

Illinois EV and Sustainable Transportation Grant Opportunities SUMMARY

Prepared by Prairie Rivers Network, Updates as of 4/18/24

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Illinois National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI Program)

- Administered by Illinois Department of Transportation
- State Website:
<https://idot.illinois.gov/transportation-system/environment/drive-electric.html>
- **The Notice of Funding Opportunity for the first round of the Illinois National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program closed on May 7th.** Award notices are expected in July 2024.
- **Eligible Applicants:** This will be public-private collaboration. IDOT is looking for private sector site hosts for these stations. The applicant must be the deed holder of the property or have an agreement in place with the deed holder for a minimum 5-year period. The applicant must be the utility customer of record or have an agreement in place with the utility customer of record.
- **Eligible Projects:** Charging stations will be placed (or upgrading of existing stations) every 50 miles and no greater than 1 mile from the “Designated Alternative Fuel Corridors”. Exact locations for eligible projects are found on Figure 2 and Table 3 on the [draft NOFO](#). Each EV charging station must include at least four Direct Current Fast Chargers (DCFC) with Combined Charging System (CCS) ports that are capable of simultaneously charging four EVs at 150kW (or above) at each port, with a minimum station power capability at or above 600kW.
- Formula Program: \$148 million to IL over 5 years. Funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- [IL Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Deployment Plan \(NEVI Plan\)](#)
- Illinois has to build out their designated alternative fuel corridors before spending money elsewhere in the state. After designated alternative fuel corridors are built out IDOT will focus on US Routes, Scenic Byways, Disadvantaged Communities, Coverage Gaps, and Additional Capacity on Interstates.

Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program

- Administered by the US Department of Transportation.
- Federal Website: www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/cfi/
- Round 2 applications must be submitted to Grants.gov by midnight Eastern time on **August 28, 2024**. One or two more rounds are anticipated after that.

- **Eligible Applicants:** States or political subdivision of States, Metropolitan planning organizations, Unit of local governments, Special purpose districts or public authorities with a transportation function, including port authorities, Indian Tribes, U.S. Territories, Authorities, agencies, or instrumentalities or entities owned by, one or more entities listed above, Group of entities listed above, and State or local authorities with ownership of publicly accessible transportation facilities (applies to Community Program only)
- **Eligible Projects:** electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure and other alternative fueling infrastructure projects in urban and rural communities
- \$2.5 Billion Total (split between corridor and community charging).
- Community Charging focused on filling in infrastructure **IN** communities, off of the Alternative Fuel Corridors
- First round closed June 2023.
- In the FY22-FY23 Grant Program, Illinois won \$14.9M in the first round for 273 project sites, including 845 Level 2 EV Charging Stations and 36 DC Fast Charge stations. The Illinois Finance Authority, in its role as the Illinois Climate Bank, was chosen for the award.

Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicle Grant Program

- Administered by the USEPA
- Federal Website:
www.epa.gov/clean-heavy-duty-vehicles-program/clean-heavy-duty-vehicles-grant-program
- **Applications are open April 24 through July 25, 2024, and electric school buses are eligible for an estimated \$700 million in funding.**
- **Eligible Applicants:** States, Municipalities, including public school districts, Indian Tribes, and Nonprofit school transportation associations
- **Eligible Projects:**
 - The incremental cost of replacing a non-zero-emission Class 6/7 heavy-duty vehicle with an eligible Class 6/7 zero-emission vehicle.
 - The purchase and installation of refueling infrastructure that will support vehicles replaced under this program.
 - Driver/mechanic training related to the maintenance and operation of new technologies and vehicle warranties
 - Costs directly related to the implementation, management, and oversight of the project, including recipient and sub-recipient personnel and benefits, contractual services, consulting on vehicle deployments, travel, supplies, and indirect costs.

Safe Streets and Roads for All

- Administered by US Department of Transportation
- Federal Website: www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A
- **The Notice of Funding Opportunity is open now.** Deadlines for Planning and Implementation Grants are May 16, 2024, or August 29, 2024. The deadline for Implementation Grants is May 16, 2024
- **Eligible Applicants:** Political subdivisions of a State, which includes counties, cities, towns, transit agencies, and other special districts, Metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), and Federally recognized Tribal governments.
- **Eligible Projects:** The SS4A program funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries.

Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP)

- Administered by US Department of Transportation
- Federal Website: www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/atiip/
- **The Notice of Funding Opportunity is open now.** The Deadline for applications is June 17th.
- **Eligible Applicants:** a local or regional governmental organization, including a metropolitan planning organization or regional planning organization or council; a multicounty special district; a State; a multistate group of governments; or an Indian tribe (BIL § 11529(l)(5)).
- **Eligible Projects:** Planning and Design grants for eligible applicants to develop plans for active transportation networks and active transportation spines. Construction grants to eligible applicants to construct projects to provide safe and connected active transportation facilities in an active transportation network or active transportation spine.

Carbon Reduction Program

- Administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation
- IDOT submitted a draft carbon reduction strategy to the Federal Highway Administration in November 2023 but has not heard back yet.
- **Eligible Projects:** transportation projects that reduce carbon emissions.
- Formula program: \$6.4 billion to the states, approximately \$225 million to Illinois over 5 years
- Funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.
- Suballocated to metro areas based on population. Larger urban areas will choose their own projects. IDOT will select projects in other parts of the state.

EV Charging - Driving a Cleaner Illinois Program

- Administered by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
- State Website: [Driving a Cleaner Illinois - Driving a Cleaner Illinois](#)
- **The [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) is open now**, and the application deadline is May 10, 2024, at 5:00 pm
- **Eligible Applicants:** 1) must be a private organization or company, including a sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, or limited liability company, that is incorporated under Illinois law or registered and in good standing with the Illinois Secretary of State, as applicable. AND 2) must be an owner of a proposed charging station location and/or an owner of the proposed charging station. Municipalities/public entities may act as a host site for these chargers, but the public entity may not be the applicant.
- **Eligible Projects:** Up to 80% of the cost of installing charging stations may be funded. Additional awards may incentivize charging infrastructure in eligible communities.
- The first round of EV charger NOFO opened in September 2023 and closed on 12/22/2023. \$27M in funding was provided for publicly accessible Level 3 chargers.
- The Agency is directed to provide funding, consistent with Illinois Commerce Commission-approved Beneficial Electrification Plans, to public and private organizations and companies to install and maintain publicly-available Level 2 or Level 3 charging stations.
- See the Charging Infrastructure Grant Program, [35 Ill. Adm. Code 285](#), for program rules.
- Questions can be emailed to EPA.EVCharging@Illinois.gov

Driving a Cleaner Illinois Program

- The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency also administers programs for electric school buses, transit buses, and charging infrastructure with funds from other federal sources, such as DERA, CMAQ, and VW settlement funding. Details for all these programs can be found on the [Driving a Cleaner Illinois IEPA website](#).

Clean School Bus Program

- Administered by US Environmental Protection Agency
- Federal Website: www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus
- **The 2023 Rebate Program Applications were due on February 14th. Next Grant Cycle, Spring 2024, and next Rebate Cycle, Fall 2024.**
- **Eligible Applicants:**

- Local or State governmental entities responsible for providing school bus service to one or more public school systems; or the purchase, lease, license, or contract for service of school buses;
- A public charter school district is responsible for the purchase, lease, license, or contract for service of school buses for that charter school.
- Tribal applicants
- Eligible contractors are for-profit, not-for-profit, or nonprofit entities that have the capacity to (1) sell, lease, license, or contract for service clean or ZE school buses or related charging or fueling infrastructure to school bus owners or (2) arrange financing for such a sale, lease, license, or contract for service. This can include Nonprofit School Transportation Associations, or School bus dealers, original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), school bus service providers, and private school bus fleets that meet these criteria are eligible contractors.
- **Eligible Projects:** Rebate and grant funding to replace existing school buses with clean and zero-emission models
- \$5 Billion over 5 years. Funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.
- 2022 Rebate
- 2023 Grant Programs already funded.

Low or No Emission Grant Program

- Administered by the Federal Transit Administration
- Federal website: www.transit.dot.gov/lowno
- **Funding Opportunity closed on April 25, 2024**
- **Eligible Applicants:** states, local governmental authorities, and Indian Tribes. Except for projects proposed by Indian Tribes, proposals for funding eligible projects in rural (non-urbanized) areas must be submitted as part of a consolidated state proposal. States and other eligible applicants also may submit consolidated proposals for projects in urbanized areas.
- **Eligible Projects:** state and local efforts to buy or modernize buses, improve bus facilities, and support workforce development

Electric Vehicle Rebate Program

- Administered by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
- State Website: <https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/ceja/electric-vehicle-rebates.html>
- **Eligible Applicants:** Illinois residents who purchase an all-electric passenger vehicle from a dealer licensed in Illinois. Prioritization for Low-income applicants.
- A rebate amount cannot exceed the purchase price of the vehicle. The purchaser must retain ownership of the vehicle for a minimum of 12 consecutive months immediately

after the vehicle purchase date. Only one rebate will be issued to a purchaser in any 10-year period.

- **Eligible Projects:** \$4,000 Rebate for the purchase of an electric vehicle and a \$1,500 rebate for the purchase of an electric motorcycle.

Illinois Transportation Enhancements Programs (ITEP)

- Administered by Illinois Department of Transportation
- State Website:
<https://idot.illinois.gov/transportation-system/local-transportation-partners/county-engineers-and-local-public-agencies/funding-programs/itep.html>
- **The next application cycle is coming in August 2024**
- **Eligible Applicants:** local governments; regional transportation authorities; transit agencies; natural resource or public land agencies; school districts, local education agencies, or schools; tribal governments; nonprofit entities; MPO that represents an area with a population 200,000 or fewer; a State, at the request of another eligible entity; and any other local or regional governmental entity with responsibility for oversight of transportation that the State determines to be eligible.
- **Eligible Projects:**
 1. Pedestrian/Bicycle Facilities
 2. Streetscapes
 3. Conversion of Abandoned Railroad Corridors to Trails
 4. Historic Preservation and Rehabilitation of Historic Transportation Facilities
 5. Vegetation Management in Transportation Rights-of-Way
 6. Archaeological Activities Relating to Impacts from the Implementation of a Transportation Project
 7. Stormwater management, Control, and Water Pollution Prevention or Abatement Related to Highway Construction or Due to Highway Runoff
 8. Reduce Vehicle-Caused Wildlife Mortality or Restore and Maintain Connectivity Among Terrestrial or Aquatic Habitats
 9. Construction of Turnouts, Overlooks, and Viewing Areas
- If you have any questions about ITEP, please contact us at DOT.ITEP@Illinois.gov

RAISE Discretionary Grants

- Administered by the US Department of Transportation
- FY 2024 application deadline was February 28th, 2024. **FY 2025 Deadline: January 13, 2025 and FY 2026 Deadline: January 13, 2026**
- **Eligible Applicants:** Open to states, municipalities, counties, and others

- **Eligible Projects:** critical freight and passenger transportation infrastructure projects. See NOFO for more details.
- [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- \$1.5 million in grant funding. Funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ)

- \$210 million
- Administered Annually by CMAP and East-West Gateway in the Chicago and St. Louis Area.
- **Eligible Applicants in St. Louis Region:** A municipality; A county; A state; Bi-State Development/Metro; Madison County Transit District; and Great Rivers Greenway. Other agencies, such as not-for-profit organizations, must partner with an entity listed above.
- Eligible Applicants in the Chicago Region
- **Eligible Projects:** transportation projects that clean air or reduce the use of Single Occupancy Vehicles. Must be used in Nonattainment Areas ([map](#))
- Project selection happens annually in St. Louis and every other year in Chicago.
- CMAP Website: www.cmap.illinois.gov/mobility/strategic-investment/cmaq
- East West Gateway Website: www.ewgateway.org/transportation-planning/transportation-improvement-program/competitive-transportation-programs/cmaq/

Transportation Alternatives Program

- Administered by CMAP and East-West Gateway in the Chicago and St. Louis Area.
- **Eligible Applicants in the St. Louis Region:** Local government; Regional transportation authority; Natural resource or public land agency; School district, local education agency or school; Nonprofit entity; and State at the request of an eligible entity listed above
- Eligible Applicants in the Chicago Region
- **Eligible Projects:** surface transportation improvements designed to support non-motorized transportation, such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, safe routes to school projects, community improvements such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to stormwater and habitat connectivity.
- CMAP Website: www.cmap.illinois.gov/mobility/strategic-investment/transportation-alternatives

- East West Gateway Website:
www.ewgateway.org/transportation-planning/transportation-improvement-program/competitive-transportation-programs/tap/

Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator Program

- FY 2022 and FY2023 Programs.
- **No more funding is expected.**
- Federal Website:
www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/nevi/evc_raa/ev-charger-raa-prog-grant.cfm
- The program awarded approximately \$148.8 million in grant funding to 24 applicants to repair or replace broken or non-operational electric vehicle charging ports to improve the reliability of existing charging infrastructure. The 24 awards were located in 20 States, and were awarded to 14 State Departments of Transportation and 10 local entities.
- [List of Project Locations in Illinois](#)

Additional Programs That Aren't Solely Transportation Focused But Could be Used for Transportation Projects

- Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program (USEPA)
<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/climate/climate-pollution-reduction-grants.html>
- Community Change Grants (USEPA)
www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/inflation-reduction-act-community-change-grants-program
- USDOT Reconnecting Communities www.transportation.gov/grants/rcnprogram

Additional Resources

- [USDOT EV Infrastructure Planning Resources](#)
- Natural Resources Defense Council Report “[Act Locally: An Equitable Investment Resource Guide for Advocates and Local Governments to Access Infrastructure Funding and Activate Bold Plans](#)”
- [Illinois List of Certified Electric Vehicle Charging Station Installer](#)
- Forth's [Minority / Women owned business directory](#) of contractors/installers – can filter by state
- A statewide research project conducted in partnership with the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to identify the most equitable locations statewide for EV charging

infrastructure was completed in December. The final report is available on the [University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign's website](#).

- [Charging Forward: A Toolkit for Planning and Funding Rural Electric Mobility Infrastructure](#). This toolkit is meant to be a one-stop resource to help rural communities scope, plan, and identify ways to fund EV-charging infrastructure.