

STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA Extends Application Deadline to March 21 for the Rural Energy for America Technical Assistance Grant Program

WASHINGTON, March 4, 2024 – Today, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development announced it is extending the application deadline to March 21, 2024, for the [Rural Energy for America Technical Assistance Grant Program](#).

Through REAP Technical Assistance Grants, USDA Rural Development offers hands-on assistance to agricultural producers and small business owners applying for [Rural Energy for America Program \(REAP\)](#) funding, which will lower energy costs and make energy efficiency improvements in rural areas.

This assistance is made possible by President Biden’s Inflation Reduction Act, the nation’s largest-ever investment in combatting the climate crisis. It also advances the President’s *Investing in America* agenda to grow the nation’s economy from the middle out and bottom up.

Eligible recipients for these grants include state, Tribal or local governments; colleges and universities; electric cooperatives and utility companies; and nonprofit organizations. Recipients may use the funds to:

- Help rural agricultural producers and small business owners apply for REAP funding.
- Provide information on how business owners and agricultural producers can improve the energy efficiency of their operations and use renewable energy technologies and resources.
- Conduct required energy assessments and audits.
- Help agricultural producers and small business owners with planning construction and development of renewable energy or energy efficiency projects.
- Assist with the completion of environmental reports and/or documentation required for submittal of applications.

Since December 2022, USDA has made up to \$1.3 billion available in REAP funding through the Inflation Reduction Act.

For additional information and submission details, see page 15545 of the March 4 [Federal Register](#) or visit [REAP Technical Assistance Grants Program](#).

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