with all involved entities partnering together?

**A8.** Entities are welcome to partner on an application to best address all the scoring criteria and submit their most competitive application. Information on partnerships can be found on pages 14-15 of the RFA, Section 3.1(c)(4).

**Q9.** Can you give a sense of scope for the first task, refining the existing public operations inventory? How many data points are there, or the amount of time covered in the inventory?

**A9.** The current government operations inventory and associated methodology can be found on DOE's website: <https://doee.dc.gov/service/greenhouse-gas-inventories>. In refining and revising the existing inventory, the grantee will ensure the scope and methodologies used are consistent with and comparable to other similarly sized U.S. cities. The grantee should propose their solution to creating the refined inventory given their budget and timeline, but at least one year of data should be included.

**Q10.** Task two notes the new CBEI should be comparable to other US-based cities. Are there specific cities that have already been reviewed for comparison? Will a deliverable be a comparison chart with other cities of similar scale?

**A10.** Several cities have completed a CBEI, including New York City, Seattle, and San Francisco. There is no expectation of a comparison deliverable, though hypothetically the grantee or DOE could take this next step with the delivered CBEI.

**Q11.** Please confirm that as an action plan, the team will be required to develop a model of the CBEI, but the deployment of the model and collection of data (the implementation) will be a subsequent project and not the responsibility of the selected team.

**A11.** The action plan should include a technical model to meet D.C. Law 24-176, Climate Commitment Amendment Act of 2022, Section 109d(a)(2)(A) but implementation of the action plan falls outside the scope of this RFA.

A completed CBEI is an output of the grant, but DOE does not envision the CBEI necessarily being incorporated into the technical model. However, while DOE does not envision the CBEI being incorporated into a technical model, in the course of conducting the District-wide CBEI and other research, the grantee may identify potential new opportunities for achieving significant emission reductions from Scope 3 emissions in municipal operations.

**Q12.** What is the intended date of grant award?

**A12.** DOE will notify applicants of their award status 6-12 weeks after the application deadline, 10/30.

**Q13.** Is it acceptable if the Narrative is included along with the other required materials in a single PDF document containing our supporting application materials as long as we do not exceed 22,000 characters and 10 pages for the Narrative?

**A13.** The Narrative should be entered into Section 11 of the GMS. You are also welcome to upload the narrative along with other documents.

For additional questions, please email: [climatecommitmentrfa2024@dc.gov](mailto:climatecommitmentrfa2024@dc.gov)