



Industrial Assessment Centers (IAC) Implementation Grants Program

Since 1976, the Industrial Assessment Centers (IACs) program has helped small- and medium-sized manufacturers (SMMs) save energy, improve productivity, and reduce waste by providing no-cost technical assessments conducted by university-based teams of energy-savvy engineering students and faculty. Currently, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) supports IACs at 37 four-year institutions of higher education across the nation.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) invests \$550 million to expand the IAC Program in support of the Biden Administration's goals of reducing industrial emissions, creating pathways to high-quality jobs, a skilled manufacturing workforce, and enhancing U.S. manufacturing competitiveness in a net-zero economy.

Grant Awards Overview

The IAC Implementation Grants Program will provide **up to \$400 million in grants**, funded by section 40521 of BIL, to SMMs to implement recommendations made in IAC or Combined Heat & Power Technical Assistance Partnership (CHP TAP) – including what are now called “Onsite Energy TAP” assessments. The program is also qualifying assessments from third-party assessors as “IAC-equivalent” so that recipients of those assessments can be eligible for implementation grants (see below).

Grant awards are up to \$300,000 per manufacturer (covering one or multiple projects), at a 50% cost share (i.e. if a project costs \$50,000, an implementation grant can cover up to \$25,000).

IAC Implementation Grants Program Process



*DOE cannot guarantee that third-party assessments will be free

Eligibility

To be eligible, SMMs must have had an energy assessment completed by:

- An Industrial Assessment Center (IAC),
- A CHP TAP (now called Onsite Energy TAPs), or
- A third-party assessor that provides an assessment equivalent to an IAC or CHP TAP assessment (as qualified by DOE).

An SMM is defined as a manufacturer, including water and wastewater treatment facilities, with the following characteristics either in either the most recently completed fiscal year OR in the year the assessment was conducted (if different):

- Gross annual sales less than \$100,000,000;
- Under 500 employees at the facility site; and
- Annual energy bills of more than \$100,000 but less than \$3,500,000.

An applicant is defined as a distinct entity for purposes of this program if it pays taxes independently in the U.S., even if it is a wholly owned subsidiary of a larger corporation. Covered projects include improvements to site energy and/or material efficiency, cybersecurity infrastructure, productivity and/or reductions to site waste generation and greenhouse gas emissions and/or non-greenhouse gas pollution.

Read More About the Implementation Grants



Apply for an IAC Assessment





Map of the 37 IAC centers (and their satellite partner centers) at four-year institutes of higher education. For contact details, see <https://www.energy.gov/mesc/locations-industrial-assessment-centers>

Qualified Third-Party Assessors

In addition to the IACs (as displayed in the above map) and CHP TAPs/Onsite Energy TAPs, these third-party assessors have been qualified as IAC-equivalent by DOE:*

- Alternative Energy Systems Consulting, Inc.
- Cascade Energy
- CLEAResult
- eSai LLC
- Go Sustainable Energy, LLC
- Michaels Energy
- New York State Energy Research and Development Authority – FlexTech Program
- North Carolina Advanced Energy Corporation
- Pennsylvania Technical Assistance Program (PennTAP)
- Utah DEU StepWise Program

SMMs clients of any of the above entities may be eligible for IAC grant funding. **Other assessors that conduct comprehensive facility energy assessments can also apply through the IAC grant program to be deemed**

*Pending final Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs)

IAC-equivalent so that their assessment project recommendations are eligible for grant funding.

When to Apply

The IAC grant program operates on a rolling basis.

Applications may be submitted at any time throughout the year as funds are available and will be reviewed quarterly after the following deadlines:

- December 31, 2023
- March 31, 2024
- June 30, 2024
- September 30, 2024

How to Apply

In contrast to traditional DOE funding opportunities, the IAC grant programs works through a Partnership Intermediary Agreement, called ENERGYWERX, resulting in a **very simple and straightforward application form and process** via Submittable.

Applications from manufacturers for implementation grant funding simply require general information about the applicant entity and facility of interest, an uploaded eligible energy assessment report, and a few paragraphs of answers to questions about the project details. Applications from assessors seeking to be qualified as IAC-equivalent need only provide general information, a short project narrative, and example assessment reports. Qualified assessors also will need to agree to a memorandum of understanding with terms of the qualification (e.g., commitments to being vendor-agnostic in recommendations and gathering client implementation data).

DOE will hold monthly Office Hour webinars to provide short overviews of the program and answer questions.

To learn more about the IAC Implementation Grant program – including FAQs – and to apply, visit:
<https://www.energywerx.org/opportunities/iac-round-2>

If you have any questions about the application process, please email: info@energywerx.org

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