



PowerUp Wisconsin – Single Family Homes Program

Program Guidelines for Fiscal Year 2026
Lead Division: Productivity & Sustainability
☒ New ☐ Revised
☒ Grant ☐ Loan ☐ Tax Credit ☐ Technical Assistance

Introduction

Background Information: WEDC was awarded \$62.4 million in April 2024 in federal funds to support infrastructure across the state to assist in reduction of energy costs. Out of the \$62.4 million grant, PowerUp Wisconsin – Single Family Homes (PU-SFH) will provide approximately \$12.9 million over multiple years to fund eligible single family home installations to reduce long term energy costs. The reduction and stabilization of household energy costs results in better affordability for Wisconsin families to achieve long-term home ownership.

Program’s Purpose: The PU-SFH program provides grants to one or more Applicants to support residential single-family distributed energy system installations, administrative costs, and other eligible expenses, in accordance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations.

Eligibility Requirements

The Applicant must provide services to eligible households and provide background and experience in working under federal or state grants. The Applicant must ensure compliance with all applicable EPA requirements. The Applicant must describe the process for selecting eligible residents and the income verification tools utilized.

Eligible Applicants: PU-SFH Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be an affordable single-family housing developer eligible to do business in Wisconsin.
- Have knowledge and experience administering or implementing large-scale grants, or incentive programs, including state and federal programs.
- Demonstrate ability to ensure compliance with all applicable EPA requirements, including:
 - Pass-through entity obligations set forth in the [Uniform Grant Guidance](#) (2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500), the [EPA’s Subaward Policy](#), and the [EPA’s Guidance on Participant Support Costs](#), as applicable.
 - Terms provided in the [Davis-Bacon and Related Acts](#) (DBRA) [Requirements for Contractors and Subcontractors Under EPA Grants](#), as well as the [Buy America Build America Act](#) (BABA).
 - Household income verification.
 - Consumer protection and consumer support.
 - Prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse.



- Possess a thorough understanding of approaches to serve eligible communities, including:
 - Strategies for rural areas.
 - Experience collaborating with the State, Native Nations, and local governments.
 - Experience communicating and collaborating with community-based organizations (CBOs) for program delivery.
 - Demonstrated ability to work with construction contractors.
- Demonstrate technical expertise sufficient to support innovative single-family residential energy projects.
- Possess familiarity with Wisconsin distributed energy programs and the wide range of needs of Wisconsin communities and households. Including knowledge of and process for utilizing available associated incentives from Federal, state, local, private, and philanthropic sources.
- Demonstrated ability to educate households and stakeholders on the costs and benefits of distributed energy.

Eligible Activities: PU-SFH grants can fund the following activities. Costs are only eligible to be applied to grant and matching fund expenses after WEDC approval.

- Distributed energy installations;
- Pre- and post-installation inspections;
- Costs for staff salaries, technology, office supplies, and other allowable costs in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200, and expressly approved by WEDC (not to exceed 4.2% of the grant).

Matching Funds: There is no matching funds requirement.

Available Incentives

FY26: \$3,226,674 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Solar for All Funds

\$12,906,694 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Solar for All Funds is available for the entire term of the Federal allocation.

Award Sizes: The maximum PU-SFH grant is \$12,906,694, with \$3,226,674 available to be committed in FY26 and the remainder subject to the availability of funds over the term of the Federal allocation.

Awards per Applicant: Applicants may receive one PU-SFH grant.

Activities and Expected Outcomes

Award one organization to assist up to 260 single-family housing units in FY26. Up to 1,038 single-family housing units will be assisted over the entire term of the Federal allocation.

Impact: PU-SFH is expected to increase single-family home ownership affordability by offsetting at least 20% of each household's electricity consumption cost. The Program is expected to save participating residents approximately \$32.4 million over the expected life



of the distributed energy systems.

Metrics: As a community development program where project performance reporting metrics for PU-SFH are focused on measuring capital investment and system installation benefits. PU-SFH program metrics include the following list, and each project will include one or more of these metrics in its reporting requirements depending on the project's specified use of funds.

- Capital Investment
- Energy Installed Capacity
- Housing Units Assisted
- Systems Installed
- Energy Savings
- Dollars Saved
- Leverage - Total

Application Guidelines

Timeline: The Program application window begins Winter 2025. WEDC may choose to obligate the entire available funding in FY26 or to reopen the application cycle until the entire available funding is obligated.

Review Considerations: WEDC may take the following into account when considering awarding an Applicant:

- The number of eligible households the Applicant can serve each year.
- The timeline provided by the Applicant for home installations.
- The geographic areas the Applicant can cover.
- Whether the Applicant has plans and capabilities to serve tribal members.
- The Applicant's experience with each qualification listed above.
- The Applicant's administrative capacity to comply with WEDC and EPA guidelines.
- The Applicant's compliance and fraud prevention policies and procedures.
- The Applicant's ability to leverage incentives from Federal, state, local, private, and philanthropic sources.

How to Apply: An interested Applicant should contact a WEDC Account Manager to determine if their project is right for the program. Upon review of the project, and alignment with eligibility criteria, an Applicant will be invited to submit their application through Network Wisconsin.

Award Process: The completed application will be assigned to a WEDC underwriter and go through WEDC's awards administration process.

Performance Reporting: Recipients must biannually submit a performance report documenting activities, environmental metrics, job creation, job retention, average wages, eligibility checklists, and other contractual deliverables and metrics.

WEDC annually selects awards on a sample basis for an audit. All backup to the performance report and financial records is required to be maintained by the Recipient for a period of at least three (3) years after the last performance report is due. WEDC may impose additional reporting requirements to evaluate project performance and to ensure compliance with



contract deliverables.

Revision History

Program Inception – Fiscal Year 2026