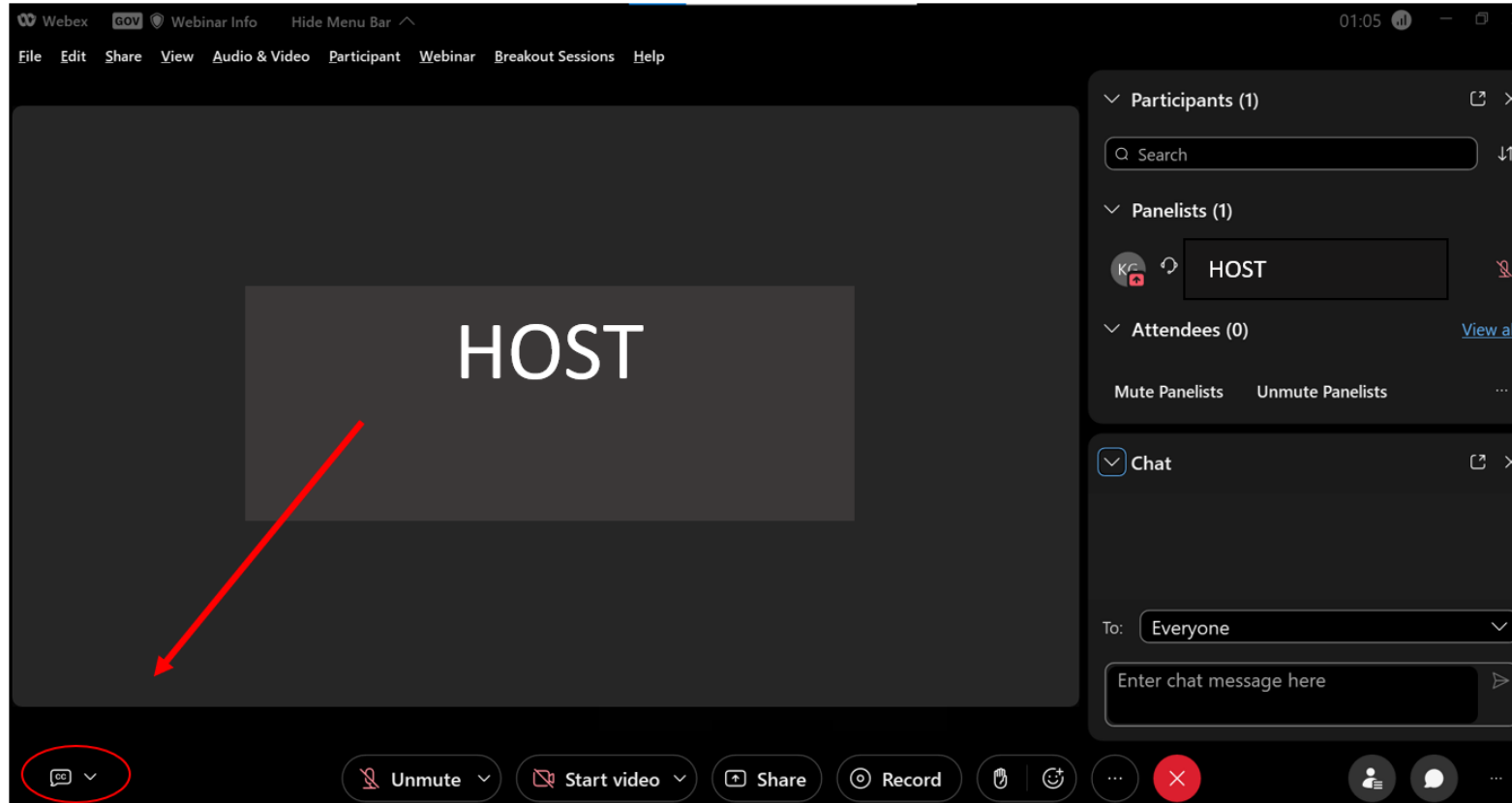


# Welcome

If you'd like to view closed captioning for this webinar you can turn it on in the bottom left of the Webex app screen.



# Welcome

**This webinar is being recorded and will be published on the Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange website**

This Webinar will be held “blind”.

There will not be opportunity to connect to DOE personnel or other Applicants via voice or video conferencing.

All prospective Applicants that have general FOA questions, or questions during this Webinar, are directed to send them to the FOA Q&A email address found here: [FOA2969@netl.doe.gov](mailto:FOA2969@netl.doe.gov)

All questions will be scrubbed for anonymity and be published publicly to Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange, typically within 3 business days.





# MESC

OFFICE OF MANUFACTURING AND ENERGY SUPPLY CHAINS

## Bipartisan Infrastructure Law State Manufacturing Leadership Program (Section 40534)

DE-FOA-0002969

[FOA2969@netl.doe.gov](mailto:FOA2969@netl.doe.gov)

FOA Webinar  
April 6, 2023



# Notice

- NO NEW INFORMATION OTHER THAN THAT PROVIDED IN THE FOA WILL BE DISCUSSED IN THE WEBINAR.
- There are no particular advantages or disadvantages to the application evaluation process with respect to participating on the webinar today.
- Your participation is completely voluntary.
- All applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully read the Funding Opportunity Announcement DE-FOA-0002969 (**FOA**) and adhere to the stated submission requirements.
- This presentation summarizes the contents of the FOA. If there are any inconsistencies between the FOA and this presentation or statements from DOE personnel, the FOA is the controlling document and applicants should rely on the FOA language.



Anticipated Schedule:

FOA Issue Date:	03/31/2023
Submission Deadline for Full Applications:	05/30/2023
Submission Deadline for Replies to Reviewer Comments:	06/30/2023
Expected Timeframe for DOE Selection Notifications:	August 2023
Expected Timeframe for Award Negotiations:	Sept – Dec 2023



# Agenda

- FOA Description
- Eligibility
- Topic Areas
- Partnering
- Award Information
- Statement of Substantial Involvement
- Cost Sharing
- FOA Timeline
- Full Applications
- Community Benefits
- Merit Review and Selection Process
- Registration Requirements



# FOA Description

DOE's Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains (MESC) is issuing this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA). The activities to be funded under this FOA support BIL Section 40534 and the broader government-wide approach to:

- Reinvigorate and reinvest in the American industrial base;
- Catalyze American leadership and global competitiveness in the clean energy economy; and
- Investing in the American manufacturing workforce.



# Eligibility

- Only States, as outlined in the BIL Section 40534 statute, are eligible as prime applicants to this Funding Opportunity Announcement.
- In accordance with 2 CFR 200.1, “State means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, U.S Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and any agency of instrumentality thereof exclusive of local governments.”
- Only one application can be submitted per State.





# Topic Area

Consistent with BIL 40534, there is one single Topic Area under this FOA, which is to:

“Support State programs that (1) provide assistance to small to medium sized manufacturers (SMMs) to implement smart manufacturing technologies and practices and (2) facilitate access to high-performance computing (HPC) resources for SMMs”.

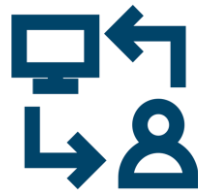


# Topic Area Continued...

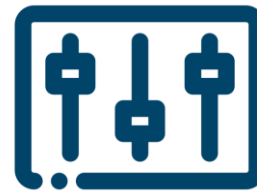
**Smart Manufacturing:** the use of emerging and advanced technologies to increase the efficiency of traditional manufacturing processes, resulting in fully-integrated, collaborative manufacturing systems that respond in real time.



Sensors  
Controllers



Digital Prototyping  
Network  
Hardware



Machine Learning  
Additive  
Manufacturing



**High Performance Computing (HPC):** the use of supercomputers, sophisticated models, and/or large data sets to study and solve complex scientific and technological challenges.



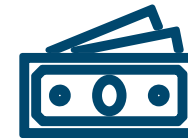
Safer design  
testing



Faster error  
detection



Fewer rejected  
parts



Lower product  
costs



Greater  
competitiveness



**MESCC**  
OFFICE OF MANUFACTURING AND ENERGY SUPPLY CHAINS

# Partnering

- DOE is compiling a “Teaming Partner List” to facilitate the formation of new project teams for this FOA
- The list allows organizations who may wish to participate on an application to express their interest to other applicants and to explore potential partnerships
- Updates to the Teaming Partner List will be available on the Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange website
- Interested parties should:
  - complete the Teaming List Form available on the Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange website at <https://infrastructure-exchange.energy.gov/>, and
  - email the completed form to [FOA2969@netl.doe.gov](mailto:FOA2969@netl.doe.gov), with the subject line “Teaming Partner Information.
- Information in the Teaming List Form includes: Organization Name, Contact Name, Contact Address, Contact Email, Contact Phone, Organization Type, Area of Technical Expertise, and a Brief Description of Capabilities.



# Non-Responsive Applications

The following types of applications will be deemed nonresponsive and will not be reviewed or considered for an award:

- Applications that fall outside the parameters specified in Sections I.A. and I.B. of the FOA.
- Applications seeking to fund construction activities such as the expansion or modification of a facility.



# Award Information

Topic Area Number	Topic Area Title	Anticipated Number of Awards	Anticipated Minimum Award Size for Any One Individual Award (Fed Share)	*Maximum Award Size for Any One Individual Award (Fed Share)	Approximate Total Federal Funding Available for All Awards	**Maximum Period of Performance (months)
1	Facilitating the Deployment of Smart Manufacturing Technologies by SMMs	20-25	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$46,000,000	Up to 36 months

\*\*The project period cannot exceed 36 months and projects cannot be extended per statute.



# Statement of Substantial Involvement

MESC has substantial involvement in work performed under awards made as a result of this FOA, including in the direction and redirection of the technical aspects of the project as a whole.

Substantial involvement includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- MESC shares responsibility with the recipient for the management, control, direction, and performance of the project.
- MESC may intervene in the conduct or performance of work under this award for programmatic reasons. Intervention includes the interruption or modification of the conduct or performance of project activities.
- DOE may redirect or discontinue funding the project based on the outcome of DOE's evaluation of the project at the Go/No-Go decision point(s).
- DOE participates in major project decision-making processes.

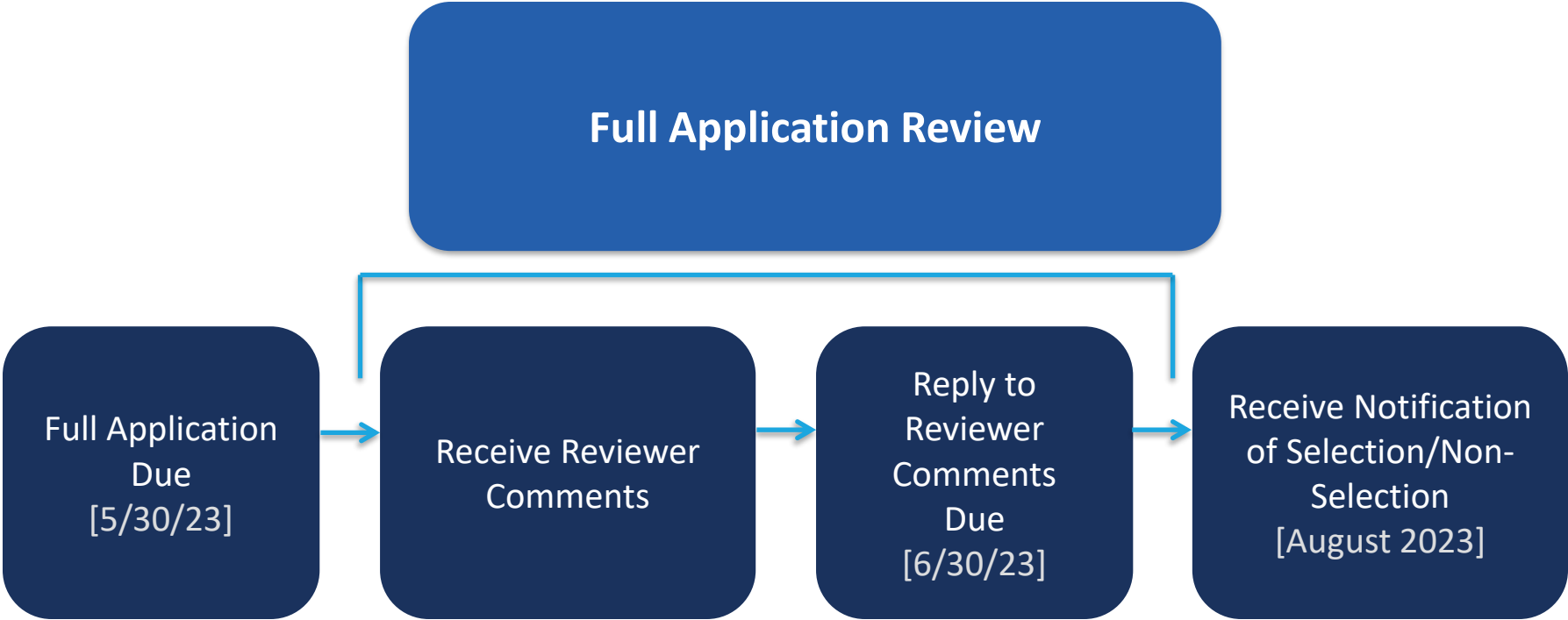


# Cost Matching Requirements

- Applicants are bound by the cost match proposed in their Full Applications if selected for award negotiations
- The cost match must be at least 30% of the total Federal Funds allocated
- The cost match must come from non-federal sources unless otherwise allowed by law
- Cost match may come from project participants, state or local governments or other third-party financing
- Federal financing, such as DOE Loan Guarantees, cannot be leveraged by applicants to provide the required cost match or to otherwise cover the same scope that is proposed in response to this FOA.



# FOA Timeline



MESC anticipates project negotiations during  
September to December 2023





# Full Applications

The Full Application includes:

- **Technical Volume**
- **Community Benefits Plan: Job Quality and Equity**
- **Resumes**
- **Letters of Commitment**
- **SF-424 and Budget Justification Workbook**
- **Summary for Public Release**
- **Summary Slides**
- **Locations of Work**
- **Foreign Entity Waiver Request**
- **Environmental Questionnaire**
- **Potentially Duplicative Funding Notice, if applicable**
- **Administrative Documents:** e.g., subrecipient budgets, FFRDC (Federally Funded Research and Development Center) Authorization (if applicable), Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, etc.



# Full Applications: Content of Technical Volume

## Technical Volume: The key technical component of the Full Application

Content of Technical Volume – 20 pages (max) inclusive of SOPO
Cover Page
Project Overview
Project Design and Impact
Workplan
Project Team and Resources

A SOPO template is available on the Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange website at <https://infrastructure-exchange.energy.gov/>.



# Full Application Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must submit a Full Application by 05/30/2023.
- Full Applications are eligible for review if:
  - The Applicant is an eligible entity Section III.A of FOA;
  - The Full Application is compliant Section III.C of FOA;
  - The proposed project is responsive to the FOA Section III.D of FOA; and
  - The Full Application meets any other eligibility requirements listed in Section III of the FOA.



# Community Benefits Plan

- Should set forth the applicant's intention to engage with labor and community stakeholders to advance the following goals:
  - Community and Labor Engagement
  - Investing in job quality and workforce continuity
  - Advancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA)
  - Contributing to the Justice40 Initiative
- Must include at least one Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Timely (SMART) milestone per budget period.
- Must not exceed twelve pages



# Merit Review and Selection Process

- The Merit Review process consists of multiple phases that each include an eligibility review and a technical review.
- Technical reviews are conducted by reviewers that are experts in the subject matter of the FOA.
- Ultimately, the Selection Official considers the recommendations of the reviewers, along with other considerations such as program policy factors, to make the selection decisions.



# Technical Merit Review Criteria

## Criterion 1: Technical Merit, Innovation, and Impact (40%)

This criterion involves consideration of the following factors:

- Effectiveness of the proposed organizational plan for achieving Program goals, objectives, and responsibilities;
- The extent to which the proposed project has identified and address gaps in services to advance the state's manufacturing sector and improve competitiveness of the manufacturing base, as shown through the applicant's thoroughness in the approach.
- To the degree to which the task descriptions are clear, detailed, timely, and reasonable, resulting in a high likelihood that the proposed project scope will succeed in meeting the project goals.
- The potential impact the project contributes to job and economic growth within the state and by individual SMMs.
- To the degree to which the project would strengthen the competitiveness of domestic manufacturing and translate into increased long-term manufacturing and employment in the United States and contribute to the BIL goals.
- To the degree and effectiveness to which the proposed plan includes a statewide engagement of small- and medium-sized manufacturers – as well as with key local, regional, statewide, and national resources – to appropriately design a plan for meeting their needs and engage them in implementation of the project.



# Technical Merit Review Criteria (Continued)

## Criterion 1: Technical Merit, Innovation, and Impact (40%)

This criterion involves consideration of the following factors:

- To the degree to which applicant thoroughly describes the types of agreements the applicant will pursue with manufacturing resource providers, workforce development programs, community organizations, and/or Labor organizations.
- To the degree to which applicant leverages existing resources, including local, regional, statewide, national resources, or academic, and private sector partners with demonstrated expertise in smart manufacturing technologies and technical assistance for deploying them.
- To the level of participation by project participants as evidenced by letter(s) of commitment and how well they are integrated into the project plan.
- To the level of industry involvement and demonstrated ability to accelerate the deployment of smart manufacturing technologies by small- and medium- manufacturers as result of this program.



# Technical Merit Review Criteria (Continued)

## Criterion 2: Project Workplan (30%)

This criterion involves consideration of the following factors:

- Demonstrated ability to identify and address gaps in services as shown through the applicant's approach to determining how best to deploy federal funding and utilize partners – including academic and private sector partners – to engage.
- To the degree to which the applicant clearly articulates task descriptions, and that they are detailed, timely, and reasonable, resulting in a high likelihood that the proposed Workplan and SOPO will succeed in meeting the project goals.
- The level of clarity in the definition of the baseline, metrics, and milestones.
- Degree to which the implementation plan for the proposed work correlates to the project timeline, deliverables, and milestones.
- Comprehensiveness of resource plan for exemplifying services to SMMs including, but not limited to, the scope of resources to be utilized, implementation timeline, facilities and infrastructure requirements, and services distribution.
- Identification of the interest and extent of industry adoption of the technologies and process.





# Technical Merit Review Criteria (Continued)

## Criterion 3: Community Benefits Plan: Job Quality and Equity (20%)

This criterion involves consideration of the following factors:

### Community and Labor Engagement

- Extent to which the applicant demonstrates community and labor engagement to date that results in support for the proposed project.
- Extent to which the applicant has a clear and appropriately robust plan to engage – ideally through a clear commitment to negotiate enforceable Workforce and Community Agreements with labor unions, Tribal entities, and community-based organizations that support or work with disadvantaged communities and other affected stakeholders.
- Extent to which the applicant demonstrates that community and labor engagement will lead to the delivery of high-quality jobs, minimal environmental impact, and allocation of project benefits to disadvantaged communities.

### Job Quality and Workforce Continuity

- Quality and manner in which the proposed project will create and/or retain high quality, good-paying jobs with employer-sponsored benefits for all classifications and phases of work.
- Extent to which applicant demonstrates that the involved SMMs are responsible employers, with ready access to a sufficient supply of appropriately skilled labor, and an effective plan to minimize the risk of labor disputes or disruptions.



# Technical Merit Review Criteria (Continued)

## Criterion 3: Community Benefits Plan: Job Quality and Equity (20%)

This criterion involves consideration of the following factors:

### Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

- The extent to which the Community Benefits Plan includes specific and high-quality actions to meet DEIA goals, which may include DEIA recruitment procedures, supplier diversity plans, and other DEIA initiatives; and
- Quality of any partnerships and agreements with apprenticeship readiness programs, or community-based workforce training and support organizations serving workers facing systematic barriers to employment to facilitate participation in the project's construction and operations.

### Justice40 Initiative

- Extent to which the Community Benefits Plan identifies: specific, measurable benefits for disadvantaged communities, how the benefits will flow to DACs, and how negative environmental impacts affecting disadvantaged communities would be mitigated; and
- Extent to which the project would contribute to meeting the objective that 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments will flow to disadvantaged communities.



# Technical Merit Review Criteria (Continued)

## Criterion 4: Community Benefits Plan: Project Team and Resources (10%)

This criterion involves consideration of the following factors:

- Qualifications of proposed project team including past experiences in fostering program partnerships with public and private entities, and implementing programs to support SMMs.
- Adequateness of facilities and resources that will be used to implement the project and fulfill the goals of the Program.
- The reasonableness of the budget and spend plan for the proposed project and objectives, extent of alternative funding sources for the project, and potential to sustain a project beyond federal funding.
- The capability of the Project Manager(s) and the proposed team to address all aspects of the proposed work with a high probability of success. The qualifications, relevant expertise, and time commitment of the individuals on the team.



# Replies to Reviewer Comments

- MESC provides applicants with reviewer comments.
- Applicants are not required to submit a Reply - it is optional.
- To be considered by MESC, a Reply must be submitted by 06/30/2023 at 5:00 pm ET and submitted through Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange.
- Content and form requirements:
  - The reply must not exceed three (3) pages. If a Reply is more than three (3) pages in length, DOE will review only the first three (3) pages and disregard any additional pages. Applications may use the Reply to respond to one or more comments or to supplement their Full Application. The Reply may include text, graphs, charts, or data.



# Selection Factors

The Selection Official may consider the technical merit review, the Federal Consensus Board's recommendations, program policy factors, and the amount of funds available in arriving at selections of this FOA.



# Program Policy Factors

The Selection Official may consider the following program policy factors in determining which Full Applications to select for award negotiations:

- The degree to which the proposed project exhibits technical diversity when compared to the existing DOE project portfolio and other projects selected from the subject FOA.
- The degree to which the proposed project, including proposed cost match and when compared to the existing DOE project portfolio and other projects to be selected from the subject FOA, optimizes the use of available DOE funding to achieve programmatic objectives.
- The degree to which the project application advances efforts to build a clean and equitable energy economy that achieves a zero-carbon electricity system by 2035, and to put the United States on a path to achieve net-zero emissions economy-wide by no later than 2050.
- The degree to which the proposed project is likely to lead to increased high-quality employment and manufacturing in the United States.
- The degree to which the proposed project will accelerate transformational technological advances in areas that industry by itself is not likely to undertake because of technical and financial uncertainty; The degree to which the proposed project, or group of projects, represent a desired geographic distribution (considering past awards and current applications).



# Program Policy Factors (Continued)

The Selection Official may consider the following program policy factors in determining which Full Applications to select for award negotiations:

- The degree to which the proposed project incorporates applicant or team members from Minority Serving Institutions (e.g., Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)/Other Minority Serving Institutions); and partnerships with Minority Business Enterprises, Minority Owned Businesses, Woman Owned Businesses, Veteran Owned Businesses, or Tribal Nations.
- The degree to which the proposed project, when compared to the existing DOE project portfolio and other projects to be selected from the subject FOA, contributes to the total portfolio meeting the goals reflected in the Community Benefits Plan criteria.
- The degree to which the proposed project will employ procurement of U.S. iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials.



# Registration Requirements

- To apply to this FOA, Applicants must submit application materials through Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange:
  - Applicants must have a Login.gov account to access [Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange](#). Please ensure that the email address associated with Login.gov matches the email address associated with your eXCHANGE account.
- Obtain a “control number” at least 24 hours before the first submission deadline.
- Although not required to submit an Application, the following registrations must be complete to receive an award under this FOA:

Registration Requirement	Website
SAM	<a href="https://www.sam.gov">https://www.sam.gov</a>
FedConnect	<a href="https://www.fedconnect.net">https://www.fedconnect.net</a>
Grants.gov	<a href="http://www.grants.gov">http://www.grants.gov</a>





# Means of Submission

- Full Applications and Replies to Reviewer Comments must be submitted through Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange at <https://infrastructure-exchange.energy.gov>.
  - MESC will not review or consider applications submitted through other means.
- The Users' Guide for Applying to the Department of Energy MESC Funding Opportunity Announcements can be found at <https://infrastructure-exchange.energy.gov/Manuals.aspx>



# Key Submission Points

- Check entries in Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange.
  - Submissions could be deemed ineligible due to an incorrect entry.
- MESC strongly encourages Applicants to submit 1-2 days prior to the deadline to allow for full upload of application documents and to avoid any potential technical glitches with Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange.
- Make sure you hit the submit button.
  - Any changes made after you hit submit will un-submit your application and you will need to hit the submit button again.
- For your records, print out the Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange page at each step, which contains the application's Control Number.



# Applicant Points-of-Contact

- Applicants must designate primary and backup points-of-contact in Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange with whom MESC will communicate to conduct award negotiations.
- It is imperative that the Applicant/Selectee be responsive during award negotiations and meet negotiation deadlines.
  - Failure to do so may result in cancellation of further award negotiations and rescission of the Selection.



# Questions

- Questions about this FOA? Email [FOA2969@netl.doe.gov](mailto:FOA2969@netl.doe.gov)

All Q&As related to this FOA will be posted on Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange.

- You must select this specific FOA Number in order to view the Q&As.
  - MESC will attempt to respond to a question within 3 business days, unless a similar Q&A has already been posted on the website.
- Problems logging into Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange or uploading and submitting application documents with Clean Energy Infrastructure Exchange? Email [InfrastructureExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov](mailto:InfrastructureExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov)
    - Include FOA name and number in subject line.

