



NCN CCIA \$400M AWARD

CCIA Program Overview

August 23, 2024

GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION FUND

*GGRF

National Clean Investment Fund

* NCIF

\$14 BILLION

Clean Communities
Investment Accelerator

* CCIA

\$6 BILLION

Solar for All

\$7 BILLION



**WORKPLANS FOR ALL SELECTED APPLICANTS CAN BE
VIEWED ONLINE AT:**

<https://www.epa.gov/greenhouse-gas-reduction-fund>



**FIND APPLICATION DETAILS FOR EACH SELECTED ORGANIZATION
AT:**

<https://www.epa.gov/greenhouse-gas-reduction-fund>





The Clean Communities Investment Act (CCIA) has selected five awardees:

1. Opportunity Finance Network (OFN) - Award Amount: \$2.29 billion

2. Inclusiv - Award Amount: \$1.87 billion

3. Native CDFI Network - Award Amount: \$400 million

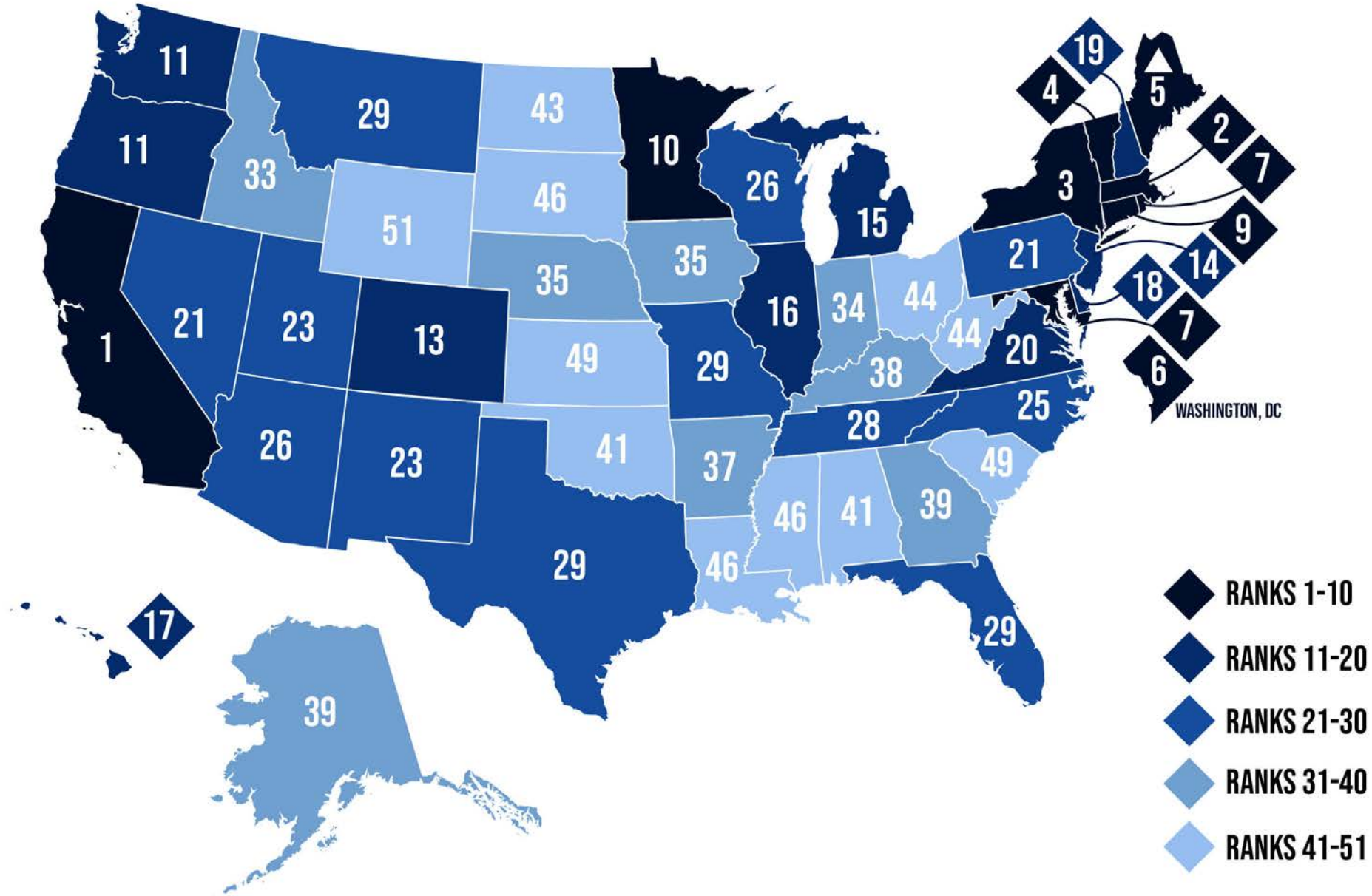
4. Appalachian Community Capital (ACC) - Award Amount: \$500 million

5. Justice Climate Fund - Award Amount: \$940 million Description





THE 2022 STATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCORECARD



<https://www.aceee.org/state-policy/scorecard>

- ◆ RANKS 1-10
- ◆ RANKS 11-20
- ◆ RANKS 21-30
- ◆ RANKS 31-40
- ◆ RANKS 41-51





NCN 63 Community Lenders SERVING ALL 10 EPA REGIONS



Capitalization Funding

NCN CCIA Funding

Up to \$5,000,000
Per Community
Lender

& Up to \$500,000
For TA

- “Capitalization funding” means, consistent with Section 134(b)(2) of the Clean Air Act, a subaward provided by the recipient (NCN) to an existing community lender for the sole purpose of providing financial assistance to CCIA-eligible projects.

- A community lender may receive a maximum of \$10,000,000 in total capitalization funding from all recipients and subrecipients under this program;** however, under limited exceptions, a community lender may receive total capitalization funding in excess of the \$10,000,000 cap, provided that the exception has been specified in the recipient’s EPA-approved workplan or the exception has been approved by the EPA Award Official.

- Capitalization funding **must only be provided to community lenders in the form of subgrants.** All capitalization funding subgrants under this program are subject to the EPA Subaward Policy.



CCIA Qualified/Priority Project Categories

1. Distributed energy generation and storage projects

- ✓ Rooftop or community solar
- ✓ Microgrids
- ✓ Distributed wind
- ✓ Stand-alone storage

2. Net Zero Emissions Buildings

- ✓ Electrification/energy efficiency
- ✓ School building space and water heating
- ✓ Replacement of back-up diesel generators with storage
- ✓ Community facility retrofits

3. Zero Emission Transportation

- ✓ Fleet electrification
- ✓ EV charging stations
- ✓ Clean mobility

LIDAC Expenditure Requirement

The **recipient (NCN)** agrees to ensure that 100% of the award is used for the purposes of providing financial assistance in low-income and disadvantaged communities (LIDAC), with compliance maintained over each annual reporting period. This requirement applies to the entire award provided to the recipient and “flows down” to all **subrecipients (community lenders)**.

The NCN CCIA program will be required to ensure that 100% of funds are directed to projects benefiting LIDAC communities.

Financial Assistance

- “Financial assistance” means **types of financial assistance that are eligible uses of capitalization funding**, consistent with Section 134(b)(2) of the Clean Air Act. Consistent with the definition of *Federal financial assistance* in 2 CFR 200.1, financial assistance means financial products, including
 - **debt** (such as loans, partially forgivable loans, forgivable loans, zero-interest and below-market interest loans, loans paired with interest rate buydowns, secured and unsecured loans, lines of credit, subordinated debt, warehouse lending, loan purchasing programs, and other debt instruments),
- Subgrants are **not** financial assistance.
- In accordance with 2 CFR 200.332, each **subrecipient (community lender)** is accountable to the **recipient (NCN)** for proper use of EPA funding.

Technical Assistance Services

- Section 134(b)(2) of the Clean Air Act directs that the **recipient (NCN) provide technical assistance to community lenders**. The recipient will provide “technical assistance services” to build the capacity of existing community lenders so that they can provide financial assistance to CCIA-eligible projects.
- Technical assistance services include targeted support activities for individual community lenders, such as providing
 - training
 - market analysis
 - technical support and structuring expertise

as well as financial market-building activities spanning multiple community lenders, such as:

- developing standardized project performance criteria
- underwriting guidance
- documentation
- product features

Technical Assistance Subawards

- Consistent with Section 134(b)(2), the recipient (NCN) will provide “technical assistance subawards” to build the capacity of existing community lenders so that they can provide financial assistance to CCIA-eligible projects.
- The recipient (NCN) will provide these subawards in the form of subgrants, which will be subject to the EPA Subaward Policy. Community lenders will use technical assistance subawards for activities including (but not limited to):
 - procuring training
 - market analysis
 - technical support
 - hiring staff
 - developing new financial products
 - supporting predevelopment activities, such as site and building assessments (e.g., energy audits)
 - financial and technological feasibility studies (e.g., solar resource studies)
 - design and engineering support, and
 - permitting support; and other activities.
- a community lender may receive a maximum of \$500,000 in total technical assistance subawards from NCN’s program.



NCN TA Supports for NCDFIs (so far)

1. **Model loan products and related underwriting guidance:** loans for consumer, commercial, and community solar, electric vehicle purchase, net-zero building and retrofit projects, distributed energy generation and storage projects for agriculture enterprises, and consumer energy efficiency, and electrification.
2. **Instructor-led and self-paced virtual trainings** with cohorts of lenders, focused on project implementation and project finance skills needed to underwrite clean energy projects.
3. **Development of guidebooks** that provide tools, templates, and examples of innovative finance engineering strategies that support consumer and community scale projects. Guidebooks will include information related to identifying and securing the grants, credits, and rebates available.
4. **Matchmaking services** between Community Lenders, tribes, and investors to finance clean energy projects TA from coalition partners will support this effort. Through these relationships, NCN will facilitate the development of larger projects that require financing from multiple orgs (basically doing some of the pipeline creation by working directly with Tribes to identify viable projects)

Performance Reporting

In accordance with 2 CFR 200.329 and 2 CFR 200.337, the recipient (NCN) agrees to the following four requirements of performance reporting: (1) quarterly, annual, and final reports, (2) transaction-level and project-level data, (3) organizational disclosures, and (4) ongoing disclosures.

The recipient (NCN) agrees to ensure that these reports cover its own expenditures **as well as the expenditures of its subrecipients, contractors, and program beneficiaries** in implementing the recipient's workplan under the federal award.

NCN will provide reporting templates and support throughout the performance period.

NCN GGRF

Partnerships

- **National Clean Investment Fund** (NCIF) program with **Climate United**, a consortium comprised of Calvert Impact, Community Preservation Corporation, and Self-Help. NCN's CEO, Pete Upton, serves on Climate United's Advisory Council.
- **Solar for All**
 - **Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association** (MTERA)
 - **GRID Alternatives** – Western Indigenous Network Coalition



NCN Tribal Partners

Key intertribal organizational partners include:

- **The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians**
- **United South and Eastern Tribes**
- **Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Association**
- **Alaska Federation of Natives**
- **United Tribes of Michigan**



NCN CCIA Partners

Alliance for Tribal Clean Energy - Support outreach and engagement efforts to tribes and tribal citizens.

Blue Lake Rancheria - Educate and advise tribal governments and enterprises on the development of Native nation-wide long-term strategic plans for clean energy infrastructure build-out, expansion, and sustainability.

GRID Alternatives - Connect with Community Lenders to evaluate the potential for solar with their existing partners/borrowers, advise in developing clean energy lending products and programs for ongoing lending in communities, including business planning and capitalization strategies.



NCN CCIA Partners

National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED) - Serve as a training and resource center for Native entrepreneurs, support outreach and communications to tribes and Native-owned business owners regarding availability of clean energy financing.

National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference (NINAETC)

Provide ongoing education and outreach about the program to tribal and Native workforce development practitioners through the organization's regular training events, website, and two email listservs.



NCN CCIA Partners

National Indian Health Board - Provide ARC GIS mapping technical assistance to confirm the eligibility of projects located outside of tribal reservation boundaries as being in LIDAC.

National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)- Provide training, outreach communications, and project development support to Community Lenders and tribes in areas of renewable power sources, sustainable transportation, energy efficiency, and energy systems integration; support market impact analysis related to air quality, and environmental, social, and economic impacts of the circular economy generated through clean energy projects.



NCN CCIA

Partners

University of New Hampshire (UNH) – Carsey School Center for Impact Finance Work with Coalition Partners and Community Lenders to customize training resources to best meet the needs of clean energy project development and capital deployment in Indian Country.



University of New Hampshire (UNH) & NCN Consumer Solar Lending – 9 Week Course 14 CCIA Communities Lenders Participate

As for the positive feedback – there was a lot!

- 100% of the students who submitted reviews said the overall course experience was “Good or Excellent” (90% said it was excellent!).
- 100% of the students answered “Agree” or “Strongly Agree” to these three questions:
 - AFTER completing this program... - I feel better prepared to offer solar finance products to my community.
 - AFTER completing this program... - I feel better prepared to assist my organization in building a solar lending program.
 - AFTER completing this program... - I would recommend this training to colleagues and others in my network.




University of New Hampshire (UNH) & NCN Consumer Solar Lending Course

“Thank you for the class, it was eye-opening to both the complexity of solar lending, the barriers in the market, and the considerations a financial institution must take in forethought to ensure capacity and readiness matches the willingness to launch Solar Lending. Wado! (Cherokee for thank you!)”

- Christopher Coburn, PBM Lending,
Place to Borrow Money with Osage Nation in Oklahoma





**What do you need to do to be
ready to deploy clean energy
capital?**



Conduct Needs/Opportunity Assessment

What type of clean energy projects does your community want/need?



Identify Target Market

Will you lend to tribes, organizations, consumers?



Determine Loan Products

What loan products are you going to add to your portfolio?



Develop Vendor Relationships

What vendors are in your area?
How will you work with them to develop clean energy projects?



Design Marketing & Communications Strategy

How will you let your community know about your new loan products?



Next Steps

August

- NCN received award agreement
- NCN continues to develop project implementation documents (Lender Handbook, Funding Application, etc.)
- EPA will share revised reporting requirements and open 30-day comment period

September

- EPA is expected to share final reporting requirements by end of month or early October

October

- Program Kickoff!
- NCN CCIA Funding Applications will open for TA and Capital funding
- NCN will host onboarding event with training on EPA terms & conditions and other topics relevant to subgrant agreement preparations

November

- NCN will review Funding Requests and meet 1:1 with lenders to develop Subgrant Agreements



Thank You

for joining NCN in this landmark
opportunity!

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