

Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) EV Charging Round 1

Data Field		
1. Awarding Agency Name:	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency	
2. Agency Contact:	Daniel Olson EPA.EVCharging@illinois.gov	
3. Announcement Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial announcement <input type="checkbox"/> Modification of a previous announcement	
4. Type of Assistance Instrument:	Grant	
5. Funding Opportunity Number:	24-3234-01	
6. Funding Opportunity Title:	Driving a Cleaner Illinois – Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) EV Charging	
7. CSFA Number:	532-10-3234	
8. CSFA Popular Name:	Driving a Cleaner Illinois – Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) EV Charging	
9. CFDA Number(s):	N/A	
10. Anticipated Number of Awards:	Will vary due to no minimum or maximum award; approximately 10-30	
11. Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$27,000,000	
12. Award Range:	No Set Minimum or Maximum; see “Award Information and Cost Sharing or Matching”	
13. Source of Funding:	Mark all that apply <input type="checkbox"/> Federal or Federal pass through <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Private/other funding	Service Area: Pick One <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment/Culture <input type="checkbox"/> Government Services <input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare <input type="checkbox"/> Human Services <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety
14. Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
15. Indirect Costs Allowed	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Restrictions on Indirect Costs	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, provide the citation governing the restriction:	
16. Posted Date:	November 3, 2023	
17. Application Range:	11/3/2023-12/22/2023	
18. Technical Assistance Session:	Session Offered: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Specify date and time Session Mandatory: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> Provide link to registration, if applicable.	

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

CEJA EV Charging – Round 1

24-3234-01

A. Program Description

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is to inform potential applicants of the availability of funds from the Rebuild Illinois capital program for electric vehicle projects authorized under the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act as part of the Driving a Cleaner Illinois Program. Under this NOFO, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) will fund a portion of the eligible costs associated with new commercial grade Direct Current Fast Charging (DCFC, also known as Level 3) charging stations for light-duty electric vehicles to be located at publicly accessible charging station locations in Illinois. Preference will be given to both Environmental Justice communities and to projects outside the three priority areas outlined in the Volkswagen Beneficiary Mitigation Plan (BMP) that have not previously been eligible for Illinois EPA EV charging infrastructure funds.

B. Funding Information

In completing projects under this NOFO, applicants must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and ordinances and regulations thereunder.

Funding for this program is provided through the Rebuild Illinois capital program.

Applicants may not combine funding from this program with other funding such that they receive in excess of 100% funding for any project.

Applicants may use other funding (federal, state, or other) as part or all of their mandatory cost share, provided such other funding source does not place a restriction on this.

Build at-risk or pre-award costs may be allowed if the costs are incurred AFTER the publication of this NOFO and are directly in anticipation of receiving an award, where such costs are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the project. Such costs are allowable only to the extent that they are eligible costs and would have been allowable if incurred after the date of an award. Reimbursement of pre-award costs may only occur post-award and post-execution of a grant agreement between the Illinois EPA and the applicant.

C. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants

An entity may not apply for a grant until the entity has registered and pre-qualified through the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Grantee Portal, www.grants.illinois.gov/portal. Registration and pre-qualification are required annually. During pre-qualification, verifications are performed including a check of federal SAM.gov Exclusion List and status on the Illinois Stop Payment List. The Grantee Portal alerts the entity of “qualified” status or informs how to remediate a negative verification (e.g., inactive UEI, not in good standing with the Secretary of State). Inclusion on the SAM.gov Exclusion List cannot be remediated.

Applicants that are eligible under this NOFO:

An eligible applicant for this NOFO is 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

AND

An eligible applicant for this NOFO must be an owner of a proposed charging station location and/or an owner of the proposed charging station

Applicants that are ineligible under this NOFO:

- Government entities or units of government (government entities cannot be an applicant, but can be a site host of a charging station location)

- Individuals
- Entities that have NOT satisfied the following GATA pre-qualification requirements:
 - Registered with the System for Award Management (SAM) (www.SAM.gov)
 - Have a valid Unique Entity ID (UEI)
 - Completed an Internal Controls Questionnaire (ICQ) as the fiscal and administrative risk assessment for the current fiscal year – FY 23
 - In good standing with the Illinois Secretary of State
 - Not currently debarred by the State of Illinois and/or federal government
 - Not on the Federal Excluded Parties List
 - Not on the Illinois Stop Payment List
 - Not on the sanctioned party list of the Dept. of Healthcare and Family Services
 - Not on the SAM.gov exclusion list.

2. Eligible Charging Station and Charging Station Location Requirements

A proposal under this NOFO must meet the following DCFC equipment, installation, and operation requirements for each charging station location and each charging station.

- An applicant shall submit an application for at least two charging station locations with a minimum of at least two standalone chargers at each location. Each standalone charger shall have a minimum of two ports; therefore, each charging station location shall have a minimum of four ports.
- This NOFO does not limit the number of applications per entity. However, an entity should not include the same charging station in multiple applications.
- In order to provide opportunities to extend EV charging funding opportunities to areas of the State that have not previously been prioritized in Illinois EPA charging grant funding rounds, applications with charging station locations outside the following counties and townships will receive additional points:
 - **Chicagoland:** Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will counties, Oswego Township in Kendall County and Aux Sable and Goose Lake townships in Grundy County
 - **Metro East:** Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair counties
 - **Other:** Champaign, DeKalb, LaSalle, McLean, Peoria, Sangamon, and Winnebago counties
- Additional points will also be awarded to projects in an area identified as an Equity Investment Eligible Community (EIEC) through the EIEC mapping tool at this link: <https://arcg.is/1Wv4X>. Locations qualifying for the EIEC points shall be in either an EJ community or an R3 community as defined by the mapping tool at that link. A location that is in both an EJ Community and an R3 Community is eligible.
- There can be no existing charging stations at or within the applicant's proposed charging station location - this NOFO is targeting areas where there is a lack of any type of public charging stations.
- The charging station must be new, commercial grade light-duty DCFC equipment designed to charge light-duty vehicles.
- The charging station and charging station location must be publicly accessible - for purposes of this NOFO, "publicly accessible" means available to any member of the public 24 hours a day, 7 days a week without access restrictions.
- Each charging station location must have signage that complies with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards providing a toll-free number to call for assistance; Electric vehicle charging signs are required near the charging station along with electric vehicle only stenciled graphics (e.g., "EV Parking Only") on each striped parking space reserved for electric vehicle charging.
- Each charging station must be located at a charging station location that is either owned by the applicant or for which there is or will be a host agreement with the applicant to host the charging station at the charging station location for a minimum of five years after the initial in-service date of the charging station. (A Site Host Agreement for a charging station location must be for a term of at least five years starting with the initial applicant's legal right to own and operate the charging station(s) at the host site; must identify responsible parties for hosting, operating, and maintaining the charging station and charging station location; and must contain a disposition plan for the charging station in the event

the agreement is terminated).

- Each charging station must consist of a minimum of two standalone chargers with a minimum of four Combined Charging System (CCS) connectors, capable of simultaneously charging four electric vehicles. The CCS charger shall be a true CCS charger and shall not rely on an adaptor to convert a non-CCS type connector to a CCS connector.
- Each connector must be capable of providing at least 100 kW of power while charging one vehicle on the charging station unit and be capable of providing at least 50 kW of power when simultaneously charging two or more vehicles on the unit.
- Each charging station unit must have the ability to reduce power output to be compatible for use by electric vehicles.
- Each charging station unit must be enclosed and must be constructed for use outdoors in accordance with UL 50E Standard for Safety for Enclosures for Electrical Equipment, Environmental Considerations, Type 3R exterior enclosure or equivalent.
- Each charging station unit must incorporate a cord management system or method to eliminate potential cable entanglement, user injury, or connector damage from lying on the ground.
- Charging station installation must be performed in accordance with industry standards and best practices and comply with all applicable federal, state, and local requirements, including Illinois Commerce Commission registration and certification requirements which apply to the installers of electric vehicle charging stations as well as those conducting maintenance and repair.
- Each charging station unit must be certified and meet relevant technical and/or safety standards, including but not limited to, all applicable federal, state, and local building, electrical, and safety codes (i.e., International Building Code, National Electrical Code), Underwriters Laboratories (UL) 2202 (Standard for Electric Vehicle Charging System Equipment), Federal Communications Commission (47 CFR 15 – Radio Frequency Devices), and must also have valid certification(s) from a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL).
- Each charging station unit must be capable of operating over an ambient temperature range of 0 to 122 degrees Fahrenheit with a relative humidity of up to 100%.
- Charging station locations and charging stations must be Americans with Disability Act (ADA) compliant.
- Each charging station must have and be connected to an operating network and must have the ability to switch between Open Charge Point Interface (OCPI) networks.
- Each charging station must follow network “roaming” best practices established by the OCPI protocol.
- Each charging station must be Open Charge Point Protocol (OCPP) compliant for communications between charging stations and operating networks.
- For each charging station, the network system must proactively monitor charging stations for maintenance needs and notify/dispatch for corrective action as issues are identified.
- Each charging station must support continuous operations even when network connectivity is not available or consumer cell phone service is not available (i.e., “default on” with loss of network).
- Charging stations may require payment from users. Where payment is required:
 - The charging station shall provide multiple payment options for drivers for both pay-per-use and subscription methods, including options such as credit and debit cards, smart cards, and smart phone applications.
 - All payment equipment must possess the capabilities to ensure credit card transactions are compliant with the latest PCI and PA-DSS standards.

- All payment equipment must employ commercially reasonable security standards to protect sensitive and/or confidential data.
- All payment equipment shall display real-time pricing and fee information on the unit, payment screen, or associated phone application.
- Each charging station must be accessible to “walk up” consumers (meaning that drivers must be able to initiate a charge session without a prior membership or network interaction).
- Each charging station must record charging data including percentage of operational uptime, the number of charging events, average charge time per vehicle in minutes, and average kW per charge and total overall kW delivered. This data must be maintained for a minimum of five years beyond the recording of the data. This data must be made available to the Illinois EPA upon request. This data must also be reported to the Illinois EPA as otherwise provided in this NOFO or in any grant agreement under this NOFO.
- Each charging station, including the operating network system, must continually be in full-working order. Each charging station shall be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer recommendations and warranty coverage requirements. Scheduled and unscheduled maintenance and repair must be completed and the charging station fully operational within 72 hours to ensure 95% annual uptime.
- Each charging station must have a minimum five-year warranty.
- Each charging station location must have lighting from dusk to dawn to ensure ease of use of the charging station and to ensure security.
- Each charging station location must have at a minimum, the same number of reserved electric vehicle parking spaces as the number of charging connectors at the charging station. At least one of the parking spaces must meet ADA requirements but does not need to be ADA reserved.
- Parking spaces must meet state and local design codes and have paved asphalt or concrete as their base.
- Each charging station must have collision protection such as: bollards, wheel stops, curb protection, or wall-mounted barriers.
- Each charging station location must have electric service appropriate for the size and type of charging station(s) set forth in their application.

3. Requirements

The Illinois EPA is required by GATA to conduct a financial and administrative risk assessment of the applicant. Additional information may be required at that time from the successful applicant. For the applicant to remain eligible for an award, it must provide the requested information within the timeframe specified by the Illinois EPA. The Programmatic Risk Assessment (as determined by applicant’s Internal Controls Questionnaire in the GATA portal) evaluate the applicant’s ability to successfully carry out the terms of a specific program and assesses four risk categories:

- quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards,
- history of performance,
- reports and findings from audits performed on prior awards, and
- the applicant’s ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on awardees.

The awards will have special terms and conditions in addition to the general terms and conditions of the Uniform Grant Agreement.

4. Award Information and Cost Sharing or Matching

The award amounts and mandatory cost share requirements are as follows:

- Each application shall have a minimum of two charging station locations. Each charging station location shall have a minimum of two chargers. The reimbursement for each charger will be 80% of total eligible costs up to a maximum award of \$80,000 per charger.
- Applications with more than two charging station locations are allowed, but the award shall be limited to no more than four chargers per charging station location. The award for each charger will be 80% of the total eligible cost up to a maximum of \$80,000 per charger.
- The award amount where there are more than the mandatory minimum of chargers at a charging station location shall be 80% of total eligible costs up to a maximum award of \$320,000 per charging station location.

Nothing in this NOFO shall limit the number of charging stations at a charging station location, or the number of charging station locations. However, the maximum award amounts are as set forth above.

Grant awards are a reimbursement that occur only after execution of a grant agreement between the Illinois EPA and a grantee.

The number and amounts of awards will be dependent on the number of applications received and levels of funding requested. Illinois EPA may offer partial awards depending on fund availability.

5. Indirect Cost Rate

N/A

6. Other, if applicable

N/A

D. Application and Submission Information

1. Address to Request Application Package

The application is included with this NOFO and may be downloaded at the Driving a Cleaner Illinois website here: <https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/air-quality/driving-a-cleaner-illinois.html>. Potential applicants may request paper copies of the application by emailing a request to EPA.EVCharging@illinois.gov

Potential applicants may address any problems with accessing the application package by contacting EPA.EVCharging@illinois.gov

2. Content and Form of Application Submission

An application under this NOFO must include:

- IEPA EV Charging Application
- Uniform Grant Application
- Uniform Grant Budget Template
- IL444-5205 Grantee Conflict of Interest Disclosure

An application must be complete. It must include all of the information that is requested in this NOFO and in the above four required forms. The applicant must use the four above forms to provide the requested information. The application must be signed by a person authorized to sign on the behalf of the applicant.

An application must be submitted electronically to EPA.EVCharging@illinois.gov.

An application must be received by the Illinois EPA by 5:00 p.m. Central Time on Friday, December 22, 2023.

No additional materials will be accepted after the initial submittal of the application. Late or incomplete applications will be denied.

Any questions must be in writing and directed to EPA.EVCharging@illinois.gov.

3. Unique Entity ID (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM) -- Each applicant (unless the applicant is an individual or Federal or State awarding agency that is exempt from the requirements under 2 CFR §25.110(b) or (c), or has an exception approved by the Federal or State awarding agency under 2 CFR § 25.110 (d)) is required to:
 - Be registered in SAM before submitting its application. To establish a SAM registration, go to www.SAM.gov and/or utilize this instructional link: [How to Register in SAM](#) from the www.grants.illinois.gov Resource Links tab. As of 6/11/18, entities registering in SAM must submit a notarized letter appointing their authorized Entity Administrator. Use the updated [FAQ sheet](#) from SAM.gov to learn more.
 - Provide a valid UEI number in its application; and
 - Continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal, Federal pass-through or State award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal or State awarding agency. It also must state that the State awarding agency may not make a Federal pass-through or State award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time the State awarding agency is ready to make a Federal pass-through or State award, the State awarding agency may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal pass-through or State award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal pass-through or State award to another applicant.

4. Submission Dates and Times

Applications must be received by the Illinois EPA by 5:00pm (CT) on Friday, December 22, 2023.

5. Intergovernmental Review, if applicable

N/A

6. Funding Restrictions

Only eligible costs are reimbursable. All costs other than those listed as eligible costs are ineligible.

The following project-related components are eligible for reimbursement:

- New commercial grade DCFC charging station(s), including network hardware and software
- Utility equipment interconnections and upgrades, such as transformers and utility extensions, conduit, cable/wiring, and electrical service box disconnects
- Necessary concrete or paved asphalt addition or replacement at the parking spaces where there is currently none or existing spaces are in poor condition
- Signage and lighting at the charging station location
- Items installed for collision protection such as: bollards, wheel stops, curb protection, or wall-mounted barriers
- Paint striping and stenciling of the charging station location parking spaces
- Charging station installation labor (electrical, trenching, etc.)
- Project-related build-at-risk or pre-award costs incurred post-publication of this NOFO that are eligible costs and are directly in anticipation of receiving an award, where such costs are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the project. (Such costs are allowable only to the extent that they would have been allowable if incurred after the date of an award).

The following potential project-related components are ineligible for reimbursement:

- Purchase, rent, or lease of charging station location
- Used, refurbished, or remanufactured charging station equipment

- Leased or rented charging station equipment
- Costs associated with accepting payment options
- Hydrogen fuel cell vehicle supply infrastructure and equipment
- Administrative licenses, fees and costs for charging station location and charging station design, development, implementation, and management, including legal, engineering, consulting, and permit licenses, fees, and costs and other licenses, fees and costs to develop the project or grant application
- Internet or cellular connection costs
- Cost increases on purchases and/or subcontracts
- Charging station equipment shipping costs
- Taxes, including sales taxes, on eligible charging station equipment and expenses
- Insurance coverage
- Scheduled or unscheduled maintenance
- Warranty or annual maintenance or service agreement fees and costs
- Operating costs including electricity, network operations and service, customer service
- Reporting

On the IEPA EV Charging Application, applicant shall provide the total eligible cost figures for each of the proposed charging station locations using either the known and/or estimated costs. Applicant shall also provide the total eligible cost for the charging station locations, as well as the requested grant amount and required cost share figure.

7. Other Submission Requirements

N/A

E. Application Review Information

1. Criteria

The administrative completeness review assesses whether the requirements in Sections C (2 & 3) of this NOFO, as further addressed in the application forms for this NOFO, have been met. The requirements of Sections C (2 & 3) are summarily restated below. If in reviewing the application, any requirements are not met as required in this NOFO or the related forms, the application will be denied. No points will be assigned for the administrative completeness.

Each individual charging station location (minimum of two) within a single application will be scored individually. Each of those project scores will be combined to produce an overall application score. Those application scores will be ranked and awards will be made accordingly. Final rankings will be determined through calculation of the average score of all locations an applicant applies for.

Charging Station and Charging Station Location Administrative Completeness	Yes	No
Application was complete with the information requested.		
Application was submitted electronically to EPA.EVCharging@illinois.gov .		
Application was received by the Illinois EPA by 5:00 p.m. Central Time on Dec. 22, 2023.		
Application included an IEPA EV Charging Application.		
Application included a Uniform Grant Application.		
Application included a Uniform Grant Budget Template.		
Application included a Grantee Conflict of Interest Disclosure.		
The proposed charging stations will be located in Illinois.		
There are no existing public charging stations at the proposed charging station locations.		
The charging stations will be new, commercial-grade DCFC equipment designed to charge light-duty vehicles.		
The charging stations and charging station locations will be publicly accessible.		
Applicant is the owner of the proposed charging station locations or has or will have an arrangement with the charging station locations owner to construct and operate the charging stations.		
Each station location will have a minimum of two standalone chargers with at least four CCS connectors capable of simultaneously charging four electric vehicles.		
Each connector on each charging station unit will be capable of providing at least 100 kW of power while charging only one vehicle and be capable of providing at least 50 kW of power when simultaneously charging two or more vehicles.		

Each charging station will have the ability to reduce power output to be compatible for use by electric vehicles.		
Each charging station enclosure will be constructed for use outdoors in accordance with UL 50E Standard for Safety for Enclosures for Electrical Equipment, Environmental Considerations, Type 3R exterior enclosure or equivalent.		
Each charging station will incorporate a cord management system or method to eliminate potential for cable entanglement, user injury, or connector damage from lying on the ground.		
Charging station installation will comply with all applicable federal, state, and local requirements, including Illinois Commerce Commission registration and certification requirements.		
Charging stations will be certified and meet relevant technical and/or safety standards, including but not limited to, all applicable federal, state, and local building, electrical, and safety codes (i.e., International Building Code, National Electrical Code), Underwriters Laboratories (UL) 2202 (Standard for Electric Vehicle Charging System Equipment), Federal Communications Commission (47 CFR 15 – Radio Frequency Devices), and must also have valid certification(s) from a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL).		
Charging stations will be capable of operating over an ambient temperature range of 0 to 122 degrees Fahrenheit with a relative humidity of up to 100%.		
Charging station locations and charging stations will be Americans with Disability Act (ADA) compliant.		
Each charging station will have and be connected to an operating network and will have the ability to switch between Open Charge Point Interface (OCPI) networks.		
Each charging station will follow network “roaming” best practices established by the OCPI protocol.		
Each charging station will be Open Charge Point Protocol (OCPP) compliant for communications between charging stations and operating networks.		
The operating network system will proactively monitor charging stations for maintenance needs and notify/dispatch for corrective action as issues are identified.		
Each charging station will support continuous operations even when network connectivity is not available or consumer cell phone service is not available (i.e., “default on” with loss of network).		
If payment is required, the payment and security requirements will be satisfied.		
Each charging station will be accessible to “walk up” consumers, meaning that drivers must be able to initiate a charge session without a prior membership or network interaction in a simple, straightforward process.		
Each charging station will be able to provide charging data including percentage of operational uptime, the number of charging events, average charge time per vehicle in minutes, and average kW per charge and total overall kW delivered.		
Each charging station, including the operating network system, must continually be in full-working order and shall be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer recommendations and warranty coverage requirements; and scheduled and unscheduled maintenance and repair will be completed and the station, including the operating network system, fully operational within 72 hours to ensure 95% annual uptime.		
Each charging station will have a minimum five-year warranty.		
Each charging station will provide lighting for potential drivers from dusk to dawn for both ease of use and security.		
Each charging station location will have ample parking space and provide, at a minimum, the same number of reserved electric vehicle parking spaces as the number of connectors at the charging station. The charging station location will have at least one parking space that meets ADA requirements for handicap accessibility, but not necessarily ADA reserved.		
At each charging station location, parking spaces will meet state and local design codes and have paved asphalt or concrete as their base.		
Each charging station will have collision protection.		
Each charging station location must have electric service appropriate for the size and type of charging station(s) set forth in their application.		

Each charging station location will have signage that complies with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards; <i>Electric vehicle charging</i> signs are required near the charging station along with <i>electric vehicle only</i> stenciled graphics (e.g., “EV Parking Only”) on each striped parking space reserved for electric vehicle charging.		
Each charging station will be located at a charging station location that is either owned by the applicant or for which there is or will be a host agreement with the applicant to host the charging station on the charging station location for a minimum of five years after the initial in-service date of the charging station. (A Site Host Agreement for a charging station location must be for a term of at least five years starting with the initial in-service date of the charging station(s); must contain a provision regarding the applicant’s legal right to own and operate the charging station(s) at the host site; must identify responsible parties for hosting, operating, and maintaining the charging station and charging station location; and must contain a disposition plan for the charging station in the event the agreement is terminated).		

GATA Administrative Completeness	Yes	No
Not currently debarred by the State of Illinois and/or federal government		
Not on the Federal Excluded Parties List		
Have a valid UEI number		
Have a current SAM.gov account		
In good standing with the Illinois Secretary of State		
Not on the Illinois Stop Payment List		
Not on the Dept. of Healthcare and Family Services Provider Sanctions List		
Completed an Internal Controls Questionnaire (“ICQ”) as the Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment for the current fiscal year – FY23		
Not on the SAM.gov exclusion list		

2. Review and Selection Process

All applications will be reviewed by Illinois EPA staff for administrative completeness and, if deemed administratively complete, scored against criteria identified in this NOFO, in compliance with relevant GATA and 2 CFR 200 Uniform Requirements.

Applications will be scored against the following scoring criteria. The maximum score is 110 points.

Distance to Nearest DCFC Site	
How many miles, as driven, from each proposed charging station location to the closest DCFC site (not including dealerships or singular chargers such as Tesla Supercharger sites)?	
Greater than 10 miles:	25 points for each location
6 to 10 miles:	20 points for each location
1 to 5 miles:	15 points for each location
Less than 1 mile:	5 points for each location
Traffic Density	
What is the Annual Average Daily Traffic of the major street nearest each proposed charging station location? (Note: an annual average daily traffic count is identified by the mapping tool Traffic Counts at https://www.gettingaroundillinois.com/Traffic%20Counts/index.html .)	
50,000 or greater:	20 points for each location
25,000 to 49,999:	15 points for each location
10,000 to 24,999:	10 points for each location
Less than 10,000:	5 points for each location

Access to Amenities

How many miles as driven, from each charging station location to primary amenities (e.g., public restrooms, indoor public seating, restaurants or fast food, convenience stores, other retail, etc.):

Onsite:	20 points for each location
Less than 1/2 mile:	15 points for each location
Between 1/2 mile to 1 mile:	10 points for each location
Greater than 1 mile:	5 points for each location

Equity Investment Eligible Communities

20 points for each charging station located in an area identified as an Equity Investment Eligible Community through the EIEC mapping tool at <https://arcg.is/1Wv4X>. To qualify for these EIEC points, a charging station location shall be in either an EJ community or an R3 community, or both.

Project Areas Not Previously Prioritized for IEPA Charging Rounds

5 points for each charging station location **NOT LOCATED** in the following counties/townships:

Chicagoland: Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will counties, Oswego Township in Kendall County and Aux Sable and Goose Lake townships in Grundy County

Metro East: Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair counties

Other: Champaign, DeKalb, LaSalle, McLean, Peoria, Sangamon, and Winnebago counties

Project Readiness

Note that build at-risk or pre-award costs may be allowed if the costs are incurred AFTER the publication of this NOFO and are directly in anticipation of receiving an award, where such costs are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the project. Such costs are allowable only to the extent they are eligible costs and would have been allowable if incurred after the date of an award. Reimbursement of pre-award costs may only occur post-award and post-execution of a grant agreement between the Illinois EPA and the applicant.

What is the status of securing a host agreement for each charging station? (If the owner is the applicant, mark "completed").

- Completed: 5 points for each location
- In Process: 3 points for each location
- Not Started: 0 points for each location

What is the status of securing a charging station for each charging station location?

- Completed: 5 points for each location
- In Process: 3 points for each location
- Not Started: 0 points for each location

What is the status of construction/installation of the charging station for each charging station location?

- Completed: 5 points for each location
- In Process: 3 points for each location
- Not Started: 0 points for each location

What is the estimated project completion timeline of the charging stations for each proposed charging station location?

- Completed: 5 points for each location
- In Process: 3 points for each location
- Not Started: 0 points for each location

Tiebreakers

If tiebreakers are needed in the event of limited remaining available funds, the following process will be utilized:

- As the first tiebreaker, the Illinois EPA will award the funds to the applicant with the greatest number of proposed charging station locations in Equity Investment Eligible Communities.
- If projects are still tied after the first tiebreaker, the Illinois EPA will award the funds to the application receiving the highest score under “Distance to Other DCFE Sites.”
- If projects are still tied after the second tiebreaker, the Illinois EPA will award the funds to the application first received according to the date and time stamp of the application.

Agency Review and Error Correction

If the Illinois EPA determines that an applicant incorrectly calculated or indicated the project cost, applicant cost-share, and/or total funding request based on the applicable cost estimate, required cost shares, or eligible costs, and the Agency can correct the error, that error will not adversely affect completeness. If the applicant is awarded a grant, the Agency will contact the applicant and request a decision from the applicant as to whether it will accept the award based on the Agency’s determination of the project cost, applicant cost-share, and/or total funding requested.

Any eligible applicants not funded may be eligible to re-apply in future funding rounds. Illinois EPA staff will be responsible for evaluating applications.

3. Appeal Process

A merit-based evaluation appeal process is available to applicants, but appeals are limited to the evaluation process. Evaluation scores may not be protested. An appeal must be submitted in writing to the following address:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Attn: Driving a Cleaner Illinois Program
1021 N. Grand Avenue East, # 40
PO Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

Appeals must be received within 14 calendar days after the date that the grant award notice has been published by the Illinois EPA to grants.illinois.gov. The written appeal should include at a minimum the following: the name and address of the appealing party, identification of the grant, and a statement of reasons for the appeal. The Agency will acknowledge receipt of an appeal within 14 calendar days from the date the appeal was received. When an appeal is received, the execution of all grant agreements that the Illinois EPA intends to make under this NOFO shall be stayed until the appeal is resolved, unless the Illinois EPA determines the needs of the State require moving forward with execution of the grant agreements. The State need determination and rationale shall be documented in writing.

The Agency will respond to the appeal within 60 days or supply a written explanation to the appealing party as to why additional time is required. The appealing party must supply any additional information requested by the Illinois EPA within the time period set in the request. The Illinois EPA will resolve the appeal by means of written determination, which shall include, but not be limited to, review of the appeal, appeal determination, and rationale for the determination.

4. Anticipated Announcement and State Award Dates, if applicable:

Anticipated Date	Illinois EPA Action
February 2024	Send a Notice of State Award to selected applicants for signature
March 2024	Send a grant agreement to selected applicants for signature
May 2024	Provide a fully executed grant agreement to the grant recipient

F. Award Administration Information

1. State Award Notices

Successful applicants will receive a Notice of State Award (NOSA) which specifies the funding terms and specific conditions resulting from the pre-award risk assessments. The NOSA will be provided and must be accepted through the Grantee Portal. The NOSA is not authorization to begin performance or incur costs.

Once all the final requirements have been completed, the Grant Agreement between the Illinois EPA and the applicant will be sent to the applicant for signature. This must be returned within two weeks of receipt. Once the agreement is fully executed by the Agency, a copy will be returned to the applicant.

The State of Illinois is not obligated to make an award as a result of this NOFO.

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

ILLINOIS PREVAILING WAGE ACT; 820 ILCS 130/: The Illinois Prevailing Wage Act requires the payment of prevailing wages for all construction funded in whole or in part with State funds, including funds passed through to private firms. Grantees shall comply with all requirements of the Prevailing Wage Act, including but not limited to, inserting into all contracts for construction a stipulation to the effect that not less than the prevailing rate of wages as applicable to the project shall be paid to all laborers, workers, and mechanics performing work under the award and requiring all bonds of contractors to include a provision as will guarantee the faithful performance of such prevailing wage clause as provided by contract. Grantees will be required to report on Prevailing Wage Act compliance. If your project involves construction and/or equipment installation, go to <https://www2.illinois.gov/idol/Laws-Rules/CONMED/Pages/prevailing-wage-act.aspx> for more information.

ILLINOIS WORKS JOBS PROGRAM ACT; 30 ILCS 559/: Grantees must comply with requirements in the Illinois Works Jobs Program Act. For grants with an estimated total project cost of \$500,000 or more, the grantee will be required to comply with the Illinois Works Apprenticeship Initiative; 30 ILCS 559/20-20 to 559/20-25 and all applicable administrative rules. The “estimated total project cost” is a good faith approximation, at the time an applicant submits a grant application, of the costs of an entire project being paid for in whole or in part by appropriated capital funds to construct a public work. The goal of the Illinois Works Apprenticeship Initiative is that apprentices will perform either 10% of the total labor hours actually worked in each prevailing wage classification or 10% of the estimated labor hours in each prevailing wage classification, whichever is less. Grantees will be permitted to seek a waiver or reduction of this goal in certain circumstances pursuant to 30 ILCS 559/20-20(b). The grantee must ensure compliance for the life of the entire project, including during the term of the grant and after the term ends, if applicable, and will be required to report on and certify its compliance.

3. Reporting

The Uniform Periodic Performance Report (PPR) and the Uniform Periodic Financial Report (PFR) are required at a minimum on a quarterly basis. Quarterly reporting will be required unless more frequent reporting is required pursuant to specific award conditions.

These reports will describe the expenditure(s) of the funds and performance measures related thereto. The first PPR and PFR report shall cover the first three months after the Award begins. Quarterly reports must be submitted no later than 30 calendar days following the three-month period covered by the report. Failure to submit the required PPR and PFR report may cause a delay or suspension of funding.

Reporting Pre-Project Completion

As part of the grant agreement, all grantees will be required to submit quarterly reports (unless otherwise specified in the grant agreement) to the Illinois EPA describing the progress of the projects and costs incurred. Quarterly reports will be due by January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15 for the prior quarter. At a minimum, grantees must report the status of the project, including dates of specific tasks completed during the reporting period and tasks that remain to be completed, specific costs incurred and paid by the grantee during the reporting period, and projected date of project completion. Grantees will also be required to submit a close-out report including task completion with dates and costs incurred with supporting information.

Annual Certification and Reporting Post Project Completion

After the project is completed, the grantee is to provide annual certification and usage reports for a minimum of five years from its initial in-service date, unless otherwise agreed by the Illinois EPA. The grantee is to certify each year from the initial in-service anniversary date that the charging station is still operating. The certification and usage reports shall include the following for each charging station site for the previous 12 months:

- Location: Applicant name, charging station with address, city, county, zip code
- Percentage of operational uptime
- Number of charge events
- Average charge time per vehicle in minutes
- Average kW per charge
- Total kW delivered

G. State Awarding Agency Contact(s)

Daniel Olson, EPA.EVCharging@illinois.gov

H. Other Information

Certifications and Assurances:

I. Certifications

1. **Bribery:** Applicant certifies that it has not been convicted of bribery or attempting to bribe an officer or employee of the State of Illinois, nor made an admission of guilt of such conduct which is a matter of record (30 ILCS 500/50-5).
2. **Bid Rigging:** Applicant certifies that it has not been barred from contracting with a unit of State or local government as a result of a violation of Paragraph 33E-3 or 33E-4 of the Criminal Code of 1961 (720 ILCS 5/33E-3 or 720 ILCS 5/33E-4, respectively).
3. **Debt to State:** Applicant certifies that neither it, nor its affiliate(s), is/are barred from receiving an Award because Applicant, or its affiliate(s), is/are delinquent in the payment of any debt to the State, unless Applicant, or its affiliate(s), has/have entered into a deferred payment plan to pay off the debt, and Applicant acknowledges Grantor may declare the Agreement void if the certification is false (30 ILCS 500/50-11).
4. **Internal Revenue Code Compliance:** Applicant certifies that it does and will comply with all provisions of the Federal Internal Revenue Code (26 USC 1), the Illinois Revenue Act (35 ILCS 5), and all rules promulgated thereunder, including withholding provisions and timely deposits of employee taxes and unemployment insurance taxes.
5. **Lobbying:** Applicant certifies that it has not paid prior grant funds, or upon receiving an Award and Grant Agreement, will not be paying Grant Funds by or on behalf of Applicant to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any government agency, a member of Congress or Illinois General Assembly, an officer or employee of Congress or Illinois General Assembly, or an employee of a member of Congress or Illinois General Assembly in connection with the awarding of any agreement, the making of any grant, the making of any loan, the entering into of any cooperative or intergovernmental agreement, or the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment or modification of any agreement, grant, loan or cooperative or intergovernmental agreement. 31 USC 1352. Additionally, Applicant certifies that it has filed the required certification under the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 USC 1352), if applicable.
 - i. **Federal Form LLL:** If any funds, other than Federally appropriated funds, were paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence any of the above persons in connection with a Uniform Application for State Grant Assistance and subsequent Award and Agreement, the undersigned must also complete and submit Federal Form LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities Form, in accordance with its instructions.
 - ii. **Lobbying Costs:** Applicant certifies that it is in compliance with the restrictions on lobbying set forth in 2 CFR Part 200.450. For any Indirect Costs associated with a Grant Agreement pursuant to an Award, total lobbying

costs shall be separately identified in the Program Budget, and thereafter treated as other Unallowable Costs.

- iii. **Procurement Lobbying:** Applicant warrants and certifies that it and, to the best of its knowledge, its sub-grantees, if Applicant intends to use sub-grantees upon issuance of an Award and subsequent Grant Agreement, have complied and will comply with Executive Order No. 1 (2007) (EO 1-2007). EO 1-2007 generally prohibits Grantees and subcontractors from hiring the then-serving Governor's family members to lobby procurement activities of the State, or any other unit of government in Illinois including local governments, if that procurement may result in a contract valued at over \$25,000. This prohibition also applies to hiring for that same purpose any former State employee who had procurement authority at any time during the one-year period preceding the procurement lobbying activity.
 - iv. **Sub-awards:** If Applicant is issued an Award and subsequent, Grant Agreement, and intends to utilize sub-Grantees, Applicant certifies it will include the language of this certification in the award documents for any sub-awards made pursuant to this Award at all tiers. All sub-awardees are also subject to certification and disclosure. Pursuant to Appendix II(I) to 2 CFR Part 200, Applicant shall forward all disclosures by contractors regarding this certification to Grantor.
6. **Educational Loan:** Applicant certifies that it is not barred from receiving State awards or agreements as a result of default on an educational loan (5 ILCS 385/1 *et seq.*).
 7. **International Boycott:** Applicant certifies that neither it nor any substantially owned affiliated company is participating or shall participate in an international boycott in violation of the provision of the U.S. Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 USC Appendix 2401 *et seq.* or the regulations of the U.S. Department of Commerce promulgated under that Act (15 CFR Parts 730 through 774).
 8. **Dues and Fees to a Discriminatory Club:** Applicant certifies that it is not prohibited from receiving an Award because it pays dues or fees on behalf of its employees or agents, or subsidizes or otherwise reimburses them for payment of their dues or fees to any club which unlawfully discriminates (775 ILCS 25/1 *et seq.*).
 9. **Pro-Children Act:** Applicant certifies that it is in compliance with the Pro-Children Act of 2001 in that it prohibits smoking in any portion of its facility used for the provision of health, day care, early childhood development services, education or library services to children under the age of eighteen (18), which services are supported by Federal or State government assistance (except such portions of the facilities which are used for inpatient substance abuse treatment) (20 USC 7181-7184).
 10. **Drug-Free Workplace:** If Applicant is not an individual, Applicant certifies it will provide a drug free workplace pursuant to the Drug Free Workplace Act. 30 ILCS 580/3. If Applicant is an individual and the Award applied for is valued at more than \$5,000, Applicant certifies it shall not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance during the performance of the Agreement. 30 ILCS 580/4. Applicant further certifies that it is in compliance with the government-wide requirements for a drug-free workplace as set forth in 41 USC 8102.
 11. **Motor Voter Law:** Applicant certifies that it is in full compliance with the terms and provisions of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 USC 20501 *et seq.*).
 12. **Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act:** Applicant certifies that it is in compliance with all applicable standards, order or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 USC §7401 *et seq.*) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended (33 USC §1251 *et seq.*).
 13. **Debarment:** Applicant certifies that it is not debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this Agreement by any Federal department or agency (45 CFR Part 76), or by the State (See 30 ILCS 708/25(6)(G)).
 14. **Non-procurement Debarment and Suspension:** Applicant certifies that it is in compliance with Subpart C of 2 CFR Part 180 as supplemented by 2 CFR Part 376, Subpart C.
 15. **Grant for the Construction of Fixed Works:** Applicant certifies that all Programs for the construction of fixed works which are financed in whole or in part with funds provided by this Notice of Funding Opportunity shall be subject to the Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/0.01 *et seq.*) unless the provisions of that Act exempt its application. In the construction of the Program, Applicant shall comply with the requirements of the Prevailing Wage Act including, but not limited to, inserting into all contracts for such construction a stipulation to the effect that not less than the prevailing rate of wages as applicable to the Program shall be paid to all laborers, workers, and mechanics

performing work under the Award and requiring all bonds of contractors to include a provision as will guarantee the faithful performance of such prevailing wage clause as provided by contract.

16. **Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act:** Applicant certifies that it is in compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), Public Law No. 104-191, 45 CFR Parts 160, 162 and 164, and the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1320d-2 through 1320d-7, in that it may not use or disclose protected health information other than as permitted or required by law and agrees to use appropriate safeguards to prevent use or disclosure of the protected health information. Applicant shall maintain, for a minimum of six (6) years, all protected health information.
17. **Criminal Convictions:** Applicant certifies that neither it nor any officer, director, partner or other managerial agent of Applicant has been convicted of a felony under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, nor a Class 3 or Class 2 felony under Illinois Securities Law of 1953, or that at least five (5) years have passed since the date of the conviction. Applicant further certifies that it is not barred from receiving an Award under 30 ILCS 500/50-10.5, and acknowledges that Grantor shall declare the Award and subsequent Grant Agreement void if this certification is false (30 ILCS 500/50-10.5).
18. **Forced Labor Act:** Applicant certifies that it complies with the State Prohibition of Goods from Forced Labor Act, and certifies that, if it receives an Award and subsequent Grant Agreement, no foreign-made equipment, materials, or supplies furnished to the State under the Agreement have been or will be produced in whole or in part by forced labor, convict labor, or indentured labor under penal sanction (30 ILCS 583).
19. **Illinois Use Tax:** Applicant certifies in accordance with 30 ILCS 500/50-12 that it is not barred from receiving an Award under this Paragraph. Applicant acknowledges that the Award and subsequent Grant Agreement may be declared void if this certification is false.
20. **Environmental Protection Act Violations:** Applicant certifies in accordance with 30 ILCS 500/50-14 that it is not barred from receiving an Award. Grantee acknowledges that the Award and subsequent Grant Agreement may be declared void if this certification is false.
21. **Goods from Child Labor Act:** Applicant certifies that no foreign-made equipment, materials, or supplies furnished to the State under a Grant Agreement executed pursuant to an Award have been or will be produced in whole or in part by the labor of any child under the age of twelve (12) (30 ILCS 584).
22. **Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006:** Applicant certifies that it is in compliance with the terms and requirements of 31 USC 6101. Applicant further certifies it does and will comply with the reporting requirements of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-282) (FFATA) with respect to Federal Awards greater than or equal to \$30,000. A FFATA sub-award report must be filed by the end of the month following the month in which the award was made.
23. **Compliance with Uniform Grant Rules (2 CFR Part 200):** Applicant certifies that it shall adhere to the applicable Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements, which are published in Title 2, Part 200 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and are incorporated herein by reference. See 44 Ill. Admin. Code 7000.30(b)(1)(A).
24. **Compliance with Non-Discrimination Laws:** Applicant, its employees and subcontractors under subcontract made pursuant to an Award and subsequent Grant Agreement, certifies that it shall comply with all applicable provisions of State and Federal laws and regulations pertaining to nondiscrimination, sexual harassment and equal employment opportunity including, but not limited to, the following laws and regulations and all subsequent amendments thereto:
 - (a) The Illinois Human Rights Act (775 ILCS 5/1-101 *et seq.*), including, without limitation, 44 Illinois Administrative Code Part 750, which is incorporated herein;
 - (b) The Public Works Employment Discrimination Act (775 ILCS 10/1 *et seq.*);
 - (c) The United States Civil Rights Act of 1964 (as amended) (42 USC 2000a- and 2000h-6). (*See also* guidelines to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons [Federal Register: February 18, 2002 (Volume 67, Number 13, Pages 2671-2685)]);

- (d) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 794);
- (e) The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC 12101 *et seq.*); and
- (f) The Age Discrimination Act (42 USC 6101 *et seq.*).

II. Assurances

1. **Applicant Standing and Authority:** Applicant assures it is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State in which it was incorporated or organized and that it has the requisite power and authority to:
 - i. Execute and deliver the Uniform Application for State Grant Assistance on behalf of the Applicant.
 - ii. Execute and file the required certifications, assurances, Intergovernmental Agreements and Grant Agreements on behalf of the Applicant binding the Applicant.
 - iii. Execute Grant Agreements, Intergovernmental Agreements, and all other documents to be executed by Applicant in connection with the Award and subsequent Agreement with Grantor on behalf of the Applicant.
 - iv. Upon receiving an award and subsequent Intergovernmental Agreement or Grant Agreement, perform its obligations hereunder and to consummate the transactions contemplated within the Agreement.
 - v. If Applicant is organized under the laws of another jurisdiction, Applicant warrants that it is also duly qualified to do business in Illinois and, if applicable, is in good standing with the Illinois Secretary of State.
2. **General Assurances:**
 - i. Applicant assures it will comply with all applicable State, Federal and local laws, and State administrative regulations in carrying out any project supported by a State of Illinois Grant Agreement or Intergovernmental Agreement, and any and all license requirements or professional certification provisions.
 - ii. Applicant agrees that it is under a continuing obligation to comply with the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement or Intergovernmental Agreement with Grantor issued for its project.
 - iii. Where applicable, Applicant assures it will comply with applicable State and Federal statutes, Federal regulations and Grantor administrative rules regarding confidential records and other information obtained by Applicant concerning persons served under an Intergovernmental Agreement or Grant Agreement. The records and information shall be protected by Applicant from unauthorized disclosure.
 - iv. Applicant recognizes that Federal and State laws and regulations may be modified from time to time, and those modifications may affect project implementation. The Applicant understands that Presidential executive orders, executive orders from the Office of the Governor, Federal and State directives, including policies and program guidance may be issued concerning matters affecting the Applicant or the project.
 - v. The Applicant agrees that the most recent Federal and State laws, regulations, and directives will apply to the project, unless Grantor issues a written determination otherwise.
3. **Registration Assurance:** Applicant assures it and any sub-grantees it might intend to utilize shall:
 - i. be registered with the Federal SAM.
 - ii. be in good standing with the Illinois Secretary of State, if applicable; and
 - iii. have a valid UEI.

Applicant understands its responsibility to remain current with these registrations and requirements. If Applicant's status with regard to any of these requirements change, or the certifications made in and information provided in the Uniform Application for State Grant Assistance changes, Applicant must notify the Grantor.
4. **Gift Ban Assurance:** Applicant understands it is prohibited from giving gifts to State employees and assures it will not give any gifts pursuant to Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/10-10) and Executive Order 15-09.
5. **Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Assurance:** Applicant assures that upon request, Applicant shall make available to Grantor all documents in its possession that Grantor deems necessary to comply with requests made under the Freedom of Information Act. (5 ILCS 140/7(2)).