



INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

HOME ENERGY REBATES

Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program for Indian Tribes (Sec. 50122)

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and remain open until May 31, 2025

VERSION 2

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Modifications to this document are as follows and highlighted **yellow** in the text:

No.	Description of Modification	Location(s)
1	Adds additional resource reference	p.3
2	Provides a more detailed description of DOE's reporting tool	p.4
3	Deletes inapplicable reference from the definition of "Rebate Funds"	p.7
4	Expands the allowable activities related to delivery of rebates to include: travel expenses for qualified contractors associated with installing approved QEP installations and shipping costs for QEP products associated with approved rebate applications	p.8
5	Clarifies DOE's scope of technical assistance	p.10
6	Clarifies that the installation incentive structure is limited to a total of \$500 per dwelling unit	p.11, Section 3.1.5., Table 4
7	Provides for an exception when ENERGY STAR-certified products for multifamily buildings are not available	pp.11, 17-18
8	Provides a more accurate description of income eligibility for multifamily buildings	p.13
9	Clarifies to include duct sealing and insulation	p.19
10	Modifies Section "3.1.8.3. Program Evaluation" from a requirement to a recommendation	p.23
11	Deletes the existing requirement "3.1.2 Confirm that the Tribe will monitor contractor costs and ensure that costs are not artificially inflated compared with market averages, using technical assistance from DOE"	p.24, Table 4
12	Adds clarifying phrases to Table 4	Table 4
13	Modifies the required CPP elements for Tribes with a funding allocation below \$800,000	p.28, Table 5
14	Eliminates the requirement of utilizing an independent third-party to conduct post-installation inspections	pp. 28, 29, 30
15	Shifts proof of commissioning testing from required to recommended	p.29
16	Allows Tribes the opportunity to propose an alternative approach to ensuring the health and safety of the household receiving the upgrade upon DOE review and approval	pp.29, 46, Table 8
17	Rephrases CPP contractor requirements and consolidates questions to improve clarity and eliminate redundancy	p.30
18	Modifies CPP element on working with retailers, distributors, and other potential partners from a requirement into a recommendation	p.30
19	Updates reporting cadence requirement	pp.40, 49, 54
20	Corrects Table 7 "Project and Rebate Data to be Collected and Reported" to align with current program requirements	p.40, Table 7
21	This version makes clerical fixes, including reference corrections	

Table of Contents

1.0	Overview	1
1.1.	Introduction	2
1.2.	Implementation Blueprint and Technical Assistance	3
1.3.	Scope	4
1.4.	Legal Authority.....	5
1.5.	Overarching Goals.....	5
2.0	Definitions and Acronyms.....	5
2.1.	Definitions.....	5
2.2.	Acronyms	8
3.0	Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program	10
3.1.	Use of Funds and Rebate Eligibility	10
3.2.	Consumer Experience.....	27
4.0	Revisions and Guidance.....	31
4.1.	Revisions	31
4.2.	Guidance.....	31
5.0	Application Instructions.....	32
5.1.	Overview.....	32
5.2.	Application for Federal Assistance - Standard Form 424	33
5.3.	Budget.....	33
5.4.	Planned Activities.....	36
5.5.	Other Forms as Applicable.....	36
Appendix A.1: Explanation of Formula for Allocations to Tribes		37
Appendix A.2: Allocations to Indian Tribes.....		40
Appendix B: Data Requirements Guide		40
Data Collection & Reporting		40
Individual Project-Level Data Collection and Reporting Requirements		40
Program-Level Data Tracking & Reporting Requirements		49
Appendix C: Sample Letter of Intent to Apply.....		51
Appendix D: Recommended Best Practices		53
Community and Workforce Engagement Strategy.....		53
Maximizing Rebate Impact by Integrating with Other Programs		53

1.0 Overview

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), Pub. L. 117-169 (August 16, 2022), authorized the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to carry out two Home Energy Rebate programs. Specifically, IRA Section 50121 established the Home Efficiency Rebates, and IRA Section 50122 established the IRA Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (collectively, the [Home Energy Rebates](#)). Further, IRA authorized DOE to distribute \$225 million to Indian Tribes to design and implement a Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program under Section 50122.¹ The Program Requirements and Application Instructions apply only to this Tribal program, which benefits low-income and moderate-income households.

Table 1. IRA Home Energy Rebate Program

IRA Provision Number	Home Energy Rebates	Authorized Funds	Authorized Recipients
Section 50122	Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates	\$225,000,000.00	Indian Tribes

These funds will be made available to the authorized recipients through grants. Appendix A of this document provides the funding allocations for Indian Tribes. DOE developed the allocation formula based on feedback received through the Tribal consultation process.

DOE is responsible for providing oversight and guidance, and Indian Tribes² are responsible for the administration of rebate programs.

This document provides the **program requirements**, and general **application instructions** for the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program for Indian Tribes. Additional requirements are provided in the [Administrative and Legal Requirements Document \(ALRD\)](#).

Deadlines:

- Letter of Intent to Apply: Recommended by May 15, 2024
- Application: Must be submitted by, and reviewed on a rolling basis until, May 31, 2025

PRE-APPLICATION STEP: LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY

As the first step, if interested in applying for these funds, Indian Tribes are asked to submit a Letter of Intent to Apply (example provided in Appendix C), indicating its intent to apply for these funds and whether they will apply individually or as a Tribal Consortium, identifying lead Tribe and member Tribes. The Letter is requested to be submitted to DOE via email to IRAHomeRebates@hq.doe.gov on or before May 15, 2024.

¹ See 42 U.S.C. 18795a(a)(1)(B).

² In this document, as directed by IRA Section 50122, "Indian Tribes" has the meaning given the term in Section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304). 42 U.S.C. 18795a(d)(3).

The Letter of Intent to Apply must be attached with a signed Head of Government Letter or Tribal Council Resolution as described in Part III of the [ALRD](#).

Indian Tribes may form a Consortium with other Tribes to apply for the combined allocated funds as a single entity. The process for applying as a Tribal Consortium is provided in the [ALRD](#).

The Letter of Intent to Apply is NOT the application, and the full application must be submitted via the Performance and Accountability for Grants in Energy (PAGE) online system at <https://www.page.energy.gov/default.aspx> by May 31, 2025.

Indian Tribes must submit applications describing plans for their proposed rebate programs and follow the [ALRD](#) for their application submission. Each application requirements section is designed to ensure that the application fully addresses program components required under IRA and applicable laws. Applications will be reviewed and approved by the DOE based on compliance with these requirements. These requirements were developed with an effort to minimize the administrative burden on the Indian Tribes as much as possible. DOE will provide technical assistance to Indian Tribes in completing the application based on available resources.

An Indian Tribe that chooses not to apply for this program and therefore refuses its allocated funding under IRA Section 50122 must sign and send a letter for declining funds to its respective Project Officer indicating this decision to the DOE by the application due date of May 31, 2025. By signing this document, the Indian Tribe signifies its understanding that its allocation will be redistributed to other Indian Tribes that applied for allocated funds. If the Tribe does not sign the document or convey to the DOE project officer that it plans to submit an application by May 31, 2025,³ the Tribe's funding will be reallocated to other Indian Tribes, using an approach to be determined in 2024.

Applications must be submitted through the PAGE online system to be considered for an award through IRA Section 50122. If you have questions regarding the Application Instructions in PAGE, please refer to the Help Menu or contact the PAGE hotline at PAGE-Hotline@ee.doe.gov or 1-866-492-4546.

1.1. Introduction

The DOE has established grant application instructions and management information for the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program for Indian Tribes, including (1) ALRD ([Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program for Indian Tribes: Administrative and Legal Requirements Document | Department of Energy](#)), (2) Program Requirements & Application Instructions (this document, can also be found [Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program for Indian Tribes: Program Requirements and Application Instructions | Department of Energy](#)), (3) Formula Allocations to Indian Tribes ([Explanation of Formula for Allocations to Tribes | Department of Energy](#)), and (4) example Letter of Intent to Apply.⁴ Supplementary documents including Application Checklist ([Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates for Indian Tribes \(IRA Section 50122\): ALRD Application Checklist | Department of Energy](#)) and Pre-Award Information Sheet ([Tribal Electrification and Appliance Home Rebate Program Tribal Pre-Award](#)

³ IRA Section 50122(a)(2)(C).

⁴ Located in Appendix C.

[Information Sheet | Department of Energy](#)). Visit the Tribal Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program webpage to review the latest program resources [Tribal Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program | Department of Energy](#).

Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates will help low- and moderate-income Tribal households save money on energy bills, upgrade to clean energy equipment, improve energy efficiency, improve home comfort, support a stable power grid, and reduce indoor and outdoor air pollution. Additionally, these rebates provide specific opportunities to increase the installations of efficient, clean energy equipment in underserved and underrepresented communities.

1.2. Implementation Blueprint and Technical Assistance

This document provides the program requirements as determined by the DOE to meet the statutory requirements of IRA Section 50122. Indian Tribes must develop programs that comply with the programmatic requirements presented in this document.

All requirements must be addressed to receive federal funding and to launch Tribal programs. However, DOE recognizes that the Tribe may not be equipped to adequately respond to all requirements within this document without program funds and support from program implementers and experts. Tribes may elect to submit responses to certain requirements identified by DOE in Table 4 and Table 5 (see Sections 3.1.9 and 3.2.3, respectively) in an Implementation Blueprint that can be submitted after the application.

An Implementation Blueprint is a document containing an applicant's responses to required program information that may not be fully developed at the time of application submission. Rather than delaying the application submission, the applicant may use the Implementation Blueprint to submit the information after the award has been made, subject to the requirements that are outlined below.

Indian Tribes are required to submit their responses to DOE through two documents:

1. Application. Indian Tribes may submit a single package of responses for all application requirements.
2. Implementation Blueprint. For some requirements identified by DOE within this document, Indian Tribes may elect to defer submission of those responses to their Implementation Blueprint.

If a Tribe elects to use the Implementation Blueprint to defer submission of certain responses in the Application:

- the Implementation Blueprint must be submitted after receipt of the award and a minimum of **90 days** prior to planned program launch.
- DOE will provide feedback, and the Tribes must receive DOE approval on the Implementation Blueprint before launching their program.

Requirements that can be deferred to the Implementation Blueprint are marked with an "X" within the application requirements listed in Tables 4 and 5.

This document should be reviewed in conjunction with the [ALRD](#).

Section 1 of this document provides a brief overview of the appropriations and legal authorities. Section 2 provides definitions and acronyms that will be used throughout the document. Section 3 provides the requirements of the Tribal Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program. If an Indian Tribe cannot comply with a requirement because of a conflict with the applicable Tribal law, please notify the program at IRAHomeRebates@hq.doe.gov to work with the DOE team to address the issue.

DOE is committed to supporting Tribes in designing and implementing successful rebate programs to benefit their members. To support Indian Tribes, DOE will provide the following resources and support in early 2024:

- Technical assistance (via telephone calls, video meetings, etc.) in completing and submitting applications.
- A sample application that Indian Tribes can use as a guide to complete their application, including the narrative section and the budget justification workbook.
- Technical assistance in designing programs that fulfill these requirements.
- For tracking rebate funds and meeting DOE reporting requirements, a centralized tool that Indian Tribes (and their program implementers) can use to facilitate program tracking has been created by the DOE/PNNL. This tool is where Tribes (or their program implementers) may report rebate activity to DOE. The tool is designed to collect the required data identified in this document. Tribes can report this data to the tool using a spreadsheet or, if desired, by directly connecting the system the Tribe or their implementer might use to track rebate activity. See the [Home Energy Rebate Tools website](#) for more information.) For rebate processing and tracking, a centralized system that Indian Tribes (and their program implementers) can use or modify, if applicable and they so choose, to facilitate these processes as well as reporting. (All tools will be available on the [Home Energy Rebate Tools website](#).)

Additional supporting documents will be made available at [Tribal Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates | Department of Energy](#).

1.3. Scope

Indian Tribes should use these application instructions when applying for formula grant financial assistance under DOE's Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates authorized by IRA Section 50122.

Consistent with the Justice40 Initiative established in the February 1, 2021 [Executive Order 14008](#)⁵ and [the interim guidance](#) on July 20, 2021, DOE has made efforts to minimize the administrative and programmatic burden for Indian Tribes that are associated with developing and implementing a consumer-oriented rebate program. The Executive Order directs federal agencies to consider modifying programs to avoid potential burdens to disadvantaged communities.⁶ DOE identifies geographically disadvantaged communities as those identified as disadvantaged by the Council on Environmental Quality's Climate and Economic Justice

⁵ Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, 86 FR 7619 (Feb. 1, 2021).

⁶ See Executive Order 14008, Section C.iii, p.10.

Screening Tool. Disadvantaged communities include all Federally Recognized Tribes and Tribal entities, whether or not they have land.⁷

1.4. Legal Authority

The Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates are authorized under Section 50122 of the IRA.⁸ These rebates are intended to provide home energy savings across a variety of households and income levels, and specifically enable energy improvements within underserved and underrepresented communities.

Grantees must comply with all applicable laws and regulations including, but not limited to, the DOE financial assistance regulations at 2 CFR Part 200 as amended by 2 CFR Part 910, and other regulations and procedures applicable to these funds, as DOE may, from time to time, prescribe for the administration of financial assistance. Any potential discrepancies between information contained in this document and DOE regulations shall be resolved in favor of DOE regulations.

1.5. Overarching Goals

The Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates are intended to deliver innovative efficiency and electrification programs to low- and moderate-income Tribal households across the United States. The overarching goal of the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program is to accelerate the transition to more affordable, efficient, resilient, and low carbon homes through the following long-term outcomes:

- **Lower energy burden for low-income households and disadvantaged communities.** Through home energy upgrades for qualified electrification projects, help Tribal households reduce energy bills, increase home comfort, improve indoor air quality, and reduce emissions.
- **Reduced pollution from buildings and support for the clean energy economy.** The program will reduce pollution from building energy use, including harmful indoor air pollution, and support the clean energy economy through energy efficiency.

Indian Tribes are encouraged to develop their own additional goals, outcomes, and objectives for their programs based on each Tribe's priorities, climate zone, utility costs, and other considerations.

2.0 Definitions and Acronyms

2.1. Definitions

- **80% and 150% Area Median Income (AMI).** Values calculated by household size of the median income of the area in which the individual or family resides, as reported by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.⁹

⁷ See the January 27, 2023 memo from the Executive Office of the President, [M-23-09 \(whitehouse.gov\)](#).

⁸ See 42 U.S.C. 18795a.

⁹ HUD publishes income limit information annually at https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html#2023_faq. DOE intends to make the data table available electronically for Tribal reference via an application programming interface (API).

- **Address.** The address of the dwelling unit for the Qualified Electrification Project. For dwelling units without a formal address, other equivalent locational identifiers may be used such as GPS (global position system) coordinates.
- **Administrative costs.** Costs related to planning, administration, and technical assistance of Home Energy Rebate programs. Allowable costs include the following types of activities:
 - Program planning and design
 - Program staff
 - Development of tools and systems, including websites, applications, rebate processing, and reporting
 - Program evaluation and consumer satisfaction surveys
 - Program monitoring and audits
 - Consumer protection functions including resolution procedures, data review, contractor management, installation standards, continuous improvement
 - Marketing, education, and outreach, including the funding of local governments and place-based organizations to assist with these activities
 - Implementation contract costs not including rebates and costs for activities directly related to delivery of rebates
 - Contractor training
 - Activities to improve access to rebates, facilitating leverage of private funds and financing mechanisms (e.g., loan loss reserves, interest rate reductions) where beneficial to efficiency and/or electrification projects
 - Technical assistance
- **Building.** The structure where the rebated improvements will be made including single and multifamily buildings. For multifamily buildings, building refers to the entire building and not an individual dwelling unit within that building.
- **Categorical eligibility.** The determination that a household meets income requirements by verifying household participation in another Tribe or federal program that (1) includes income qualification thresholds at least as stringent as the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates threshold and (2) updates participant lists through income verification at least every two years.
- **Claimant.** The entity requesting a Home Electrification and Appliance Rebate for a home upgrade.
- **Contractor.** An entity hired to perform assessments and install upgrades as allowed by the Tribe.
- **Dwelling unit.** A building structure wherein one or more households reside. Examples of a dwelling unit may include a single-family home, an apartment, or condominium unit in a multifamily building.
- **Eligible entity.** A low-income household (less than 80% AMI), a moderate-income household (80%-150% AMI), or an individual or entity that owns a multifamily building not less than 50% of the residents of which are low- or moderate-income (LMI).
- **Eligible entity representative.** A governmental, commercial, or nonprofit entity carrying out a qualified electrification project on behalf of an eligible entity.

- **Eligible rebate recipient.** For each dwelling unit or multifamily building, either an eligible entity or an eligible entity representative.
- **Energy savings.** Post-retrofit energy consumption subtracted from the baseline energy consumption.
- **Household.** The occupant(s) living in a dwelling unit.
- **Implementer.** A Tribe-selected entity that works on behalf of the Tribe and is authorized to administer a Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program.
- **Indian Tribe or Tribe.** The term “Indian Tribe” or “Tribe” as used in this document means any Indian Tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, including any Alaska Native village or regional or village corporation as defined in or established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, 85 Stat. 688, 43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq., which is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians.
- **Lead Indian Tribe.** An Indian Tribe that acts on behalf of a Tribal Consortium.
- **Low-income household.** A household below 80% AMI.¹⁰
- **Moderate-income household.** A household between 80% and 150% AMI.
- **Low-income multifamily building.** A building with at least 50% of households with incomes less than 80% AMI (<80%).
- **Moderate-income multifamily building.** A building with at least 50% of households with incomes less than 150% AMI (<150%).
- **Multifamily building.** A single building containing at least two dwelling units used for residential purposes. Commercial uses that are not eligible include but are not limited to hotels/motels, dormitories, assisted living facilities that include hospital amenities, and correctional facilities. For mixed-use buildings, an Indian Tribe may elect to treat the residential portion of the building as a multifamily building.
- **Point of sale rebate.** The provision of a rebate as an instant discount when the recipient of the rebate pays (or authorizes an entity to access a rebate on their behalf) for the qualified upgrade, improvement, or service. This discount can be provided (1) when purchasing in-store, through a distributor, at wholesale onsite, or online, or (2) when invoiced by a contractor for services rendered at the point of installation”).
- **Program participants.** Claimants, contractors, eligible rebate recipients, and implementers.
- **Qualified electrification project.** A project funded by an IRA Section 50122 rebate that meets the requirements of Section 3.1.5. of this document. A qualified electrification project (QEP) may consist of a single upgrade or multiple upgrades for the dwelling unit.
- **Rebate funds.** Federal dollars used for:
 1. Reimbursement or providing a cost discount for eligible upgrades based on **a) energy savings**, a) pre-determined qualified upgrade amounts, or b) total project costs.

¹⁰ Section 50122 of the IRA defines “low- or moderate-income household” to mean an individual or family the total annual income of which is less than 150% of the AMI. 42 U.S.C. 18795a(d)(4). For clarity and consistency, DOE is using the terminology and definitions provided in Section 2.1 throughout the document.

2. Activities directly related to delivery of rebates to eligible rebate recipients including:
 - Equipment, tools, models, and procedures used to assess a home and estimate energy savings.
 - Equipment, tools, models, and procedures used to verify installations and perform quality control (QC) including inspections and reporting.
 - Contractor incentives under IRA Section 50122(c)(5)(A).
 - Customer service support.
 - Consumer protection functions including consumer feedback, project verification and inspections.
 - Income eligibility.
 - Targeted marketing and outreach.
 - Integration with existing programs, home energy assessments, and project scoping.
 - Travel expenses for qualified contractors associated with approved QEP installations and/or recommended activities (e.g., limited home assessment)
 - Shipping costs for QEP products associated with approved rebate applications
- **Rebate program launch.** The point at which the Tribe begins accepting rebate claims.
- **Single-family home.** A detached one-family dwelling or multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) that have independent mechanical systems (e.g., heating, cooling, water heating, and ventilation) for each dwelling unit. Buildings with two or more units are considered multifamily. Indian Tribes may request DOE approval to apply different designations if the Tribe's jurisdiction has a significant number of buildings with unique characteristics.
- **Tenant.** Individual or household residing in a rental unit.
- **Third-party.** An organization conducting work on behalf of an Indian Tribe's Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program that has no financial or professional conflict of interest.
- **Total grant funding.** The total amount of funds allocated to an Indian Tribe over the duration of the program.
- **Total project cost.** The total cost of all upgrades within a completed project invoice inclusive of any rebated amount.
- **Tribal Consortium.** Two or more Indian Tribes that have designated a single Indian Tribe to act on their behalf as lead Indian Tribe of the Tribal Consortium.
- **Tribally Designated Entity.** The entity designated by a sovereign Tribal Nation to administer its housing programs with federal funds.
- **Upgrade.** A single energy improvement to a dwelling unit or multifamily building that is a distinct and separable part of the overall scope of work of a home efficiency or electrification project.

2.2. Acronyms

- **ALRD.** Administrative and Legal Requirements Document
- **AMI.** Area Median Income
- **API.** Application Programming Interface

- **CFR.** Code of Federal Regulations
- **DOE.** U.S. Department of Energy
- **FARC.** Financial Assistance Reporting Checklist
- **FERC.** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **FPL.** Federal Poverty Level
- **GHG.** Greenhouse Gas
- **HUD.** U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- **IRA.** Inflation Reduction Act
- **IRS.** U.S. Internal Revenue Service
- **LIHEAP.** Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- **LIHTC.** Low-Income Housing Tax Credit
- **LMI.** Low- or Moderate-Income
- **M&V.** Measurement and Verification
- **OMB.** U.S. Office of Management and Budget
- **PAGE.** Performance and Accountability for Grants in Energy
- **PNNL.** Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- **QA.** Quality Assurance
- **QC.** Quality Control
- **QEP.** Qualified Electrification Project
- **QPL.** Qualified Products List
- **RFI.** Request for Information
- **SNAP.** Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

3.0 Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program

This section of the document provides program requirements for the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates for Indian Tribes.

3.1. Use of Funds and Rebate Eligibility

3.1.1. Program Requirements: Use of Funds

Administrative funds as defined in Section 2.0 must not exceed 20% of the total grant funding over the total duration of the program, which will end when all funds are expended by Indian Tribes or September 30, 2031, whichever occurs sooner.¹¹

Administering and implementing residential efficiency projects can be complex, high-touch and often involve overhead costs greater than 20% of a program budget. These are costs directly related to a project that are 1) not generally recognized as administrative and 2) also not included in the rebate to recipients. For example, these could include, but not limited to, costs for home assessments, verifying income eligibility, project monitoring and quality assurance.¹²

Indian Tribes may request to use a portion of rebate funds for these project-related costs; however, additional funds for project-related costs should only be requested, supported by additional details and justification, after all available opportunities to reduce costs or apply alternative funding sources have been applied. DOE is prohibited by statute from approving any administrative costs over the 20% cap. For example, utilities, third-party organizations, or agencies may provide funding for home energy audits. **DOE intends to provide assistance to Indian Tribes, as resources allow, to support identifying program implementation cost reductions. DOE will provide assistance to Indian Tribes in support of identifying program implementation cost reductions.** This will be evaluated by DOE and a determination of allowability will be given as part of the award.

Indian Tribes are not obligated to provide rebates for all eligible products under the IRA.

Indian Tribes must budget for, track, and report regularly to DOE on spending of funds across administration and rebate categories as part of award monitoring. See [ALRD](#), Part V.

3.1.2. Program Requirements: Rebate Conditions and Levels

For the purposes of calculating rebate amounts for Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program, total project costs are costs that are invoiced to the eligible entity or the eligible entity representative for the purchase and installation of a qualified electrification project.

The Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program must meet all the following requirements under the IRA:

¹¹ Section 50122 states that an "Indian Tribe that receives a grant under the program shall use not more than 20 percent of the grant amount for planning, administration, or technical assistance relating to a high-efficiency electric home rebate program." 42 U.S.C. 18795a(c)(9).

¹² See definition of Rebate Funds in Section 2.0.

- A rebate may be paid only for the purchase and installation of a product meeting the requirements for allowable products and services. (See Section 3.1.4.)
- A rebate may be paid for a “qualified electrification project” (QEP) only if the QEP is initiated after the Tribe receives its program approval from DOE.
- A rebate must be consistent with the requirements and limitations listed in Table 2.
- An eligible entity representative performing the installation of the applicable QEP shall receive **an incentive not to exceed \$500 (in total) per dwelling unit.**
- An eligible entity representative performing the installation of a QEP must discount the invoice by the amount of a rebate received for the QEP from the total amount charged by the eligible entity representative to the eligible entity for the QEP.
- A rebate provided by an Indian Tribe under this program may not be combined with any other federal grant or rebate to pay for the same QEP. This restriction does not apply to federal loans or tax credits, nor does it apply to non-federal funding, such as funding authorized by a state government, or local government, or available through a utility program or philanthropic support.
- Subject to the limitations in Section 3.1.4., the purchased appliances must be certified under the [ENERGY STAR program of the United States Environmental Protection Agency](#). **However, where there is no ENERGY STAR certification for central heating and cooling systems or central water heating systems suitable for multifamily buildings, Tribes may propose to use available systems subject to an alternative equipment efficiency standard for DOE review and approval.**
- For appliances, each household may use the rebates to purchase one qualified appliance per each category of (1) water heating, (2) space conditioning, (3) cooking, and (4) laundry, as listed in Table 2.
- An eligible entity representative must deduct the total eligible rebate amount from the total project cost prior to calculating the final cost/invoice to the eligible entity; the eligible entity representative must provide (1) the total project cost, (2) the amount of rebates applied, and (3) remaining project cost documentation to the eligible entity and building owner, if different.
- Rebates paid must not exceed a collective total of:
 - a. \$14,000 for a household, if the eligible entity is a LMI household
 - b. \$14,000 per LMI household in a multifamily building, if the eligible entity is a multifamily building owner
 - c. \$14,000 per household for eligible entity representatives representing individual LMI households
 - d. \$14,000 per LMI household in a multifamily building for eligible entity representatives representing multifamily building owner(s).

For mixed-use buildings where the Tribe has defined the residential portion of the building as a multifamily building, upgrades can only be applied for the residential portion (including in unit and common areas) of the building. For central systems that serve both residential and

commercial spaces, rebates must be allocated in proportion to the residential units relative to the commercial space.¹³ Retain a copy of the invoice for work performed at the eligible address. The invoice must show:

- Specific work performed
- Address where the work was performed
- Name and contact information for the contractor(s) performing the work
- Dates on which the work was performed
- Total project cost prior to the rebate
- Rebate amount

Additional requirements apply if the work is being funded by rebates from more than one source. See Appendix D.

Table 2. Product Service Rebates and Rebate Limitations

Product Rebates		
Upgrade Type	Qualified Product	Rebate Amount Not to Exceed
Appliance	Water Heating: Electric Heat Pump Water Heater	\$1,750
	Space Conditioning: Electric Heat Pump for Space Heating or Cooling	\$8,000
	Cooking: Electric Stove, Cooktop, Range, Oven	\$840
	Laundry: Electric heat pump clothes dryer	\$840
Building Materials	Electric Load Service Center (e.g., home electric circuit panel) ¹⁴	\$4,000
	Insulation, Air Sealing, and Ventilation	\$1,600
	Electric Wiring	\$2,500
Maximum Rebate		\$14,000

¹³ For example, if 10% of the total square footage of a multifamily building is used for commercial purposes, the rebate amount going towards the central system being upgraded or replaced cannot exceed 90% of the total cost of that equipment.

¹⁴ This term is used generally to refer to the home electric service panel that distributes electricity throughout the dwelling unit. Certain “smart panels” and other devices that allow for the installation of new appliances at existing power or amperage are also allowed.

Rebate Limitations		
Eligible Rebate Recipient	Income Level	Rebate Amount Not to Exceed
LMI Household or eligible entity representative representing LMI household	Less than 80% AMI	100% of qualified project cost
	80%-150% AMI	50% of qualified project cost
Owner of multifamily building or eligible entity representative representing owner of multifamily building	At least 50% of residents with income less than 80% AMI	100% of qualified project cost
	At least 50% of residents with income of less than 150% AMI 80%-150% AMI	At least 50% of qualified project cost

3.1.2.1. Considerations for Multifamily Buildings

Multiple parties may be eligible for claiming a rebate in a multifamily building. In providing access to Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates, the Tribes must ensure that no dwelling unit receives rebates in excess of the statutory maximum rebate amount.

In a multifamily building, an individual household may apply to the Tribe for a rebate for their dwelling unit. Alternatively, the owner of a LMI multifamily building may apply for a rebate for multiple dwelling units within the building. A third possibility is for an eligible entity representative to assist the building owner or multiple households within a multifamily building in applying for rebates.

A multifamily building owner or an eligible entity representative for multiple dwelling units may claim rebates to fund central systems and upgrades for common areas if the central system and/or upgrades for common areas benefit individual dwelling units in addition to a common area. Such benefits may include a lower utility bill, improved air quality, or increased thermal comfort.

In the case of rebates claimed by an eligible entity representative on behalf of multiple households, the per-household maximum limits can be combined. For example, 10 low-income households claiming a rebate through an eligible entity representative could combine their heat pump allocations of \$8,000 each to provide \$80,000 for a central heat pump system, such as an ENERGY STAR-certified variable refrigerant flow central heat pump system, that provides space conditioning for individual dwelling units and common areas.

3.1.3. Program Requirements: Low-Income Households

The Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates are intended to benefit low- and moderate-income households, and low-income households should be prioritized for this program. Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates can provide up to the full cost of the improvement for low-

income households (defined as below 80% AMI).¹⁵ Although the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates are dedicated to low- and middle-income households, Congress's explicit direction to provide up to the full cost of the improvement to the lowest income households demonstrates the importance of ensuring low-income households and communities have access to rebates as an integral part of a Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program's design.

Structural barriers have historically prevented low-income households from benefitting from rebate programs. Previous evaluations have shown that existing energy efficiency programs have not served low-income households equitably without reserved funding for such households, with only 13% of residential energy efficiency program funds going to low-income households, well below the presence of low-income households in the markets for these programs.¹⁶

In addition to low-income households receiving distinct treatment in Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates, multifamily buildings are identified as a building type intended to be served by the programs. Low-income multifamily buildings are also eligible for double the benefits of moderate-income multifamily buildings.¹⁷ Delivering upgrades for low-income multifamily buildings alongside critical periods of recapitalization or refinance requires a significantly longer planning, design, and construction process than energy upgrades for single-family homes. Historically, the multifamily sector has been significantly underrepresented in energy efficiency program accomplishments.¹⁸

To ensure low-income single-family and multifamily homes are served through the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program, Indian Tribes must reserve a portion of their rebate funding to serve these households. Specifically, each Tribe must:

- Allocate a percentage of its rebate funding for each of the rebate programs in line with its percentage of low-income households as determined by the Tribe. For example, if a Tribe finds that 60% of its households are low-income, 60% of the rebate funds, excluding the administrative funds, must be reserved for those households. At a minimum, 40% of the rebate funds, excluding the administrative funds, must be reserved for low-income households, but Indian Tribes may increase the amount.
- Design each rebate program to be capable of delivering the rebate allocations to low-income households. Indian Tribes must ensure that they or their 3rd party program implementers acting as on their behalf make a focused effort to deliver the volume of projects to low-income households needed to spend this rebate allocation.

¹⁵ Compare 42 U.S.C. 18795a(c)(4)(A)(ii) with 42 U.S.C. 18795a(c)(4)(A)(i).

¹⁶ "Meeting the Challenge: A review of Energy Efficiency Program Offerings for Low-Income Households" by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. Available at <https://www.aceee.org/research-report/u2205>.

¹⁷ Compare 42 U.S.C. 18795a(c)(4)(B)(ii) with 42 U.S.C. 18795a(c)(4)(B)(i).

¹⁸ "More Savings for More Residents: Progress in Multifamily Housing Energy Efficiency" by the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy. Available at <https://www.aceee.org/sites/default/files/publications/researchreports/u1702.pdf>.

- Verify that (a) a participating single-family household's income is less than 80% AMI¹⁹, and (b) a participating multifamily building has at least 50% of households with incomes less than 80% AMI. Income must be verified at the household level (e.g., income cannot be "estimated" for a building based on demographic information). See Section 3.1.7. for verification requirements.
- Allow categorical eligibility determinations based on other federal programs that meet the income thresholds, as listed in the [Federal Programs Approved for Categorical Eligibility](#) document, or in other programs proposed by a Tribe that meets the statutory income eligibility criteria of 80% AMI.

If a Tribe has failed to disburse the rebate funds reserved for low-income households within five years of receipt of approval of its full rebate program by DOE, it may request that DOE authorize the Tribe to reallocate those funds to households at other income levels under terms consistent with the statute. DOE will reallocate the funds upon a demonstration of the Tribe's good faith efforts at distributing its low-income rebate allocation.

For dwelling units occupied by renters, the Tribes must inform the renters that they must first obtain written permission from the building owner, or an entity authorized to act on behalf of the building owner, for the installation of the following items:

- Electric heat pump for space heating and cooling
- Electric heat pump water heater
- Insulation
- Electric load service center
- Electric wiring
- Mechanical ventilation

To protect renters, the Tribe must establish rules for the program as follows:

For at least two years following the receipt of the rebates by the owner of tenant-occupied building:

- The owner agrees to rent the dwelling unit to a low-income tenant.
- The owner agrees not to evict a tenant to obtain higher rent tenants based upon the improvements.
- The owner agrees not to increase the rent of any tenant of the building as a result of the energy improvements, with exception of increases to recover actual property tax increases or justified operating and maintenance cost increases.
- The owner agrees to provide tenants with written notice of their rights and their building owner's obligations that are listed here within 30 days of receiving the rebate.
- In the event the owner does not comply, the owner must refund the rebate.

Income verification is a critical element of program implementation. DOE will work with the Tribes to assist in developing effective methods for carrying out this requirement and provide examples

¹⁹ HUD calculates median family income levels for areas across the U.S. HUD has a website available [here](#) where users can view these calculations. Information about HUD's methods for calculating AMI statistics is available [here](#).

of acceptable methods. As part of this assistance, DOE will provide sample frameworks to help Indian Tribes work through the various steps of income verification and other processes involved in implementing rebate programs.

As noted in the section on income verification, Indian Tribes are encouraged to allow applicants to establish their eligibility through a variety of means, including categorical eligibility, i.e., enrollment in recognized low-income programs, documentation of income, and self-attestation.

3.1.4. Program Requirements: Qualified Electrification Projects

QEP means a project that:

- a) includes the purchase and installation of:
 - An electric heat pump water heater.
 - An electric heat pump for space heating and cooling.
 - An electric stove, cooktop, range, or oven.
 - An electric heat pump clothes dryer.
 - An electric load service center.
 - Insulation.
 - Air sealing and materials to improve ventilation; or
 - Electric wiring; and,
- b) with respect to any appliance described in clause (a), the purchase of which is carried out:
 - As part of new construction;
 - To replace a non-electric appliance; or
 - When the purchase is a first-time purchase of a heat pump for space conditioning and is installed to provide the primary heating and cooling for the household; and,
- c) is carried out at, or relating to, a single-family home or multifamily building, as applicable.²⁰

Programs must ensure that the criteria of (a), (b), and (c) are met for every rebate.²¹ The term first-time purchase means the dwelling unit does not currently have and has not previously had the same type of appliance as that subject to rebate, where the type of appliance is the appliance enumerated in (a). In the case of installation of an efficient, electric heat pump for space heating, it is allowable for the heat pump to replace an existing electrical resistance or electoral baseboard heating system, but it is not allowable for the heat pump to replace an existing, electric heat pump. Additional appliance-specific information is provided below.

Only QEPs are eligible for rebates. Appliances and building materials purchased with a rebate at point of sale or discounted in a project invoice must be installed in the qualified single-family home or multifamily building.

For all QEPs, the Tribe must retain the following documentation:

- The invoice that includes a list of the upgrades in the qualified electrification project for which a rebate was applied.

²⁰ 42 U.S.C. 18795a(d)(6)(A).

²¹ In general, a qualified electrification project does not include an appliance, system, equipment, infrastructure, component, or other item that is not certified under the ENERGY STAR program, if applicable. 42 U.S.C. 18795a(d)(6)(B). Please see Section 3.1.4. for more specific details.

- Signed attestation by homeowner or contractor that the appliance installed did not exist in the home (unless fuel switching).
- For the appliance installations made by contractors, geotagged photos of installations.
- All other datapoints listed as required in the Data Requirements Guide for Indian Tribes in Appendix B.

For purposes of integrating the rebates with other programs, only the upgrade for which the rebate was issued is considered part of the qualified electrification project.

3.1.4.1. Qualified Appliances

Appliance types that qualify for rebates are:

- Electric heat pump water heater
- Electric heat pump for space heating and cooling
- Electric heat pump clothes dryer
- Electric stove, cooktop, range, or oven

A single household cannot receive a rebate for more than one appliance of a single type. Only residential appliance types are eligible for single household rebates. A multifamily building cannot receive a rebate for more than one appliance of a single type per unit. Residential and certain commercial appliances as explained in the product-specific sections below are eligible for multifamily rebates.

3.1.4.1.1. Electric heat pump water heater

Electric heat pump water heaters include integrated heat pump water heaters that operate on 120V or 240V, split system heat pump water heaters, and central heat pump water heating systems. Central heat pump water heating systems include all ancillary equipment such as fans, blowers, pumps, storage tanks, piping, and controls, (as applicable) and eligibility is restricted to multifamily dwelling units, whose owner is applying for a rebate for multiple dwelling units. In all cases, the rebated model or system must be ENERGY STAR certified and **if available** legal for distribution in the United States at the time of purchase. **Water heaters that operate on 120V are not eligible for rebates in new construction.** DOE understands that central heat pump water heating systems currently do not have an ENERGY STAR specification that addresses their system-based efficiency, which would encompass the heat pump, storage tanks, booster heaters, pumps, ancillary controls. **In such a situation, Tribes may propose to use available systems suitable for multifamily buildings subject to an alternative equipment efficiency standard for DOE review and approval. Central heat pump water heaters may not qualify as an eligible appliance until ENERGY STAR establishes system-based criteria for central heat pump water heating systems addressing all components within the system. DOE will issue further guidance on this as available.**

Purchase and installation of an electric heat pump water heater is eligible for rebate only:

- In new construction **(240V only)**
- As a replacement for a non-electric water heater.
- When the purchase is a first-time purchase of a heat pump water heater (e.g., when upgrading an electric-resistance storage water heater).

3.1.4.1.2. *Electric heat pump for space heating & cooling*

Electric heat pumps for space heating and cooling include ducted and non-ducted central air-source heat pumps, **ground source heat pumps**, single-room mini-splits, multi-splits, geothermal heat pumps, multi split heat pumps, and variable refrigerant flow heat pumps. The rebated model must be ENERGY STAR certified for the heating and cooling functions **if available** and legal for distribution in the United States at the time of purchase. The installed heat pump must be properly sized. **Where there is no ENERGY STAR certification for central heating and cooling systems suitable for multifamily buildings, Tribes may propose to use available systems subject to an alternative equipment efficiency standard for DOE review and approval.**

Room heat pumps currently do not have a heating test procedure, metric, or ENERGY STAR criterion in heating mode allowing manufacturers to certify. Therefore, models on the ENERGY STAR Qualified Products List (QPL) for Room Air Conditioners (ACs) are not eligible for rebates at this time. Once ENERGY STAR criterion for room heat pumps are established for efficient cooling and heating using the DOE test procedure and models are certified on the ENERGY STAR Room ACs QPL for heating and cooling, then room heat pumps will be eligible.

Costs eligible for rebate include all materials for installation, including smart thermostats and other grid-enabling technologies, pads for outdoor units, necessary ductwork, or other DOE-approved materials.

Purchase and installation of an electric heat pump for space heating and cooling is eligible for rebates:

- In new construction.
- As a replacement for a non-electric heating unit (e.g., gas, propane, or oil direct heating equipment; gas, propane, or oil forced-air furnace; gas, propane, or oil hot water or steam boiler).
- When the purchase is a first-time purchase of a heat pump for space conditioning and is installed to provide the primary heating and cooling for the household. That is, for a home with existing air conditioning and an existing electric furnace, boiler, or electric baseboard heating to be eligible for a rebate for a heat pump, the heat pump must replace the majority of the usage for both the air conditioner and the electric furnace, boiler, or electric baseboard heating to provide the majority heating and cooling source for the home. A home may continue to use its pre-existing heating and cooling systems as backup and/or to provide secondary heating or cooling services to the home. A heat pump used to supplement an existing electric appliance for space conditioning is not eligible for a rebate.

3.1.4.1.3. *Electric heat pump clothes dryer*

Installed model must be ENERGY STAR certified and legal for distribution in the United States at the time of purchase. The purchase and installation of an electric heat pump clothes dryer is eligible for rebate only:

- In new construction
- As a replacement for a non-electric clothes dryer; or

- When the purchase is a first-time purchase of a heat pump clothes dryer for the dwelling unit, including upgrading an electric clothes dryer to a heat pump dryer.

3.1.4.1.4. *Electric stove, cooktop, range, or oven*

The installed model of electric stove, electric cooktop, or electric range must be ENERGY STAR certified and legal for distribution in the United States at the time of purchase. Dual-fuel models are not eligible. Purchase and installation of an electric stove, cooktop, range, or oven is eligible for rebate only:

- In new construction
- As a replacement for a gas or dual-fuel gas-electric stove, cooktop, range, or oven; or
- When the purchase is a first-time purchase of an all-electric stove, cooktop, range, or oven for the dwelling unit.

3.1.4.2. *Qualified Building Materials*

Certain types of building materials also qualify for rebates. Generally, the following types of building materials qualify for rebates:

- Electric load service center
- Electric wiring
- Insulation
- Air sealing
- Mechanical ventilation

DOE encourages installation of low embodied carbon building materials. Embodied carbon, also known as embodied greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, generally refers to the amount of GHG emissions associated with upstream–extraction, production, transport, and manufacturing–stages of a product’s life.²²

3.1.4.2.1. *Insulation*

Eligible products include ENERGY STAR-certified blanket (batts and rolls) insulation, loose-fill insulation, blown-in insulation, rigid board (foam or fiber) insulation, spray foam, and foamed-in-place forms of insulation, in addition to other insulation materials that are ENERGY STAR-certified at the time of installation. Duct **sealing and insulation ventilation** is also eligible for rebates. Insulation must be properly installed to qualify for a rebate. Insulation with low embodied carbon is encouraged.

3.1.4.2.2. *Air sealing and materials to improve ventilation*

Eligible ventilation materials include ENERGY STAR-certified range hoods and in-line (single and multi-port), bathroom, and utility room fans. Products must be installed in the configuration certified by ENERGY STAR. A range hood that is installed such that the exhaust air is recirculated into the dwelling unit is not rebate eligible.

²² See [What is Embodied Carbon? | US EPA](#).

Ventilation materials are eligible for rebates only in homes that also receive air sealing services or otherwise achieve low air leakage rates (e.g., 3 ACH50 per International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)).

3.1.5. Program Requirements: Installation Incentives

An eligible entity representative (governmental, commercial, or nonprofit) that applies for and receives a rebate on behalf of an eligible entity and performs the installation of the QEP shall receive an incentive payment not to exceed \$500 (in total) in addition to the available rebate.

Tribes must determine a payment schedule for installation incentives; examples of qualifying activities are shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Example of Qualifying Activities and Incentives

Qualifying Activity	Incentive (Example)
Substantial installation located within a disadvantaged community (excludes installations of electric stoves and electric heat pump dryers) per dwelling unit	\$200
Installation of one or more electric heat pump water heaters	\$150
Installation of one or more electric heat pumps for space heating and cooling per dwelling unit - ducted	\$300
Installation of one more electric heat pumps for space heating and cooling per dwelling unit - non-ducted	\$200
Installation of one electric stove, cooktop, range, or oven	\$0
Installation of one electric heat pump clothes dryer	\$0
Installation of one or more electric load service center	\$150
Installation of insulation per dwelling unit	\$250
Installation of air sealing and materials to improve ventilation per dwelling unit	\$250
Installation of electric wiring per dwelling unit	\$250

Generally, Tribes must provide meaningful installation incentives that reflect the scale of the upgrades installed. Tribes may not eliminate the requirement to provide a contractor incentive. Only an eligible entity representative is entitled to an installation incentive using rebate funds.

Tribes may provide installation incentives to other parties using sources of funds other than the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates.

An eligible entity representative that owns a building that benefits from the upgrades is not entitled to an installation incentive (e.g., a multifamily building owner acting as an eligible entity representative on behalf of the households in the building is not eligible for the incentive).

An eligible entity representative may not receive multiple installer incentives for completing a QEP on behalf of the same eligible entity more than once in a twelve-month period.

Subject to the limitations described in the below program requirements, an incentive must be provided to encourage governmental, philanthropic, commercial, and nonprofit (e.g., community groups) organizations to assist low-income and moderate-income households with accessing Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates for Indian Tribes. Indian Tribes may elect to reserve these incentives for projects carried out in homes and dwelling units with households less than 80% AMI, or for installations of equipment not commonly installed to encourage contractors to serve low-income households and learn how to install newer technologies.

An eligible entity representative (governmental, commercial, or nonprofit) that applies for and receives a rebate on behalf of an eligible entity and performs the installation of a qualified upgrade shall receive an incentive payment not to exceed \$500 in addition to the available rebate; the Tribe may determine an incentive payment level that is commensurate with the difficulty of the installation performed, not to exceed \$500, subject to DOE approval.

3.1.6. Program Requirements: Processing & Delivering Rebates to Recipients

To help ensure appropriate use and processing of Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates, Indian Tribes must take the following actions:

- Retain all data listed in Appendix B. Use DOE-provided spreadsheet template or APIs to link or coordinate relevant tracking methods used by the Tribes to DOE tools as described in the Data Requirements Guide in Appendix B. DOE will work with a Tribe that cannot use an API or template to determine an alternative method that provides required data.
- Inform all potential Tribal program participants of the process for accessing rebates.
- Adhere to all requirements including those in the Appendix B: Data Requirements Guide, including documentation of installed improvements.
- Ensure that rebates will be provided at point of sale or as part of an invoice/installation.
- Process all rebate requests within twelve (12) weeks of receipt of an eligible rebate application. The Tribes that rely on barge and air shipment for delivery of equipment may request an exemption from the 12-week processing timeline.

3.1.7. Requirements: Verify Income Eligibility

Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates funds are only available based on income eligibility. Therefore, an Indian Tribe must:

- Provide and enforce use of an acceptable method to verify that:

- i. A participating household's income is less than 80% AMI²³
 - ii. A participating household's income is less than 150% AMI but greater than or equal to 80% AMI
 - iii. A participating multifamily building has at least 50% of households with incomes less than 80% AMI
 - iv. A participating multifamily building has at least 50% of households with incomes less than 150% AMI.
- Allow categorical eligibility determinations based on other federal programs that meet the required income thresholds, as listed in the [Federal Programs Approved for Categorical Eligibility](#) document, as well as other Tribe-approved programs approved by DOE.
- Where feasible, apply (and make available to claimants) up-to-date AMI data listed by DOE through an API.

3.1.8. Program Requirements: Data Collection and Evaluation

This section covers a variety of data requirements. Section 3.1.8.1. addresses requirements associated with data protection and standards, including data transmission, security, privacy, retention, and sharing. Section 3.1.8.2. provides general information regarding the types of metrics for which DOE plans to require reporting. Reporting requirements will be identified on the FARC attached to the award agreement. Section 3.1.8.3. addresses data collection requirements related to program evaluation. DOE also expects Tribal programs to collect information needed to administer their rebate programs and to assist with program monitoring. Finally, DOE recognizes that Indian Tribes will need to collect additional information for program implementation. All data collection and reporting requirements will be delineated in the tables in Appendix B.

3.1.8.1. Data Protection and Data Standards

The following program requirements apply to documents, data, and other information collected by Indian Tribes using federal funds to implement and administer the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program.

To facilitate program data sharing, program audits, and program evaluations, Tribal programs must collect household information as required in the Data Requirements Guide for Indian Tribes in Appendix B. Data that Indian Tribes must collect for income verification purposes but that is not required to be submitted to DOE must be retained and accessible upon request by DOE for purposes of compliance and evaluation.

Data collected by Indian Tribes in administering their programs may not be sold. Data collected by Indian Tribes in administering their programs may be shared with program implementers and/or evaluators with whom the Tribe has a contractual relationship, provided that prohibitions against data selling and data sharing are included in the contracts with those entities. For all other

²³ HUD calculates median family income levels for areas across the U.S. HUD has a website available [here](#) where users can view these calculations. Information about HUD's methods for calculating AMI statistics is available [here](#).

entities, collected data may not be shared with others except with the explicit written permission of DOE.

Consistent with 2 CFR 200.334 through 200.338, a non-federal recipient of federal awards is required to retain records relating to this award for a period of three (3) years from the date of submission of the final expenditure report.

3.1.8.2. Program Metrics

Indian Tribes must outline how required data will be collected throughout the award period so that these metrics may be aggregated and evaluated across programs. DOE understands that different Indian Tribes will optimize program design for different metrics.

DOE requires Indian Tribes to report to DOE certain program-related progress metrics. To reduce burden, DOE will allow flexibility in how the data are reported and at what level of detail or granularity. See Appendix B for all available tools and data collection requirements, including a list of metrics that Indian Tribes will be required to submit annually to DOE.

Indian Tribes must report metrics to DOE as described in Appendix B and as required on the FARC.

3.1.8.3. Program Evaluation

DOE will conduct process and impact activities as part of an independent evaluation process. The goals of these evaluations will be to understand how effective the programs are at meeting their intended outcomes and how programs can be improved. For evaluation, DOE may request data that is already required to be retained by the Tribe as listed in Appendix B.

Indian Tribes may must participate in DOE-led impact and process evaluations. Tribes interested in engaging in evaluation activities should notify DOE. All Tribal programs must:

- Agree to participate in interviews (as the program administrator) and require their implementers and other program partners to participate in interviews.
- Provide any retained data to DOE as requested. See Appendix B for specific data collection, retention, and reporting requirements.

The Tribes are encouraged, where possible, to coordinate with utilities to collect billing data for program evaluation purposes.

3.1.9. Application Requirements: Use of Funds and Rebate Eligibility

An Indian Tribe must address the following in its application and corresponding budget, except that an Indian Tribe may defer responses to its Implementation Blueprint where marked with an "X." All other requirements are mandatory within the Application. DOE will provide support on several of these items, as noted in Table 4.

Table 4. Application Requirements: Program Design

Section No.	Requirement	Blueprint Option	DOE Support
3.1.1	Identify the specific types of allowable costs the Tribe proposes within 1) administrative funds and 2) rebate funds. Provide an estimate of the total amount of administrative funds to be expended annually and the estimated annual project-related costs as a portion of the total rebate funds.		X
3.1.2	Confirm that the Tribe will ensure that rebate conditions, levels, and the caps on specific rebates the administrative funds are adhered to over the duration of the program, using technical assistance from DOE.	X	X
3.1.2	Confirm that the Tribe will monitor contractor costs and ensure that costs are not artificially inflated compared with market averages, using technical assistance from DOE.	X	X
3.1.2	Identify the maximum rebate amounts that will be offered to eligible entities and eligible entity representatives if lower than the amounts allowed in the law.	X	
3.1.2	List the project cost documents that the Tribe will require from eligible entities and eligible entity representatives.		X
3.1.2	Identify the budget set-aside within rebate budget for the installation incentives (up to \$500 in total per dwelling unit OEP).		X
3.1.2	Confirm that the Tribe will inform all contractors, Tribally-designated housing entities, and households participating in the rebate program that eligible entities cannot receive other federal rebates or grants for the same qualified electrification project.		X
3.1.2	Confirm that the Tribe will provide information via use of the Application Programming Interface (API) available in the DOE Rebate Tracking and Reporting Tool (if applicable), DOE-provided spreadsheet, or work with DOE to determine appropriate transfer of information to DOE to ensure that rebates limited to a single product or a combination of products are tracked and managed, and no duplicate rebates are awarded.		X
3.1.3	Identify the portion of the rebate funds the Tribe will reserve for low-income households.		X
3.1.3	Confirm that tenant protection requirements will attach to rental property owners who claim rebates.		

Section No.	Requirement	Blueprint Option	DOE Support
3.1.4	<p>Confirm that the Tribe will verify that rebates are provided only for qualified electrification projects, including that each of the following conditions are met for each project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project includes the purchase and installation of a qualifying product, as described in Section 3.1.4; • The qualifying product is installed as part of new construction; or to replace a non-electric appliance; or as a first-time purchase with respect to that appliance; and, • The installation occurs at a single-family home or eligible multifamily building. 		
3.1.4	Describe how the Tribe will collect and retain documentation to demonstrate how each criterion in Section 3.1.4 was met for each installation, using DOE guidelines and technical assistance.	X	X
3.1.6	Confirm that either the Tribe will use a DOE table to compare a household's income with the 80% and 150% AMI levels associated with the home's location and number or occupants for income verification or ensure that up-to-date AMI levels are correctly referred to as points of comparison, on intake system for users to provide income information that will compare household income to 80% and 150% AMI values associated with that household's area and household size to determine specific rebate levels prior to users signing statements regarding their income.		X
3.1.6	If the Tribe does not use the DOE Rebate Tracking and Reporting Tool, describe what types of systems will be used for tracking and processing rebates, including a plan to allow for the ability to apply rebates at point of sale or as part of an invoice.	X	X
3.1.6	Describe how the Tribe will ensure processing of rebates within 12 weeks of receipt (e.g., through a processing company, through program implementers, or other entities or methods) subject to exceptions for barge or air shipment. Include potential remedies that the Tribe can provide in the event of lengthier processing times.	X	X
3.1.7	<p>For single-family households, how will claimants be able to establish their household income for income qualification? Tribes may select from the following options:</p> <p>(1) Documentation of household income (for example, IRS 1040)</p> <p>(2) Documentation of enrollment in a pre-qualifying program</p>		X

Section No.	Requirement	Blueprint Option	DOE Support
	(3) Self-attestation of either income level of enrollment in pre-qualifying program		
3.1.7	For multifamily buildings, describe what combination of methods will be used to verify that at least 50% of dwelling units consist of households with incomes less than 80% AMI. For multifamily buildings, describe what combination of methods will be used to verify that at least 50% of dwelling units consist of households with incomes less than 150% AMI (but not less than 80% AMI).	X	
3.1.7	Confirm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claimant will be required to note the number of individuals who occupy the dwelling unit at the time of application. • Claimant will be required to sign an affidavit attesting to the validity of all information provided (e.g., enrollment documents, household income, number of full-time occupants, irrespective of the method of income qualification (e.g., categorical eligibility, self-attestation). 		X
3.1.7	Confirm that the 80% AMI and 150% AMI levels for each location will be kept up to date. Provide additional information if proposing NOT to use a federally provided data link or API. Confirm that these levels will correspond to (a) the address of the dwelling unit at which rebates will be applied and (b) the applicable number of dwelling unit occupants. For any applications for heating/cooling systems, the claimant will be required to note the number of households living in the dwelling unit.	X	X
3.1.7	Confirm that the Tribe will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) review information provided to support income eligibility for all applicants applying for rebates; (2) take steps to verify income eligibility for at least 3% of those applicants that use self-attestation to support income eligibility (e.g., confirm enrollment in at least one program that the applicant asserted enrollment in); and (3) report the results of its verification efforts from carrying out number (2) to DOE no longer than 15 months after program launch. 	X	
3.1.7	Confirm that the Tribe will coordinate with DOE's project officer as needed to resolve any concern regarding its income verification process.	X	

Section No.	Requirement	Blueprint Option	DOE Support
3.1.7	Describe how the Tribe will resolve instances when rebates are provided to those who have falsified their incomes.	X	
3.1.7	If proposing to allow self-attestation as a means for initial income qualification, describe how and when this approach will be used. Include statements, language, and detailed information regarding follow-up steps that will be used for this process. In addition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe how those applying for rebates will be warned of potential liability associated with falsifying information. Explain how signed statements of self-attestation will be securely stored. 	X	X
3.1.7	Describe how the Tribal program will verify, where applicable, that at least one member of a household has been enrolled in a program in the past 12 months within the Federal Programs Approved for Categorical Eligibility document, or other Tribe-proposed program whose income eligibility criteria is equal to or stricter than 80% AMI.	X	X
3.1.7	If applicable, propose any additional federal and other programs to be considered for categorical eligibility. For any programs not already approved, describe how the program's eligibility aligns with the Section 50122 income requirements.	X	X
3.1.7	Identify whether the Tribe will request authorization to use categorical eligibility determinations based on program participation outside of a one-year period (e.g., proof of enrollment within the past 12 months).	X	X
3.1.8	Confirm that the Tribe will collect required data listed in Section 3.1.8.		X

3.2. Consumer Experience

3.2.1. Program Recommendation: Impact of Qualified Electrification Project

Home assessment can be an important component of consumer protection to better understand the potential risks and benefits to a household pursuing an upgrade of its heating and cooling system. In the case of fuel-switching from a natural gas appliance for heating, a limited home assessment can be particularly useful. It can ensure that the homeowner or tenant receives a quality installation and educate them of potentially unintended consequences such as increased utility bills, especially if the price of natural gas is lower than the comparative price of electricity in that region.

To mitigate these risks, the Tribes may offer a limited home assessment, and may request use of rebate funds for these project-related costs, to an eligible entity who requests such an

assessment. Before installing an electric heat pump space conditioner to replace a natural gas furnace, the homeowner or tenant may be advised on whether the proposed project may potentially result in a significantly higher energy bill. Such an assessment may be made virtually or on site.

A limited home assessment for fuel-switching from a natural gas furnace may include:

- A recommendation of a properly sized unit recommended by a qualified HVAC contractor.
- An estimate of utility bill impacts and written acknowledgement by the homeowner or tenant.
- Written acknowledgement from the homeowner or tenant of the amount they will owe not covered by the rebates.
- Address or GPS coordinates of the dwelling unit.
- Existing energy equipment/systems.
- New energy equipment/systems being proposed for installation.
- Estimated total project cost as defined in Section 2.1.

3.2.2. Program Requirements: Consumer Protection Through Quality Assurance (QA)

Consumer Protection through QA is an essential component of the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program, necessary to deliver high-quality products and services to all program consumers. A strong QA protocol is key to protecting consumers and providing the highest quality consumer experience and to delivering real energy, cost, and emission savings. QA protects households by providing independent oversight of the work performed by participating contractors to ensure that the work meets program standards. QA provides systems designed to ensure work meets consumer expectations and to provide consumer satisfaction, a vital goal of these rebate programs.

Given the central role of consumer protection through QA in the outcome of the program, Indian Tribes are required to develop and implement a Consumer Protection Plan. The plan must meet the requirements listed in this section. The Consumer Protection Plan must be submitted to DOE for approval 90 days prior to the Tribe's planned rebate program launch in accordance with the Tribe's Implementation Blueprint. A Tribe must implement the plan and be prepared to provide DOE with information regarding the Tribe's monitoring, review and revision of the plan based on program performance. While DOE recommends incorporating all elements listed below into their Consumer Protection Plan, Indian Tribes with a funding allocation less than \$800,000 are only required to create a plan incorporating the requirements included in the "Data Review," "Virtual Inspection," and "Contractors and Other Partners" sections.

- The Consumer Protection Plan must be available upon request to all affected program participants, including implementers, retailers, distributors, participating contractors, third-party inspectors, eligible entities, and eligible entity representatives.
- Indian Tribes must retain records related to their QA processes and permit access to DOE upon request.

The Tribe's Consumer Protection Plan must include the following elements:

Consumer Feedback

A process for collecting and responding to consumer feedback that:

- Allows households to file complaints, concerns, and issues directly to implementer(s) (e.g., email, mail, in-person).
- Outlines how the Tribe will communicate the feedback to contractors, distributors, or retailers.

Resolution Procedures

A process outlining how disputes will be resolved between homeowners/tenants and contractors. The process shall include a timeline for resolving disputes, identification of responsible parties, documentation of corrective actions, remedies, results, and a means of identifying and addressing systemic issues.

Data Review

- A requirement for the Tribe to conduct data or file review of all projects that verifies at a minimum that:
 - The contracted scope of work was consistent with program requirements.
 - The address of the installation matches the address of the eligible entity.
 - Rebate amount aligns with verified income category.
- A requirement that the Tribal program's implementers retain:
 - Post-installation photos of the equipment included in the QEP.
 - Proof of combustion safety testing on fossil fuel equipment in all homes where fossil fuel systems have been impacted by the installation.
 - Note: The requirement of combustion safety testing on fossil fuel equipment may be waived if the applicant submits an alternative approach to ensuring the health and safety of the household receiving the upgrade upon DOE review and approval. DOE will provide technical assistance and alternative best practices, including special consideration for do-it-yourself eligible measures.
 - Proof of commissioning testing on HVAC equipment in all homes where HVAC systems are installed.
- A requirement to maintain required records for QC inspections.

Recommended test to consider:

- Proof of commissioning testing on HVAC equipment in all homes where HVAC systems are installed.

Onsite or Virtual Inspection

- For all heating/cooling QEPs, a requirement to conduct independent, post-install inspections,²⁴ onsite or virtual, on a minimum of:
 - The first five projects of new contracting organizations; and
 - Five percent of projects thereafter for each contractor, provided no issues are found.

²⁴ Virtual post-install inspections are allowed for those places that are difficult to access (e.g., require long-distance travel or travel by airplane or boat) and/or are cost prohibitive.

- Indian Tribes may choose to exempt ductless mini-split system installations from the inspection requirement.
- Inspections (onsite or virtual) cannot be conducted by the contractor who completed the installation.
- A description of the qualifications that the Tribe will require of independent inspectors. Onsite and virtual inspection protocols must include:
 - A visual inspection of the site and work conditions.
 - Verification that the installed upgrades align with the rebated product and/or installation; and, if applicable, verification that the installed upgrades match contracted scope of work, and any change orders have been appropriately documented.

Contractors and Other Partners

A qualified contractor list, to be made publicly available and regularly updated, is a required element of an Indian Tribe's Consumer Protection Plan. Indian Tribes must:

- Describe how the program will make their qualified contractor list publicly available develop the qualified contractor list.
- Describe which qualification(s) contractors will be held to, potentially including but not limited to existing program qualified contractor lists, industry accepted home performance industry credentials, training requirements, business insurance and licensure, skills standards, and labor standards.
- Confirm Describe how the Tribe will ensure that participating contractors are aware of the Tribe's program requirements.
- Describe the process by which a contractor could be delisted contractors will be added to the qualified contractor list as well as the conditions that would lead to.
- Require that the following technologies be installed by a contractor on the qualified contractor list:
 - Electric heat pump for space heating and cooling
 - Air sealing
 - Electrical wiring
 - Electrical load service center

In addition to contractors, other program partners such as retailers and distributors may be able to play an integral role in QA and the overall success of an Indian Tribe's rebate program. As it relates to these lists, a Tribe's Consumer Protection Plan may:

- Describe how the program will reach out to retailers, distributors and/or other potential partners to ensure that they are aware of program requirements and processes and identify ways that these partners can assist in effective consumer education and program implementation.

Installation

- Identify, or reference existing industry installation standards with which installers must comply, including at a minimum, standards designed to:
 - Ensure work complies with applicable laws and rules.

- Establish minimum quality installation standards for rebated technologies.
- Outline how the Tribe will ensure installation standards have been met. Ensure that sales language and contract language are the same.
 - If financing is involved, confirm that the household’s ability to repay the debt does not depend on fully realizing projected savings from an energy report, as projected savings may not materialize due to household and market developments.

3.2.3. Application Requirements: Consumer Experience

An Indian Tribe must address the following in its application and corresponding budget.

Table 5. Application Requirements: Consumer Protection

Section No.	Requirement	Blueprint Option	DOE Support
3.2.2	Confirm that the Tribe will implement the Consumer Protection Plan in accordance with program requirements. While DOE recommends incorporating all elements into their Consumer Protection Plan as listed in Section 3.2.2., Indian Tribes with a funding allocation below \$800,000 are only required to create a plan incorporating the requirements included in the “Data Review,” “Virtual Inspection,” and “Contractors and Other Partners” sections.		X

4.0 Revisions and Guidance

4.1. Revisions

If DOE needs to revise these requirements, DOE will publish a notice at <https://www.energy.gov/scep/home-energy-rebate-programs-guidance> and will send a copy of the notice directly to Grantees. Indian Tribes should address questions regarding the requirements to their respective Project Officers. Project Officers do not have the authority to alter or waive these requirements.

4.2. Guidance

Guidance provides additional information about requirements and may include examples; however, guidance does not alter or waive these requirements. Project Officers may provide guidance directly to an Indian Tribe on a case-by-case basis for jurisdiction-specific questions. Interpretations that are more broadly applicable will be provided through formal DOE guidance, which will be posted on the web site and sent via email to Grantees. DOE will provide ongoing updates to the Technical Information, Best Practices, and Implementation Recommendations are available at <https://www.energy.gov/scep/recommendations-program-administrators>.

5.0 Application Instructions

5.1. Overview

The application package for Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates grants consists of the Application and several required forms. Refer to the [Administrative and Legal Requirements Document \(ALRD\)](#) for application package requirements. Applications must be submitted in accordance with the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates ALRD for Indian Tribes.

As a reminder, application documents, forms, and data submitted may be made available to the public at DOE's discretion following all applicable laws and regulations that protect confidential or proprietary information.

For all supporting documents (saved as PDF files) that are attached to the SF-424 Application in PAGE, Applicants are requested to use the naming conventions used in Table 6 (i.e., the Suggested File Name) or similar file names, to enable DOE reviewers to quickly identify the contents of attached documents.

5.1.1. SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Grantees must not use any federally appropriated funds for lobbying activities. If funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, Member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the grant/cooperative agreement, the grantee must complete and submit "Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying."

Applicants should not include tables or spreadsheets within Planned Activities or in the comments section of the SF-424A Budget. All documents uploaded must be PDF files except the Budget Justification Workbook, which should be a spreadsheet.

Table 6. Application Documentation

Name of Document	Format	Recommended File Name
SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance	PAGE	N/A
SF-424A Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs	PAGE	N/A
Budget Justification Workbook	Excel	[Tribename]_BudgetJustification
Planned Activities	PAGE	N/A
Narrative Document	PDF	[Tribename]_Application
Application Checklist	PDF	[Tribename]_Checklist
Head of Government Letter or Tribal Council Resolution	PDF	Applicant Name Head of Government.pdf or Applicant Name Tribal Council Resolution.pdf
SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, if applicable	PDF	SF-LLL

Name of Document	Format	Recommended File Name
Other Forms as applicable	PDF	[Tribename]_[Name]

DOE reserves the right to request additional or clarifying information.

5.2. Application for Federal Assistance - Standard Form 424

A completed and signed Standard Form 424 (SF424) containing current information must be submitted. Please ensure all sections have been updated to reflect any changes, including changes to the person to be contacted on matters involving the application and the authorized representative. Indian Tribes should select “New” in Section 2.

The list of certifications and assurances referenced in Field 21 may be found [here](#). Please verify compliance with Intergovernmental Review (SPOC List) (whitehouse.gov). Once the SF424 is completed, add an attachment to the document with the name, title, phone number, and email address for both the Principal Investigator and the Business Officer.

5.3. Budget

The budget includes Standard Form 424A Summary and a completed Budget Justification Workbook.²⁵ Each of these forms should be completed following the guidelines set out below. Please note that an Indian Tribe receiving a grant under this program may use not more than 20% of the grant for administrative purposes.

Any expenditure, allowed by the OMB cost principles or by a grantee or Subgrantee, may be charged as administrative cost. However, certain costs in this program that are excluded from other categories can only be administrative. Grantee Administration and Subgrantee Administration are considered to be unique to each organization. The organization must define its administrative costs consistent with the generally accepted accounting practices and procedures within the organization.

- Indirect costs can be included in Grantee Administration and will be considered an allowable cost provided there is a federally approved indirect rate(s) or cost allocation plan. The indirect cost rate used may be approved by a federal department or agency other than DOE. See 2 CFR 200.414 Indirect (F&A) costs for more information. The rate/amount allowable does not invalidate the program budget category limits.

5.3.1. Standard Form 424A

Applications must include a budget for all funds including DOE, or any other funds, if applicable. It should be completed as follows:

- **Section A:** Budget Summary Lines 1-4, Columns (a) through (g). On line 1, enter new DOE funds.

²⁵ Can be found at <https://www.energy.gov/scep/home-energy-rebate-programs-guidance>.

- **Section B:** Budget Categories. Separate column headings (with the same name as the rows in Section A) should be utilized for each funding source. The total in column g, Section A, must equal the total of all columns in Section B.

5.3.2. *Budget Justification Workbook*

The Budget Justification consists of a detailed explanation of the object class categories listed in line 6, Section B, of Standard Form 424A. In preparing the Budget Justification, Indian Tribes should address the following as requested for each budget category.

- **Personnel:** Identify all positions to be supported by title and the amounts of time (e.g., % of time) to be expended on the Program, the base pay rate, and the total direct personnel compensation. Personnel must be direct costs to the project and not duplicative of personnel costs included in the indirect pool that is the basis of any indirect rate applied for this project.
- **Fringe Benefits:** If fringe cost rates are approved by a federal agency, identify the agency and date of latest rate agreement and include a copy of the rate agreement with the application. If fringe cost rates are not approved by a federal agency, explain how total fringe benefit costs were calculated. Your calculations should identify all rates used along with the base they were applied to (and how the base was derived), and a total for each (along with the grand total). If there is an established computation methodology approved for Tribe use, provide a copy with the SF424 Application.
- **Travel:** Provide the purpose of travel, such as professional conference(s), DOE sponsored meeting(s), project monitoring, etc. Identify the number of trips, and the destination/location if known. Provide the basis for the travel estimate such as past trips, current quotations, federal or other applicable travel regulations, etc. All listed travel must be necessary or beneficial to the performance of the Program. All foreign travel must be identified and requires preapproval.
- **Equipment:** Equipment is defined as an item with an acquisition cost greater than \$5,000 and a useful life expectancy of more than one year. List all proposed equipment and briefly justify its need as it applies to the objectives of this award. Provide a basis of cost such as vendor quotes, catalog prices, prior invoices, etc. If the equipment is being proposed as cost match and was previously acquired, provide the value of its contribution to the project and a rationale for the estimated value shown. If it is new equipment that will retain a useful life upon completion of the project, provide a rationale for the estimated value shown. Also, indicate whether the equipment is being used for other projects or is 100% dedicated to this project.
- **Supplies:** Supplies are defined as items with an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or less or a useful life expectancy of less than one year. Supplies are generally consumed during the project performance. List all proposed supplies and the estimated cost and briefly justify the need for the supplies as they apply to the objectives of this award. Supply items must be direct costs to the project and not duplicative of supply costs included in the indirect pool that is the basis of any indirect rate applied for this project. Provide a basis of cost for

each item listed. Examples include vendor quotes, prior purchases of similar or like items, published price list, etc.

- **Contractual:** All sub-recipients, vendors, contractors and consultants and their estimated costs should be identified. Use TBD if the entity is unknown. Provide a brief description of the work to be performed or the service to be provided. Include the basis of cost for each item listed (competitive, historical, quote, catalog, etc.).
- **Other Direct Costs:** Other direct costs are direct cost items required for the project that do not fit clearly into other categories. These direct costs must not be included in the indirect costs (if indirect costs are proposed for this project). Examples are conference fees, meetings within the scope of work, subscription costs, printing costs, etc., that can be directly charged to the project and are not duplicated in indirect (overhead) costs. Provide a general description, cost, and justification of need for each direct cost item. Provide a basis of cost for each item. Examples include vendor quotes, prior purchases of similar or like items, published price list, etc.
- **Indirect Costs:** If the indirect cost rate has been approved by a federal agency, identify the agency and the date of the latest rate agreement and submit a copy of the agreement with the application. If the indirect cost rate has not been approved by a federal agency, provide the basis for computation of rates including the types of benefits to be provided, the rate(s) used and the cost basis for each rate.

5.3.3. *Expenditure Limitations*

- Indian Tribes may use no more than 20% of the funding provided by DOE under this program for administrative expenses.
- Funds may be used to supplement, and no funds may be used to supplant, weatherization activities under the Weatherization Assistance Program for Low-Income Persons.
- Residential audits and upgrades funded through this program must satisfy the criteria set forth in IRA and described in the MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS section of this document in order to be eligible.

5.3.4. *Rejection of Funds*

An Indian Tribe that chooses not to apply for the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program and therefore refuses its allocated formula funding under IRA Section 50122 must sign and send a letter to decline the funds to its respective Project Officer or to DOE via email at IRAHomeRebates@hq.doe.gov, indicating this decision by May 31, 2025. By signing this document, the Tribe signifies its understanding that its allocation will be redistributed to other Tribes that applied for allocated funds. If the Tribe does not submit the document or convey to DOE via email at IRAHomeRebates@hq.doe.gov that it plans to submit an application by May 31, 2025,²⁶ the Tribe's funding will be reallocated to other Indian Tribes operating a Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program.

²⁶ IRA Section 50122 (a)(C)(ii).

5.4. Planned Activities

An Indian Tribe must complete the Planned Activities section in PAGE, providing estimated values for the first tranche (25%) of funding. Planned Activities will be updated upon release of each subsequent tranche of funding.

5.5. Other Forms as Applicable

The following files should be submitted as attachments with your application if applicable:

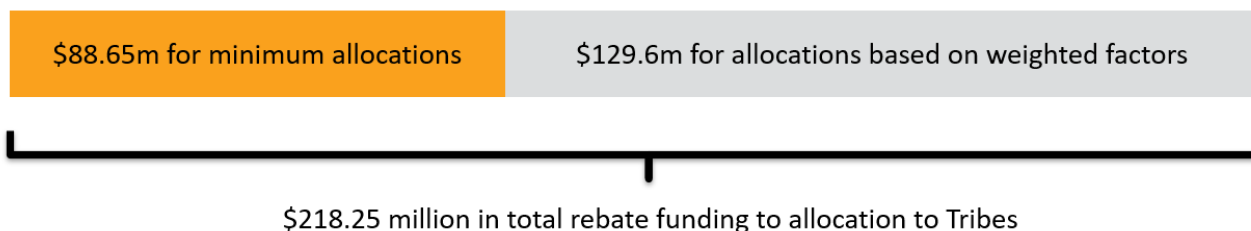
- Indirect Rate Agreement or Rate Proposal.
- Name, phone number, and email address of the contact person for the Tribe.

Appendix A.1: Explanation of Formula for Allocations to Tribes

Section 50122(a)(2)(B) of the IRA directs DOE to “reserve funds made available [for Indian Tribes] ... in a manner determined appropriate by the Secretary.”²⁷ Through this direction, DOE set several goals for its Tribal Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program allocation formula based on feedback received from its request for information submissions,²⁸ its March 2023 Tribal Consultation, and its August 2023 Federal Register Notice that contained the draft formula.²⁹ This appendix describes these goals and the corresponding allocation formula. Appendix A.2 contains the resulting allocations per Indian Tribe.

Components of the Final Formula

DOE constructed its formula to include two components: a minimum allocation for every Tribe, and an additional amount allocated to every Tribe based on weighted factors.



To determine the final formula, DOE addressed the following questions:

- What Tribes are eligible to receive an allocation?
- What minimum allocation is an equitable amount per Tribe?
- What weighted factors best fit the goals of the Tribal Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program?

Tribes Eligible for allocations within the Final Formula

Indian Tribes, as defined in the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act,³⁰ are eligible to receive an allocation. This includes:

- 354 Tribes located in the Lower-48 States³¹
- 227 Alaska Native Villages and Regional Tribes

²⁷ 42 U.S.C. 18795a(a)(2)(B). Grant awards are to be distributed to an Indian Tribe if the application is approved.

²⁸ The DOE Home Energy Rebates Request for Information is available at https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/Default.aspx?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery#Foald01172e95-5645-4356-8f3b-96fd144f9213.

²⁹ 88 FR 55674 (Aug. 16, 2023), available at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/08/16/2023-17571/notice-of-availability-of-tribal-allocation-formula-for-the-tribal-home-electrification-and>.

³⁰ 25 U.S.C. 5304(e).

³¹ In this context, Tribes in the Lower-48 states refer to any federally recognized Tribe that is located outside of Alaska.

- 182 Alaska Native Village Corporations³²
- 12 Alaska Native Regional Corporations

Minimum Allocations within the Final Formula

DOE intends to provide an allocation to every Indian Tribe that wants to administer a home electrification and appliance rebates program. DOE also intends to provide sufficient funding so that small and under-resourced Tribes can successfully administer rebate programs. While small Tribes often lack existing staff capacity, Tribes may utilize 20% of their grant to cover administrative expenses to help address this issue. DOE intends for the minimum award to each Tribe to provide a meaningful amount of funding for administrative costs, particularly if Tribes choose to apply via a consortium as described in Section 1.0 of this document and the ALRD.

In addition, DOE intends to distribute rebates program grant funds in an equitable manner based, in part, on local Tribal housing needs. To do this, DOE established a minimum of \$150,000 for every Tribe with local housing needs data, employing the method used by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG)³³ program. This method allocates funding by assigning housing needs data based on geographic formula areas for each Tribe. HUD uses the IHBG method to avoid the double-counting of Tribal housing needs from households with overlapping membership at multiple Tribal levels.³⁴ The concern of potential double-counting of housing needs is especially relevant for Indian Tribes in Alaska, where Tribal citizens may simultaneously be a member of an Alaska Native Village, Alaska Native Village Corporation, and Alaska Native Regional Corporation. Therefore, HUD’s IHBG method does not provide allocations to 182 Alaska Native Village Corporations and to two Alaska Native Regional Corporations.

For those Tribes without housing needs data and do not receive an allocation from HUD’s IHBG program, DOE’s final formula distributes the original minimum allocation across Alaskan Tribes with overlapping membership (e.g., Native Villages and Native Corporations). DOE maintains that an equitable funding allocation for all eligible Tribes in Alaska is achieved by distributing the allocations across Tribes with overlapping members, which maintains the same funding per capita for Tribal citizens in Alaska as the HUD IHBG method. Further, DOE’s final allocation formula also allows for Alaskan Tribes with overlapping membership to receive rebates funding that is not claimed by an associated Tribe. Please see the “Additional Considerations for Alaskan Tribes” section for more details.

See allocation tables provided in Appendix A.2.

³² DOE is using the same list of Alaska Native Village Corporations that received allocations for DOE’s Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant program (see [https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2023-01/IJA%20%2840552%29%20EECBG%20Program Attachment%201c.%20 Tribal%20Allocations FINAL.pdf](https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2023-01/IJA%20%2840552%29%20EECBG%20Program%20Attachment%201c.%20Tribal%20Allocations%20FINAL.pdf)) and the 40101(d) Formula Grants to States and Indian Tribes (see <https://netl.doe.gov/sites/default/files/2023-05/Allocations%20for%2040101d%20Formula%20Grants%20-%20ALRD%20Amendment%20006.pdf>).

³³ The IHBG program website is available at www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/ih/grants/ihbg.

³⁴ The Federal Register Notice on the draft formula provides more details on the IHBG method of assigning housing needs data. Please see <https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2023-17571/p-29>.

Weighted Factor Allocations within the Final Allocation Formula

DOE will distribute rebates program grant funds based on Tribal housing and energy upgrade needs. DOE evaluated several potential datasets for housing and energy upgrade needs, but most available datasets lack detailed information on housing conditions and energy burden or do not provide full data for all Tribal nations. The best available dataset on Tribal housing needs is the formula data used by HUD to allocate funding for its IHBG program, as discussed above. Because of this, DOE used IHBG data as the full basis of the weighted factors element for the final allocation formula.³⁵

Additional Considerations for Alaskan Tribes

Alaskan Tribes have overlapping jurisdictions and memberships, and individual Alaskan Tribal Households may simultaneously belong to an Alaska Native Village, an Alaska Native Village Corporation, and an Alaska Native Regional Corporation. Because of this, allocations for Alaskan Tribes include modifications to achieve an equitable distribution of funding based on Tribal household needs. These modifications ensure that Alaska Native households have access to funding even if small Alaskan Tribes do not apply. These modifications include:

- All Alaskan Tribes will receive a modified minimum allocation of \$84,442 to account for households with overlapping memberships. Total funding for Alaskan Tribes remains constant between the August 2023 draft formula and the final formula. Alaskan Tribes are encouraged to form a Tribal Consortium and/or partner with a third-party agent to administer their programs.
- If an Alaska Native Village or Alaska Native Village Corporation does not apply for its allocation by the deadline (May 31, 2025), then that allocation will automatically be added to the associated Alaska Native Regional Corporation if that associated Alaska Native Regional Corporation is successfully administering a Tribal Rebates program. Appendix A.2 groups each Alaska Native Village and Alaska Village Corporation under its respective Alaska Native Regional Corporation for identification purposes.
- If an Alaska Native Regional Corporation does not apply for its allocation by the deadline (May 31, 2025), then that allocation will be divided pro rata for each Native Village and Native Village Corporation that is successfully administering a rebates program and is associated with that particular Alaska Native Regional Corporation. Appendix A.2 groups each Alaska Native Village and Alaska Village Corporation under its respective Alaska Native Regional Corporation for identification purposes.

If an Alaska Native Regional Corporation does not apply for its allocation by the deadline (May 31, 2025), the funding reserved for the Regional Corporation that is not part of the pro rata portions awarded to associated Alaska Native Villages and Alaska Native Village Corporations who are successfully administering rebate programs, will be reallocated to Tribes throughout the country who are successfully administering rebate programs.³⁶

³⁵ Please see "Supplemental Information on the DOE Tribal Rebates Formula" for more details, forthcoming at <https://www.energy.gov/scep/tribal-home-electrification-and-appliance-rebates>.

³⁶ 42 U.S.C. 18795a(a)(2)(C)(ii).

Appendix A.2: Allocations to Indian Tribes

The following hyperlink will navigate you to the allocation tables for this program: <https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2023-11/Tribal-Allocations-11.9-1.pdf>

These tables are incorporated into this document and have the same legal effect and standing as if they were included directly in this document.

Appendix B: Data Requirements Guide

Data Collection & Reporting

All Tribes must meet the data collection and reporting requirements outlined in this section. DOE, working with the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) has assembled a team to assist Tribes with information systems, data collection, and reporting. The team has developed a DOE Rebate Tracking and Reporting Tool that Tribes may be interested in using to assist with rebate transactions and tracking data. The team will provide additional information so that Tribes can determine whether the tracking tool can be utilized if the Tribe or their implementer has a software solution for processing rebate applications and capture project data system suits their needs. The DOE/PNNL team is committed to working with Tribes and their program implementers to ensure that data collection, reporting, and tracking - as well as rebate processing - are simple and effective.

Individual Project-Level Data Collection and Reporting Requirements

The table below lists all data a Tribe, Tribal Consortia, or a designated third agent must collect and retain for each rebate-related transaction.

- Where indicated, data points **shall** be reported to DOE **on a semiannual basis**.
- Tribes must submit this data regularly via a formatted spreadsheet provided by DOE or the DOE Rebate Tracking and Reporting Tool API, or through another method agreed upon by DOE and the Tribe.
- **Any data components that are not designated as "Report to DOE" must be retained and only provided to DOE upon request.**
- Any data point marked with an asterisk (*) must only be collected in cases where a portion or all of the rebate is applied at point of installation (e.g., discount on the project invoice). These data points are NOT required in instances where the rebate is ONLY applied at point of purchase/sale (e.g., at retailers).

Table 7. Project and Rebate Data to be Collected and Reported

	Specific Data Element	Drop-Down Options or Coding	Report to DOE	Additional Notes
1	Rebate Claimant Type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeowner • Multifamily Building Owner • Contractor 	X	

	Specific Data Element	Drop-Down Options or Coding	Report to DOE	Additional Notes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tenant Other 		
2	Methods Used to Establish Income Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Security Number 1040 Form Categorical Eligibility Pay stubs Others 		See list of categorically eligible programs: https://www.energy.gov/scep/articles/ira-50121-50122-home-energy-rebates-categorical-eligibility-list
3	Unique Record ID		X ³⁷	In order for DOE/PNNL to import projects into the tracking database using the spreadsheet reporting method, Tribes are required to create and report unique record ID for each upgrade (row) that is reported.
4	Unique Project Identifier		X	A unique ID created by the Tribe to identify a project that includes one or more rebate upgrade types.
5	Installation Type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Contractor installed 	X	
6	Claimant name			Do NOT report this data point to DOE. These will be collected to create the Applicant ID.
7	Claimant email			Do NOT report this data point to DOE. These will be collected to create the Applicant ID.
8	Claimant phone number			Do NOT report this data point to DOE. These will be collected to create the Applicant ID.

³⁷ Not required if Tribe's systems are connected to the PNNL API directly.

	Specific Data Element	Drop-Down Options or Coding	Report to DOE	Additional Notes
9	Building address			Must provide method for non-conventional addresses (e.g., GPS coordinates).
10	Applicant ID		X	The Applicant ID is used for the duration of the rebate processing, tracking, and reporting and is created during the reporting process using information collected about the homeowner or tenant that is receiving the benefit of the upgrade.
11	Unique address ID		X	When reporting to DOE, Tribes will supply the address of the project separate from the main reporting process. DOE will supply a unique Address ID to be used for the duration of the rebate processing, tracking, and reporting.
12	Tribe attestation	Yes / No	X	The Tribe attests that 'we have required proof of identify, proof of ownership, and proof of income for this rebate.'
13	New or Existing Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Existing 	X	
14	Building type for the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detached Single Family Attached Single Family Manufactured Home Multifamily In-Unit Multifamily In-Unit (part of whole building project) Central Multifamily 	X	
15	If MF, number of units in the building		X	

	Specific Data Element	Drop-Down Options or Coding	Report to DOE	Additional Notes
16	If a Central Multifamily or Multifamily In-Unit (part of whole building project), what percent of units that are in <80% AMI bucket or are in the ≥80% & <150% AMI bucket?	Between 0 and 100% for each bucket	X	
17	If Multifamily In-Unit, what's the income bucket of tenant in that unit?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <80 % AMI • ≥80% AMI and < 150% AMI 	X	
18	If single unit in MF building, what's the unit number?		X	
19	If Single Family Home, what is the Income Bucket of the homeowner/tenant?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <80 % AMI • ≥80% AMI and < 150% AMI 	X	DOE/PNNL can assist Tribes in querying the HUD database of AMI levels-based location & occupancy. See DOE AMI calculator here https://www.energy.gov/scep/articles/amifpl-calculator

	Specific Data Element	Drop-Down Options or Coding	Report to DOE	Additional Notes
20	If installation is conducted by a contractor, is the contractor on the Tribe's approved contractor list?	Yes / No	X	Required to collect
21	Contractor Company Name		X	Required if installation type is contractor installed.
22	Limited Home Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Table 8 	Optional	Limited Home Assessments are only utilized for HVAC installations. While reporting Limited Home Assessment data is optional for Tribes, if reported, all data fields must be provided.
23	Upgrade Type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Envelope improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wall insulation Ceiling insulation Duct insulation Floor insulation above unconditioned space Floor insulation above conditioned space Foundation insulation Air sealing Duct sealing Electric load service center Electric wiring Heat pump water heater Heat pump (HVAC) Ventilation Heat Pump clothes dryer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electric stove/cooktop/oven/range 	X	

	Specific Data Element	Drop-Down Options or Coding	Report to DOE	Additional Notes
24	Original and upgrade component details	See Table 7 (Original and Upgrade Component Data)	Optional	See Table 7 (Original and Upgrade Component Data)
25	Project invoice			Tribes should retain the detailed project invoice.
26	Product Info	Purchased item universal product code(s) (UPC) OR model number OR AHRI reference number		Depending on the qualified electrification product, the UPC, model number or AHRI number should be reported.
27	Purchase Date		X	Date and time the qualified electrification product was purchased.
28	Equipment and materials cost		X	
29	Installation costs		X	
30	DAC Incentive		X	Amount of Disadvantage Community Incentive provided to the contractor using rebate funds for the project.
31	Installation Incentive		X	Amount of additional installation incentive provided to the contractor using rebate funds for project.
32	Photographs			Geo-tagged and time-stamped photos of pre-existing equipment ³⁸ and the home components that were upgraded.

³⁸ Pre-existing equipment photos are not required for new construction and building materials (insulation/air sealing, electrical panels, and wiring).

	Specific Data Element	Drop-Down Options or Coding	Report to DOE	Additional Notes
33	Proof of quality installation at designated address			PNNL has a recommended and free quality installation tool that will also support taking geo-tagged photographs. https://www.pnnl.gov/projects/quality-install-tool is recommended. A geo-tagged photo of installed equipment. PNNL has a free quality installation tool to meet this requirement. Photos are only required for certain upgrades per DOE requirements.
34	Proof of Health and Safety Checks Completed	See Table 8	X	
35	Confirmation All Failed Inspection Issues Have been Remedied	Yes / No / N/A		Tribe attests that when they require a post-retrofit inspection, if the inspection failed, all failed items were remedied.
36	Project completion date		X	
37	Amount of rebate provided to claimant		X	
	Number of people per household			

	Specific Data Element	Drop-Down Options or Coding	Report to DOE	Additional Notes
	Income Bucket	<80% AMI 80% AMI ≤ X < 150% AMI		DOE/PNNL will assist Tribes in querying the HUD database of AMI levels-based location & occupancy
	Dwelling Type	Single Family Multifamily	X	
	If MF, is project applied to entire building or one unit?	Whole Building One Unit		
	If entire MF building, percent of units that are <80% AMI or are >80% & <150% AMI		X	
	If rebate is for a single unit in MF building, what is the income of the tenant in the unit?	<80% AMI 80% AMI ≤ X < 150% AMI	X	
	Is contractor eligible?	Yes/No		
	Final project cost			

	Specific Data Element	Drop-Down Options or Coding	Report to DOE	Additional Notes
	Amount of rebate deducted upon material purchase		X	Required for rebates applied at point of sale
	Amount of rebate deducted upon installation			Required for rebates applied at point of installation

Table 8. Proof of Health and Safety Checks Completed

	Specific Data Element	Drop-Down Options or Coding	Report to DOE	Additional Notes
1	Does the venting test pass?	Passed / Failed / Warning / N/A	X	Testing is only required if the home has one or more combustion appliances post-retrofit.
2	Does the spillage test(s) pass?	Passed / Failed / Warning / N/A	X	Testing is only required if the home has one or more combustion appliances post-retrofit.
3	Does gas leak detection test pass?	Passed / Failed / Warning / N/A	X	Testing is only required if the home has one or more combustion appliances post-retrofit
4	Does the ambient CO test pass?	Passed / Failed / Warning / N/A	X	Testing is only required if the home has one or more combustion appliances post-retrofit
5	Does the undiluted CO test pass?	Passed / Failed / Warning / N/A	X	Testing is only required if the home has one or more combustion appliances post-retrofit

6	Are there signs of mold or moisture in or outside the home?	Yes / No	X	Contractor should not proceed with energy efficiency measures if there are signs of mold or moisture.
7	What is the roof condition?	Good / Potential issues	X	
8	For HVAC installations, what is the drainage system condition?	Good / Potential issues	X	
9	Has an ASHRAE 62.2 calculation been performed pre- and post-retrofit to ensure proper indoor air quality?	Yes / No	X	
10	Confirm that answers to questions 1-9 have been disclosed to the homeowner	Yes / No	X	

Program-Level Data Tracking & Reporting Requirements

The following programmatic data must be tracked by Tribes, Tribal Consortia, and/or their agent and submitted on a **semiannual** basis through the DOE PAGE system as required in the FARC. Depending on how a Tribe elects to work with the DOE/PNNL team on data collection and reporting, DOE/PNNL may be able to calculate the data points marked with an asterisk below.

Table 9. Program Data to be Tracked and Reported

Data Point	Notes
Total administrative Spend	
Number of \$500 Installer Bonuses	
List of qualified contractors	Provide a link to a "live list" that the Tribe will keep updated

Data Point	Notes
*Rebate funds allocated	
*Number of homes receiving rebates	
*Number of projects by LMI	

Appendix C: Sample Letter of Intent to Apply

Applicant may use its own Letter of Intent to Apply as long as it conveys the information indicated below, and it is attached with a signed Head of Government Letter, Tribal Council Resolution, or similar instrument as described below.

To: Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program for Indian Tribes
State and Community Energy Programs

Office of Infrastructure
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20585
Email: IRAHomeRebates@hq.doe.gov

From: **[Name of Person Signing on Behalf of Tribal Entity]**
[Title]
[Tribal Entity, or Tribal Entities if applying as a Consortium (Lead Tribe Must Be Identified)]

Subject: Letter of Intent (LOI) to Reserve Formula Funds for the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program for Indian Tribes.

RECOMMENDED BY: May 15, 2024

[Date of Letter]

Please check the box as applies.

1. YES NO

On behalf of *[Indian Tribe or Tribes if applying as a Consortium]*, I am writing to express our intent to reserve grant funds provided through the Inflation Reduction Act Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program for Indian Tribes.

We understand that this letter **DOES NOT** constitute the full application that is required, and that submission of this letter does not guarantee receipt of funds. *[Indian Tribe or Tribes if applying as a Consortium]* will submit a full application in accordance with the requirements specified in the Administrative and Legal Requirements Document by the May 31, 2025, deadline.

By submitting this letter, I attest that I have been conferred the authority to represent *[Indian Tribe or Tribes if applying as a Consortium]* for this Letter of Intent. An executed copy of the *[Head of*

Government Letter or Tribal Council Resolution or similar governmental instrument] is attached. See below for the description of the instrument.

2. YES NO

We would like to request assistance with completing a full application.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name of Person Signing on Behalf of Entity within Indian Tribe or Tribes if applying as a Consortium]

[Title]

[Indian Tribe or Tribes if applying as a Consortium]

Instructions for a “Head of Government Letter”, “Tribal Council Resolution”, or other similar instrument

A “Head of Government Letter”, “Tribal Council Resolution,” or other similar instrument must be signed by a person or entity appointed by the Indian Tribe’s legally authorized entity and consistent with the Indian Tribe’s customs, documenting their appointment as the sole entity within the Indian Tribe to apply for, receive, and administer the award as authorized by Section 50122 of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 and as described in the Administrative and Legal Requirements Document.

If applying as a Tribal Consortium, the document must identify the Indian Tribe to act on its behalf as lead Indian Tribe of the Tribal Consortium and receive their allocations. The document should state that the lead Indian Tribe will apply for grant funding and administer the grant on behalf of all participating consortium Indian Tribes. Please note that only the eligible Indian Tribe or the lead Indian Tribe of the Tribal Consortium may be the awardee. The eligible Indian Tribe and/or the lead Indian Tribe of the Tribal Consortium, as applicable, will ultimately be responsible for satisfying all grant requirements.

Appendix D: Recommended Best Practices

Community and Workforce Engagement Strategy

The Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates program is expected to provide reasonable and flexible means to (1) educate consumers, (2) support community engagement, and (3) help develop a skilled local workforce. DOE strongly encourage the Tribes to create a Community Engagement & Workforce Strategy to incorporate these objectives in developing their program.

If developed, the Strategy should include the following components:

Engage community and labor:

Community and labor engagement can lay the groundwork for formal partnerships with community and workforce partners to support administration and implementation of the rebate programs. A Tribe should:

- Hold at least one public input session to solicit community input on its proposed rebate program.
- Use the input from these engagement sessions to inform the design of its rebate program, and it must describe how this input was used in its program design.

Support a skilled workforce:

The Tribe should describe its approach to working with Tribally designated housing entities and contractors to support investing in workforce and retaining skilled workers in the home upgrade industry. This component should briefly describe the timeline and a preliminary budget for contractor outreach and education activities.

Educate consumers:

Educating consumers and providing a positive consumer experience is key to the program's success. The Tribes should describe its approach to consumer education and outreach. The Tribes are encouraged to leverage and repurpose outreach and education materials from existing programs where possible. This component should include a timeline and programmatic elements, such as targeted advertising, outreach via local governments, or partnerships with local nonprofit organizations. The content could include spotting defective installation, predatory lending practices, etc. The Tribes may allocate a portion of their administrative budgets to conduct these activities.

Maximizing Rebate Impact by Integrating with Other Programs

By leveraging existing programs through resource braiding, co-funding, and financing, Tribal programs may support deeper and broader energy, cost, and carbon savings among participating households. While following all home energy rebates requirements, Indian Tribes are **strongly encouraged** to design their rebate programs in ways that allow for effective combinations of various funding sources, including through integration with existing programs. However, a variety of legal prohibitions prevent certain methods of combining funds from different sources.

Effective financial leveraging must comply with two prohibitions:

1. The total combination of all immediate upfront funding sources (federal grants, federal loans, and non-federal funding) cannot exceed the total project cost, and
2. Neither the Home Efficiency Rebates nor the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates may be combined with other federal grants or rebates for the same single upgrade.³⁹

There are four categories of funding that can be combined with a rebate, each with different requirements:

- 1. Combining a rebate with other federal rebates or grants:** No other federal grants, including another IRA home energy rebate, can be used for the same upgrade by the eligible entity or the eligible entity representative. Home energy upgrade packages that use multiple federal grants must braid the funding in a manner that ensures each federal grant only funds distinct, separable upgrades.

To ensure compliance with this requirement, Indian Tribes must ensure that detailed invoices and information identifying which distinct and separable upgrades were funded by which federal sources are collected and retained when a home/building is using funding from multiple federal grants. Each upgrade or QEP component must be a line item on the invoice of the home energy upgrade package with subdivided labor costs associated with each line item.

Attempts to claim multiple federal rebates for the same single upgrade is a violation of federal law and must be reported to DOE. Issuance of multiple federal rebates for the same single upgrade is a violation of federal law and must be reported to DOE upon discovery and documented in the Tribe's semiannual reporting documents.

- 2. Combining a rebate with federal loans or loans from previously granted federal funds:** Loan programs from federal agencies (such as loans from HUD) and loans from previously granted federal funds (such as from the DOE Revolving Loan Fund grants or U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund grants) are not considered Federal grants in that the recipient household receives these programs as financial products rather than as grants or rebates. Therefore, these programs may be used to finance any remaining costs for upgrades and individual components of qualified electrification projects additional to and separate from the value of the rebate.
- 3. Combining a rebate with non-federal funding:** Non-federal funding, such as funding authorized by a Tribe government, or local government, or available through a utility program or philanthropic support, can be used to co-fund any remaining costs for upgrades and individual components of qualified electrification projects beyond the value of the federal rebate.
- 4. Taxability of Home Energy Rebates:** The rebate program funded through IRA Section 50122 will be treated as a reduction in the purchase price or cost of property for eligible

³⁹ See 42 U.S.C. 18795(c)(7) and 18795a(c)(8).

upgrades and projects, and the consumer that receives an IRA rebate will not be required to report the value of the rebate as income.

Stacking Tax Credits with Home Energy Rebates. Consumers that receive IRA rebates for products that may be eligible for the 25C tax credit may claim the credit after reducing the amount of the expenditure on which the consumer calculates the amount of the credit by the rebate. For example, if a product is eligible for an IRA Section 50122 rebate and 25C tax credit up to 30% of the cost, the consumer may claim a tax credit of up to 30% of the cost remaining to the consumer after application of the rebate provided through IRA Section 50122. Therefore, if a consumer purchases an eligible product for \$400 and receives a \$100 rebate for this purchase, the consumer may claim a 30% credit of the remaining \$300, or \$90. Indian Tribes must collect sufficient documentation for each home energy upgrade that combines a rebate with other funding sources to ensure that the total combination of federal and other funding sources (federal grants, federal loans, and non-federal funding) does not exceed the total project cost.

Indian Tribes should also be aware that the above requirements and guidance may not capture restrictions or requirements imposed by other funding programs. For allowable integration, all funding sources--federal and/or non-federal--must allow for combining of resources. Other funding sources, including certain federal loans, tax credits, state, local, or utility funding, may have additional restrictions on directly combining funds for the same single upgrade that is part of a larger home energy upgrade. Tribal implementers should consult the program requirements for non-federal funding sources to ensure that they are combining funds in a legally allowable manner.