

Funding and Financing for Thermal Energy Networks (TENs)

Sessions #4 and #5 Summary

Table of Contents

State Funding Opportunities (TEN-specific)	2
NYSERDA Flexible Technical Assistance (FlexTech) Program	2
PON 5614: Large-Scale Thermal	3
State Funding and Technical Assistance Opportunities for Municipalities	5
Consolidated Funding Application	5
Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) and New York Forward (NY Forward)	7
New York Power Authority (NYPA)	10
Just Transition Site Reuse Planning Program (NYSERDA: PON 4563)	11
Utility Funding Opportunities for Heat Pump Upgrades	12
Consolidated Edison (Con Edison)	12
Building Electrification (Heat Pump) Incentive Programs	12
Geothermal Incentive Program	13
New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG)	14
Building Electrification Program	14
Utility Programs (outside of Westchester County)	15
Tax Credits	16
Section 48 and Direct Pay Incentives	16
Sector-Specific Funding Opportunities	17
Single-Family Homes	17
Multifamily Homes	17
Affordable Multifamily Buildings	17
Owner's Representative Services	18
Businesses and Nonprofits	18
Utility Programs	18
New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA)	20
Empire Building Challenge	20
Schools	20
Financing Programs	22
EIC Open C-PACE Financing	22
New York Green Bank	22
NYCEEC	23

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State Funding Opportunities (TEN-specific)

NYSERDA Flexible Technical Assistance (FlexTech) Program

Summary: The [FlexTech program](#) provides funding to support a variety of technical services, including (*but not limited to*):

- Targeted or Comprehensive Energy / Carbon Mitigation Study
- Clean Heating and Cooling Study – could include a **Thermal Energy Network Study**
- Energy Master Planning
- Energy Advisor Services

Program Requirements & Eligibility:

- Applicant must pay into the System Benefits Charge (SBC)
 - Not required for P-12 Priority Districts (*list available on the [FlexTech Documents and Resources](#) page*)
 - Some funding for industrial, affordable multifamily properties that *do not* pay the SBC
- **TEN feasibility studies** must meet the requirements of [PON 5614 Attachment C](#)
- Identify a preferred solution provider OR choose one from [NYSERDA's FlexTech Consultants list](#) (includes filters for location, sector, and project type.)
 - Find a list of **thermal energy network solution providers** under “PON 5614 Resources” on the [Large-Scale Thermal program website](#)
- NOTE: To claim points under the Climate Smart Communities **PE4 Action: Thermal Energy Networks**, a municipality must contribute at least \$5,000 or 40 hours of staff time toward the TEN feasibility study. [The CSC action description is linked here.](#)

Amount of Available Funding:

- Cost Share: 50% - 100% NYSERDA-funded cost share
 - Higher NYSERDA cost share opportunities (75%-100%) for buildings in disadvantaged communities, P-12 Priority Districts, non-public schools located in a [Disadvantaged Community](#), and affordable multifamily buildings.

Tips and Best Practices:

- Template versions of required documents – including a Scope of Work, Schedule, and Budget – can be found at <https://www.nyserdera.ny.gov/flextech-documents>
- Review past feasibility studies to get a sense of what they typically contain – *contact Sustainable Westchester and/or the FlexTech team to request a sample report*
- Additional services (for planning, zoning, land use, and code enforcement inquiries) are available through NYSERDA's Clean Energy Siting Technical Assistance program – [see more details here](#)

Key Contacts: General email inquiries → flextech@nyserdera.ny.gov

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PON 5614: Large-Scale Thermal

This program is currently closed. New program information and/or details may become available as time progresses. We have chosen to include this to demonstrate resources that were previously made available, and to help property owners prepare for future potential funding opportunities.

Summary: The [Large-Scale Thermal Program](#) offered funding support for the **design** stage of networked *and* non-networked thermal energy projects.

Program Requirements & Eligibility:

- Size of building(s):
 - **For single large buildings:** minimum 100,000 sq ft
 - Should be predominantly **new construction**: total conditioned space must be over 50% new construction
 - **For multiple buildings:** minimum 250,000 sq ft (combined)
 - Should be predominantly **existing buildings**: total conditioned space must be less than or equal to 50% new construction
- Priority given to **single-owner campuses**: including medical campuses, clusters of municipal buildings, schools (colleges and universities), commercial real estate, multifamily residential complexes
- Must use an eligible proposer that:
 - Has experience with designing system(s) of comparable size and complexity
 - Is a NYS-licensed PE or NYS-licensed registered architect
 - If design includes geothermal, should include a Certified geothermal designer (CGD) OR prescribed combination of education/expertise
 - Preferably utilizes MWBEs, SDVOBs, benefit corporations (defined in Article 17 of NYS Business Corporation Law)
 - Is not a utility currently submitting projects under the UTENJA proceeding
- Proposals with multiple buildings are encouraged to work with an organization experienced in direct outreach to customers / building owners
- Must demonstrate replicability and/or reference similar use-cases in NYS
- Demonstrate adequate thermal resources (geothermal, waste heat, surface water, thermal storage, wastewater, air...)
 - Can be done via thermal conductivity testing
- Must have a completed feasibility study:
 - NYSERDA FlexTech Study that meets the requirements of [PON 5614 Attachment C](#), OR
 - Feasibility study previously completed under [PON 4614 Category A](#)
- Preference for projects that:

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- Are in DACs and/or serving low income housing
- Incorporate other decarbonization elements (ex: solar, battery storage)

Amount of Available Funding:

- **50% cost share**
 - Single buildings: up to \$300,000
 - Multiple buildings: up to \$750,000

Tips and Best Practices:

- Visit the [Large-Scale Thermal website](#) for helpful resources and guidance on the funding opportunity (including webinar recording, slides, and FAQs).
 - Includes a list of large-scale thermal solution providers (updated periodically)
- Round 3 closed on July 31st, 2025 – stay tuned for news on future funding rounds.

Key Contacts

General email inquiries: district.thermal@nyserda.ny.gov

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State Funding and Technical Assistance Opportunities for Municipalities

Consolidated Funding Application

Summary: Funding opportunities from a variety of state agencies to support economic development projects in New York State.

- **Recurring Funding Opportunity:** The Consolidated Funding Application opens on an annual basis – typically announced in May and closes in July of the same year.

How Could This Be Used for a TEN Project?

- There are multiple funding opportunities through the Consolidated Funding Application that can support decarbonization projects. Some funding opportunities that *municipalities are eligible to apply for* include:
 - **Environmental Protection Fund Grants Program for Parks, Preservation, and Heritage (NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation)**
 - Can be used towards the preservation, rehabilitation, and restoration of projects on State or National Register of Historic Places
 - **New York Main Street Program (Homes and Community Renewal)**
 - Focus on existing buildings – funds can support shovel-ready renovation projects, target area building renovation activities, and/or a building condition assessment that examines green technology potential.
 - **Building Cleaner Communities Competition (NYSERDA)**
 - Funding towards net-zero, fully-electrified buildings (new construction, gut rehab, and retrofits)
 - Can examine communities, campuses, and owners of large real estate portfolios.
 - **Strategic Planning & Feasibility Studies (Empire State Development)**
 - Funding to support planning for future development projects
 - **Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (NYS Department of State)**
 - Provides matching grants for planning, design, and construction projects to revitalize communities and waterfronts
 - **Smart Growth Community Planning Program (NYS Department of State)**
 - Funding for:
 - Preparing/adopting new or updated comprehensive plan
 - For an amendment/preparation of existing zoning regulations or area plan that integrates Smart Growth principles for the community

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Program Requirements, Eligibility, and Amount of Available Funding:

- Varies based on the funding opportunity. Expanded details on each funding opportunity can be found in Sustainable Westchester's "CFA Opportunities for Decarbonization Projects" guidance document.
 - The "CFA Opportunities for Decarbonization Projects" document is **available upon request**: email building-decarbonization@sustainablewestchester.org

Tips and Best Practices:

- Consider strategies to demonstrate strong project readiness: i.e. quotes/proposals, engineering and/or architectural designs
- Coordinate an appointment with a CFA representative in advance to get support with your questions and confirm project eligibility
- Review CFA guidance well in advance of when you're planning to submit a project for consideration – generally, these funding opportunities see very minor changes from year-to-year, and the application window is fairly limited.
- Explore projects that were previously awarded funding through REDC:
<https://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/cfa/projects>
 - Use the filters on the left side of the page to select projects from specific agencies, regions, and/or funding rounds.
 - Resources on 2024 awarded projects:
<https://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/2024-awards>
 - PDF:
https://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-12/REDC_Round_14_Award_Booklet_2024.pdf

Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) and New York Forward (NY Forward)

Summary: New York State's Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) and New York Forward (NY Forward) programs provide funding to transform downtown neighbourhoods, with the goals of creating active downtowns that attract new businesses, enhance public spaces and climate resiliency, promote economic growth, and improve quality of life.

- **Recurring Funding Opportunity:** most recent rounds of DRI/NY Forward funding opened in early September 2025 and closed November 7th, 2025.

How Could This Be Used for a TEN Project?

- Municipalities can integrate decarbonization efforts into economic development & local revitalization projects that are funded through DRI/NY Forward. This could include proposing building retrofits (such as structural, insulation, air sealing, heat pump, and electrical upgrades) as part of the DRI/NY Forward scope.
 - Examples: [White Plains DRI Strategic Investment Plan](#); [Nyack NY Forward Application](#)

Program Requirements & Eligibility:

- **For both DRI and NYF:**
 - Must submit an Intent to Apply for the active DRI/NYF funding round.
 - [Pro-Housing Community](#):
 - Prior to applying, municipality must be a certified Pro-Housing Community OR express intent in / progress with getting certified
 - All applicants must be certified as a Pro-Housing Community prior to award announcement
 - Apply via the Consolidated Funding Application portal.
- **Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI):**
 - Focus on large, walkable, more dense geographical areas:
 - Mass transit options are locally available
 - Availability or potential for rail/bus/ferry public transportation
 - [High-density development](#): most buildings are 3+ stories
 - Communities can apply on their own or submit a joint application from two to three smaller, contiguous communities with a single unified vision
 - **Potential projects could include:**
 - Larger private, mixed-use projects
 - Adaptive reuse

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- New construction projects on developable properties that generate economic benefits in downtown areas; creation of new public parks, plazas, and open spaces
- Projects that elevate urban- and employment-based downtown qualities, enhance regional draw
- Wayfinding projects to connect network of amenities and attractions distributed over several commercial corridors
- **In their applications, communities must demonstrate at least \$12m - \$15m of shovel ready revitalization projects / high potential in leveraging capital investments**
- New York Forward (NYF):
 - Focus on smaller and rural communities (villages, hamlets, neighborhood-scale municipal centers)
 - More vehicle-dependent and/or small, walkable, less dense geographical areas
 - Predominantly service-oriented businesses and employment opportunities
 - Low-density areas: most buildings are 2-4 stories
 - **Potential projects could include:**
 - Small projects focused on retrofits, activation of upper-story housing rather than new construction
 - Adaptive reuse
 - Projects dealing primarily with vacancy and rehabilitation – could also include new construction, creation of new space, upgrades to existing public spaces
 - **Application must demonstrate at least \$6m - \$8m in multiple synergistic projects. *Final project award cannot be used for one sole project***

Amount of Available Funding:

- Downtown Revitalization Initiative:
 - \$10 million award to 9 Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) regions
- New York Forward:
 - Two \$4.5 million awards *in each* REDC region

Tips and Best Practices:

- Municipalities applying to DRI/NYF are able to register for offers with technical experts (after submitting an Intent to Apply) during the application period.
- Several educational webinars on best practices for submitting a DRI/NYF application can be found online: <https://www.ny.gov/ny-forward/capacity-building-webinars>

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- Successful applications typically demonstrate:
 - Evidence of robust community engagement;
 - Close alignment with the community vision;
 - Efforts to coordinate with project sponsors and property owners.
- Read up on past winners to get a sense of what makes a successful proposal:
 - DRI Round 8: [linked here](#)
 - NY Forward Round 3: [linked here](#)

Key Contacts:

- Mid-Hudson REDC → NYS-MidHudson@esd.ny.gov

New York Power Authority (NYPA)

Summary:

- **Grant Services:** NYPA can help its customers navigate state and federal funding opportunities for their clean energy projects – including:
 - Building electrification
 - **Geothermal and thermal energy networks**
 - Distributed energy resources (DERs)
 - Electric grid reliability
 - Microgrids and virtual power plants (VPPs)
 - Electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure
- **Technical Services:** NYPA can develop Clean Energy Master Plans and Decarbonization Plans that utilize an efficiency-first approach. Their electrification services can cover **thermal networks**, geothermal water-based systems, and other forms of heat pump electrification for space and water heating/cooling.

How Could This Be Used for a TEN Project?

- NYPA's descriptions of its Grant and Technical Services make explicit references to their ability to assess opportunities for geothermal and thermal energy network projects. Municipalities can work with NYPA to identify key funding opportunities, receive grant writing support, and assess their project's technical feasibility.

Program Requirements & Eligibility:

- Available for New York Power Authority (NYPA) customers

Amount of Available Funding:

- According to SW and PECC's conversations with NYPA, there is typically no charge for general support services (specifically, **Grant Services**).
- There is a charge for NYPA's **Technical Services**.

Key Contacts

- Electrification / Technical Services
 - Interest form: [Electrification Services](#)
- Grant Services:
 - Interest form: [Grant Services and Programs](#)
 - Email contacts:
 - Catherine Shackford: Catherine.Shackford@nypa.gov
 - Lindsay Holle: Lindsay.Holle@nypa.gov

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Just Transition Site Reuse Planning Program (NYSERDA: PON 4563)

Summary:

- The [Just Transition Site Reuse Planning Program](#) is designed to provide communities with planning services to inform future decision making at the local level to help mitigate any negative impacts of pending or future fossil fuel power plant closures.

How Could This Be Used for a TEN Project?

- Municipalities and counties that have aging, fossil fuel-based power plants can utilize this program to explore opportunities for converting the current system to a renewable thermal energy network (ex: [The City of Jamestown](#))

Program Requirements & Eligibility:

- Applicant must be County, City, Town, or Village that is home to a grid-connected fossil-fuel power plant that:
 - has been decommissioned after August 3, 2016 (five years prior to original PON launch date),
 - is currently being decommissioned,
 - has confirmed its plans to retire and deactivate, or
 - is currently operating
- Applicants should be the level of government with land use/regulatory authority of the power plant site, or a partnership between levels of government with vested interests in the site reuse.
- Must be able to identify and commit a qualified staff resource to serve as the Project Liaison for the duration of the planning process. The Project Liaison will be expected to dedicate approximately 2-10 hours/week to support the planning process
- More comprehensive information can be found on the NYSERDA Portal ([PON 4563](#))

Key Contacts

NYSERDA Just Transition Site Reuse Planning Program team: jtplanning@nyserda.ny.gov

Utility Funding Opportunities for Heat Pump Upgrades

Consolidated Edison (Con Edison)

Building Electrification (Heat Pump) Incentive Programs

Summary: funding for space and water heating electrification in:

- Commercial and Industrial Buildings
- Small Businesses and Nonprofits
- Market-rate Multifamily Buildings
 - Affordable multifamily buildings can qualify for electrification incentives through the [Affordable Multifamily Energy Efficiency Program](#)

Eligibility:

- The building must pay into the **Systems Benefit Charge (SBC)** in order to qualify for incentives.
- Must be an active ConEd account holder
- Existing buildings and gut rehabs are eligible (new construction projects are only eligible for geothermal incentive, which is a separate program offering)

Amount of Available Funding:

- Commercial and Industrial Buildings
 - See the most up-to-date information on ConEd's website: [Commercial and Industrial Building Electrification](#)
- Small Businesses and Nonprofits
 - See the most up-to-date information on ConEd's website: [Heat Pumps for Small Businesses & Nonprofits](#)
- Market-rate Multifamily Buildings
 - See the most up-to-date information on ConEd's website: [Heat Pump Incentives for Multifamily Buildings](#)

Key Contacts

- Commercial and Industrial Buildings: cleanheatcommercial@coned.com
- Small Businesses and Nonprofits: smallbiz@coned.com
- Market-rate Multifamily Buildings: cleanheatmultifamily@coned.com

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Geothermal Incentive Program

Summary: Funding available for the installation of geothermal heat pumps in:

- Single family homes
- Commercial and multifamily buildings

Eligibility:

- The building must pay into the **Systems Benefit Charge (SBC)** in order to qualify for incentives.
- For geothermal, existing buildings and new construction are eligible to receive incentives (as long as they exceed applicable code requirements).

Amount of Available Funding:

- Single family
 - See the most up-to-date information on ConEd's website: [Residential Geothermal Heat Pump Incentives](#)
- Commercial and multifamily buildings
 - See the most up-to-date information on ConEd's website: [Geothermal Incentives for Commercial and Multifamily Buildings](#)
 - Incentives available for installation and thermal conductivity testing
 - **Thermal conductivity testing** is used to measure the soil's ability to transfer heat, and is an important tool for assessing the viability of a large geothermal heat pump system.

Tips and Best Practices:

- Buildings with *larger heating and cooling loads* and *new construction projects* should reach out to the Con Edison geothermal team ahead of time to discuss the project and determine the anticipated incentive.
- Con Edison and NYSERDA offer incentives for a variety of other energy efficiency upgrades (including building envelope work) that may be important to implement before installing a new heating and cooling system. The Sustainable Westchester team can help identify what incentives would be the best fit based on the building type and project goals. Email us at building-decarbonization@sustainablewestchester.org for assistance.
 - NOTE: as with the geothermal incentives, the building must pay into the Systems Benefits Charge (SBC) in order to qualify

Key Contacts: geothermal@coned.com

- Geothermal team:
 - David Orellano: orellanod@coned.com

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- Colin Rojas: rojasc@coned.com

New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG)

Building Electrification Program

Table 2. C&I incentives

Project Type	Incentive
Full Load Space Heating	\$70/annual MMBtu saved
Space Heating + Weatherization Bonus	\$80/annual MMBtu saved
Full Load Water Heating	\$70/annual MMBtu saved

Table 3. Multifamily incentives

Project Type	Incentive
5-100 Units: Space Heating	\$1,700 per dwelling unit
5-100 Units: Space Heating + Envelope	\$1,800 per dwelling unit
101+ Units: Custom Space Heating	\$70/MMBtu
101+ Units: Custom Space Heating + Envelope	\$80/MMBtu
5-100 Units: Centralized Hot Water	\$400 per dwelling unit
5-100 Units: Prescriptive Water Heating	\$900 per equipment
101+ Units: Centralized Hot Water	\$70/MMBtu
101+ Units: Prescriptive Hot Water Heating	\$450 per dwelling unit

Small business contractor rewards. Contractor rewards are paid out separate from the total incentive amount and can be retained by the contractor or passed along to the customer. For example, a full load ASHP project qualifies for a \$6,000 incentive that must be passed on to the customer. The contractor reward for a project that meets that criteria would be an additional \$300, totaling an incentive of \$6,300. The contractor may retain the additional \$300 or pass that on to the customer.

Table 4. Contractor reward summary

Installation Type	Reward Amount
Full Load Project	\$300
Full Load ASHP + Decommissioning	\$500
GSHP Project	\$500

Source: NYSEG Building Electrification Rebate Catalog

Summary: Funding available for the installation of clean heating and cooling systems in:

- Small-to-medium businesses;
- Commercial and industrial buildings;
- Multifamily (5+ unit) buildings.

Eligibility:

- Must be an active NYSEG electric account holder
- Incentives (generally) only apply to full design day heating load projects, for the entire building.
 - Some incentives available for “phased electrification” projects (see the [Rebate Catalog](#) for additional guidance)
- Additional incentives available for buildings participating in NYSEG (or another utility’s) weatherization program

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Amount of Available Funding: Incentives vary based on the building type, project type, and in certain cases, the amount of energy saved. See the table below and/or the [Rebate Catalog](#) for additional guidance.

Tips and Best Practices:

- NYSEG and NYSERDA offer incentives for a variety of other energy efficiency upgrades (including building envelope work) that may be important to implement before installing a new heating and cooling system. The Sustainable Westchester team can help identify what incentives would be the best fit based on the building type and project goals. Email us at building-decarbonization@sustainablewestchester.org for assistance.
 - NOTE: as with electrification incentives, the building must pay into the Systems Benefits Charge (SBC) in order to qualify

Key Contacts:

- General inquiries: nyseg_rge_be@icf.com

Utility Programs (outside of Westchester County)

- **Central Hudson:** [Commercial Heat Pump Incentives](#)
- **National Grid:** electrification incentives are distributed through National Grid's primary program offerings →
 - [Small Business Program](#)
 - [Large Business Program](#)
- **Rochester Gas & Electric:** [Building Electrification Incentives](#)
- **Orange & Rockland:** [Heat Pump Incentives](#)
- **PSEG Long Island:** [Commercial Rebate offerings](#) (see details under the "Custom Energy Savings Projects" and "Performance HVAC Application" drop downs)

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Tax Credits

Section 48 and Direct Pay Incentives

Section 48: Investment Tax Credit for Renewable Energy Projects

How it Works

- 6% base credit for cost of the Energy Property - “Base Rate”
- Can receive “Bonus Credit” for projects that meet prevailing wage & apprentice requirements.
- Applies to a range of “energy properties”, including **geothermal heat pumps** – per [Section 48\(g\)\(3\)\(A\)\(vii\)](#) of the revenue code.

Elective Pay

- Elective Pay can allow cash payments in place of tax credits for tax-exempt entities – including nonprofits and municipalities.
- Resources for Elective Pay:
 - Lawyers for Good Government
 - [Elective Pay & IRA Tax Incentives Resources Page](#): includes guidance on filing and key updates related to Elective Pay and IRA Tax Incentives.
 - [Elective Pay Fact Sheet](#) - July 2025: updates to certain elective pay eligible credits under H.R.1
 - [Clean Energy Tax Navigator](#): walks through the process of determining eligibility for Direct Pay, offering technical assistance, and in certain cases, direct pro bono services.

2025 Tax Credit Updates & Resources

Clean Energy Business Network

- [Tax Package Resource Center](#): provides a summary of major updates related to federal clean energy tax credits passed under the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

Lawyers for Good Government

- [Elective Pay & IRA Tax Incentives Resources Page](#)
- Email list for updates about federal funding and IRA tax credits: [sign up here](#).

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Sector-Specific Funding Opportunities

For insulation, air sealing, and general heating and cooling upgrades outside of TEN-specific infrastructure.

Questions about how to access these incentives? Contact Sustainable Westchester at hello@sustainablewestchester.org

Single-Family Homes

[Comfort Home](#): incentives for New York state residents to improve their home's efficiency through insulation and air sealing.

[EmPower+ New York](#): expanded funding for energy efficiency upgrades in low-to-moderate-income households.

[NYS Clean Heat](#): rebates available through the state-wide NYS Clean Heat program for air source heat pumps, ground source/geothermal heat pumps, and heat pump water heaters

- [Con Edison Heat Pump Incentives for Renters and Homeowners](#)
- [NYSEG Clean Heat Rebate Program](#)

Multifamily Homes

Affordable Multifamily Buildings

Affordable Multifamily Energy Efficiency Program (AMEEP)

- For **Con Edison** and **National Grid (NYC)** multifamily property owners
 - [Con Edison Affordable Multifamily Energy Efficiency Program](#)
 - [National Grid Affordable Multifamily Energy Efficiency Program](#)
- Provides funding based on a “package” of energy efficiency measures
- Comprehensive vs. non-comprehensive pathways → can receive funding for more intensive or single-measure projects

[Affordable Multifamily Program Upstate](#)

- For multifamily property owners with a **New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG)** utility account
 - Also applicable for *other upstate utility customers*: National Grid, Central Hudson, Rochester Gas & Electric, Orange & Rockland
- Details forthcoming – new program that will launch in 2026.

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Owner's Representative Services

Owner's Representative Services: funding for building owners to obtain support services from a qualified solution provider

- Support can range from project planning → construction
- Planning ahead for operations and maintenance
- Must meet one of the following requirements:
 - Located in a [disadvantaged community](#)
 - Meets [NYSERDA's Multifamily Affordable Multifamily Buildings Verification Guidelines \[PDF\]](#)
 - Structured as condominium or co-op building ownership
 - Contains 50 dwelling units and under

Businesses and Nonprofits

Utility Programs

Con Edison Incentives:

- [Savings for Small Businesses & Nonprofits](#)
 - Eligible Technologies:
 - Refrigeration
 - Energy management systems (EMS) and building controls
 - Building envelope upgrades
 - Additional incentives available for [small businesses and nonprofits in Jamaica, Queens](#) – including for LED lighting
 - Contractor Eligibility
 - Must work with a participating contractor or have your contractor [apply to become a participating contractor](#).
 - Find a participating solution provider by clicking the “Find a Contractor” button on the main page linked [here](#).
 - Key Contacts:
 - ConEd Small Biz and Nonprofits team: smallbiz@coned.com
 - Wildan Energy Solutions (program implementation partner): coned-SmallBiz@wildan.com
- [Commercial and Industrial program](#)
 - **Eligible Technologies:** building envelope, heating electrification (air source heat pumps, heat/energy recovery, heat recovery chillers, heat pump water heater), HVAC controls, motors and drivers (including VFDs), refrigeration
 - Other measures may be eligible for custom incentives

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- Note that applicants must receive a “Notice to Proceed” before they can install equipment or perform project work.
- Learn more about [how to apply](#) and contact commercial@coned.com with questions.

NYSEG Incentives:

- [NYSEG Small Business Program](#)
 - **Eligible Technologies:**
 - HVAC
 - Refrigeration
 - Weatherization
 - **Contractor Eligibility:**
 - You can either work with your own contractor or find a registered trade ally through NYSEG’s search tool.
 - Find a participating contractor: [Find a Contractor / Trade Ally - Search Tool](#)
 - **Key Contact:** cienergysavings@franklinenergy.com
- [Commercial and Industrial Rebate Program](#)
 - **Eligible Technologies:** process systems, agricultural equipment, HVAC controls and energy management systems
 - Other measures may be eligible for custom incentives
 - Can use your own contractor or browse [NYSEG’s Trade Ally Network](#)
 - [Contact form](#) or email Clenergysavings@franklinenergy.com for assistance

Non-Westchester Utility Small Business & Nonprofit Programs:

- Central Hudson:
 - [Business Incentives](#)
 - [Comprehensive Energy Efficiency Upgrades](#)
 - [Custom and Prescriptive Incentives](#)
- National Fuel:
 - [Energy Efficiency Rebate Program](#)
 - [Fixed \(pre-qualified\) rebate](#)
 - [Customized \(performance-based\) rebate](#)
- National Grid:
 - Browse all rebate opportunities here: [Services & Rebates Search Tool](#)
 - NYC and Upstate customers:
 - [Total Building Comfort](#)
 - Upstate customers only:
 - [Energy Savings Programs for Businesses](#)
 - [Small Business Program](#)

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■ [Large Business Program](#)

- Rochester Gas & Electric (RG&E)
 - [Small Business Program](#)
- Orange and Rockland (O&R)
 - [Savings for Business Customers](#)
- PSEG Long Island
 - [Business and Commercial Savings](#)

New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA)

[NYSCA Capital Improvement Grants](#)

- **Recurring Funding Opportunity:** most recent funding cycle opened in Fall 2025, closed in January 2026
- Grants available for capital improvements at Small-Midsize and Large **arts and cultural nonprofits**
 - Additional funding opportunity to support mid-stage and advanced design documents for arts and cultural nonprofits that are planning eligible capital improvements.

Empire Building Challenge

[Empire Building Challenge](#)

- Funding distributed to support innovative, low carbon, retrofit projects in New York's high-rise buildings
- Current round of funding is focused on Hospitals: [Empire Buildings Challenge - Hospitals](#)
 - Up to \$5 million or 75% of total project costs
 - Must have a completed feasibility study at the time of application
 - Must be a hospital (i.e., focused on acute, short-term medical and surgical care – laboratories, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, urgent care facilities, and medical offices do not qualify)

Schools

NYSERDA [Clean Green Schools Initiative](#)

- Distributes funding to support decarbonization and energy efficiency projects in New York State public schools
- To qualify for funding, must be one of the following:
 - P-12 public school districts across New York State that are designated as [Priority Districts \[xlsx\]](#)

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- P-12 public school buildings located in a NYS-designated [disadvantaged community](#)
 - Any BOCES building located in a NYS-designated [disadvantaged community](#)
- Can apply for single-building (up to \$5.05 million) or multi-building (up to \$10.05 million) projects
- Must have a completed energy / feasibility study at the time of application:
 - Can include those developed through NYSERDA's FlexTech program (**schools eligible for the Clean Green Schools Initiative can qualify for a no cost study**)

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Financing Programs

EIC Open C-PACE Financing

Summary: Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) financing provides long-term alternative financing to fund clean energy projects in commercially owned buildings. Financing is available for up to 100% of project costs, and the Energy Improvement Corporation (EIC) does all the work to administer PACE financing on behalf of its member municipalities.

Program Requirements & Eligibility:

- For Westchester County projects, those interested in leveraging Open C-PACE financing must ensure that their municipality participates in the program:
<https://www.eicpace.org/whereisopencpace>
- Must conduct an energy audit that meets the requirements for the C-PACE program.
 - ASHRAE Level 2 or 3 energy audits are considered eligible, as well as certain energy modelling & audit software.
- Existing buildings, new construction, and gut renovation projects are eligible.

Amount of Available Funding:

- The minimum amount is \$2 million. The average C-PACE transaction in New York state is \$10 million, though larger loans are available.

Key Contacts:

Susan Morth, CEO

smorth@eicpace.org

(914) 302-7300 Ext. 8114

New York Green Bank

NY Green Bank provides financing to clean energy and sustainable infrastructure projects that reduce New York State's greenhouse gas emissions.

Link to open opportunities:

<https://greenbank.ny.gov/Investment-Opportunities/Open-Solicitations>

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NYCEEC

NYCEEC provides loans for energy efficiency, renewables, high-performance buildings, Passive House, zero net energy, building electrification, demand management, energy storage, resilience measures, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

- [Information for Building Owners](#)
- [Loan Products](#)
- [Current Rates and Terms](#)
- [Project Spotlights](#)

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