



Dear Stakeholder,

I am sharing some grant opportunities below, in case you have not already seen them. If you know of someone who would find this email round-up useful, please forward this along and invite them to subscribe by emailing my office at levenbergd@nyassembly.gov.

If you are planning to apply for an opportunity that requires a letter of support from a state official, please feel free to contact my chief of staff, Victoria Cafarelli, at cafarelliv@nyassembly.gov with more details about your project.

Best,
Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg

Solar For All Opportunity

The EPA recently released a \$7 billion [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) for its new Solar For All program. Through this competition, Solar for All will award up to 60 grants to states, territories, Tribal governments, municipalities, and nonprofits to expand the number of low-income and disadvantaged communities primed for residential solar investment, enabling millions of low-income households to access affordable, resilient, and clean solar energy.

The Notice of Funding Opportunity for this competition details the application requirements and formally requests applications. EPA's Solar for All competition will host **at least one informational webinar on July 12th, 2023, 1:00 pm – 3:00 p.m. ET** to provide information on the Solar for All grant competition and the application process. [Click here to register to attend the webinar](#). It will also be recorded and posted on [the EPA Solar for All website](#).

To be eligible to apply, interested parties are required to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) and should refer to the NOFO to understand their deadline for this requirement. Deadlines vary based on applicant type.

Application packages must be submitted **on or before September 26th, 2023 at 11:59 p.m.** (Eastern Time) through Grants.gov. Please direct questions to ggrf@epa.gov.

New State Funding for Free School Meals

The recently enacted State Budget included an additional \$134.6M to expand access to free school meals through a new [Community Eligibility Provision \(CEP\) State Subsidy](#). The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) is a federal option that allows high poverty schools to offer free meals to all students. The CEP State Subsidy ensures all CEP meals are reimbursed at the free rate. In order to receive this new funding, schools must be enrolled in CEP in the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. Eligible but unenrolled schools must be approved to participate in CEP by the State Education Department (SED). **Applications for CEP are due August 31, 2023.**

If your school does not already offer free meals to all students, consider the following next steps:

- Assess your school district's potential eligibility to adopt or expand the [Community Eligibility Provision \(CEP\)](#).
- Consider applying for CEP or expanding CEP to other schools in your district.

Need help? [Hunger Solutions New York](#) provides assistance to schools at no cost. Reach out to Jessica.PinoGoodspeed@HungerSolutionsNY.org with questions.

CEP Resources:

- [NYSED Guidance: CEP State Subsidy](#) (This memo includes [a list of potentially eligible schools who are not participating in CEP.](#))
- [NYSED CEP Factsheet](#)
- [NYSED CEP Application and Guidance](#)
- [NYSED CEP State Subsidy Questions and Answers](#)

This summer, Hunger Solutions New York is hosting a webinar series for schools to ensure all CEP-eligible schools can maximize this new state subsidy in the upcoming school year. [Click here to sign up for an upcoming webinar and to watch previous webinars.](#)

Deadlines Approaching Soon

Safe Streets and Roads 4 All (SS4A): SS4A was created in the Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to help communities both plan and carry out projects that help reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on our highways, streets, and roads. Click [here](#) to read the US Department of Transportation's press release on the new program. The Notice of Funding Opportunity can be found [here](#). **Applications are due on or before Monday, July 10 at 5pm EST.**

Air Quality Monitoring Grant: \$2.1 million in competitive grant funding is now available from the state to support community-driven projects to improve air quality and

help advance the goals of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. The Air Quality Monitoring Grant will support community-based not-for-profit organizations working in disadvantaged communities throughout the state that are disproportionately burdened by pollution. The grants will advance local efforts to obtain air quality data tailored to issues identified by community residents. Click [here](#) to learn more about the program on the DEC website.

The deadline to submit an application for the Air Monitoring Grant is **3 pm on Wednesday, July 26th, 2023**. Questions regarding this grant opportunity will be accepted until **5 pm on July 12, 2023**. All questions and answers will be uploaded in the Grants Gateway on a rolling basis. For a complete list of guidelines and more information, contact the DEC's Office of Environmental Justice at 518-402-8556, via email at justice@dec.ny.gov, or [visit the DEC's Environmental Justice webpage](#).

Water Infrastructure Improvement grants: \$425 million will be made available through the next round of the State's Water Infrastructure Improvement (WIIA) and Intermunicipal Grant (IMG) programs. This round of funding is bolstered by the first spending under the Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act of 2022 and will continue to prioritize grant awards for drinking water projects that address emerging contaminants, as well as critical wastewater projects.

Disadvantaged Communities will receive at least 35 percent of the benefits of the combined WIIA/IMG and Environmental Bond Act funding. Applications and full eligibility criteria are available at efc.ny.gov. **The application deadline is 5 PM on Friday, July 28.**

DEC Urban & Community Forestry Grants: Applications for tree planting or tree maintenance grants are due by 2 PM on Wednesday, August 16, 2023.

Westchester County Food Security Grant: Westchester County has established a Food Security Grant program to provide funds to help food pantries and soup kitchens provide additional food/meals to County residents. The attached file contains more information and an application, which can be submitted to FPGrant@westchestercounty.gov once complete. This grant will cover services from January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023 and will be awarded on a first come, first served basis. **Applications are due by September 1, 2023.**

Environmental Justice Community Impact Grants: Governor Hochul announced an additional \$6 million in grants for environmental justice initiatives this spring. Click [here](#) to read the announcement and learn more about the new program. For more details and to apply, [visit the State's Grants Gateway portal](#).

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program: The EECBG Program is designed to assist states, local governments, and tribes in implementing strategies to reduce energy use, to reduce fossil fuel emissions, and to improve energy efficiency. Click [here](#) to learn more about the program. If you have completed a [pre-](#)

[award information sheet](#) for the program, you have until **January 31, 2024** to submit a full application for funding.

All local governments are eligible to receive technical assistance to develop their Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategies through the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). For more information, see the [EECBG Program Technical Assistance Webpage](#).

Consolidated Funding Application

Round 13 of the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) is open, and will remain open until 4:00 PM on Friday, July 28, 2023. A wide range of programs are available through ten state agencies supporting initiatives related to economic development, workforce development, environmental conservation, municipal planning, community renewal, and more. This is the flagship grant opportunity for the year offered in New York State, so you are highly encouraged to take advantage. The state has a dedicated website with a wealth of resources about the program; click [here](#) to learn more about grants for which your organization may be eligible and register for an account that will enable you to start applications.

The Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council is hosting multiple information sessions where interested parties can learn more about the CFA and ask questions. The Westchester County information session will be held on **Wednesday, July 19 from 11 AM - noon** at Westchester Community College in Valhalla. [Here](#) is the full list of information session opportunities, in case another date or location would be convenient for you; you can also use that link to view more information and register for a session.

Mid-Hudson Momentum Fund

The new **Mid-Hudson Momentum Fund** opportunity is available now. Empire State Development has made \$150 million available for mixed-use housing, transit-oriented development, and infrastructure projects throughout the Mid-Hudson region. Not-for-profits, municipalities, public benefit corporations (including IDAs and LDCs) and for-profit companies can apply for funding through this program.

The first deadline for Mid-Hudson Momentum Fund applications is **4:00 PM on Friday, July 28, 2023**. Applications received after that date will be reviewed on a quarterly basis. Click [here](#) for more information, including how projects will be evaluated, eligible and ineligible uses of funds, and how to apply. You can email momentum@esd.ny.gov with any questions about the program.

Grants Action News

Every month, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie's office produces a newsletter, Grants

Action News, that contains a round-up of state, federal and private grants and details on how to access them. [Here](#) is a link to the July 2023 edition. This month, it contains opportunities for individuals, not-for-profits, municipalities, labor unions, school districts, institutions of higher education, artists, research professors, high school seniors and currently enrolled college students.

To get this newsletter sent directly to your inbox, email grants@nyassembly.gov.

Other Relevant Opportunities

- **For tax-exempt nonprofits and municipalities:** As part of the Biden-Harris Administration's Investing in America agenda, the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the IRS recently released proposed guidance on key provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act to expand the reach of the clean energy tax credits. The goal is to help build projects more quickly and affordably. The New York League of Conservation Voters has a good summary of the initiative; click [here](#) to learn more about how you can prepare to take advantage.
- **For school districts:** The 2023-2024 state budget includes funding to help with the transition to all-electric buses with an additional \$500 million from the Environmental Bond Act that passed last fall. Click [here](#) for more information from NYSERDA about available programs.