



## Recovery Update from the Iowa Office of Energy Independence

July 14, 2009

As the August 12th deadline for the **State Energy Program** funding approaches, potential applicants have had many questions for our office. Below are some of the most frequent questions that we've been hearing. This list will continue to be updated at <http://www.energy.iowa.gov/ARRA09/SEP/FAQ.html>.

Additionally, two modifications have been made to the application package, which can be found at <http://www.energy.iowa.gov/ARRA09/SEP/modifications.html>.

**Q: What does an "appropriate energy analysis" mean?**

**A:** OEI reserves the right to require a full energy analysis as defined under Section 565, Chapter 6 of the Iowa Administrative Code. With the Recovery Act's need for expediency in mind, though, all applications must at least include credible documentation and proof that the information submitted within the application is accurate. OEI may request additional information for individual applications as they are reviewed.

**Q: Is there a pdf or Word version of the application that we can fill out?**

**A:** A Word version of the application is now available at <http://www.energy.iowa.gov/ARRA09/SEP.html>. A pdf version will be released within the next week.

**Q: Is there a limit on how many projects we can apply for?**

**A:** No. Applicants can apply for funding with as many projects as they like.

**Q: Do we need to submit one application for all the projects that we're seeking funding for?**

**A:** Applicants can use one application for all of their projects or submit an individual application for each project. A separate application for each project may be easier in the award process though.

**Q: Can we apply for multiple categories with the same project?**

**A:** Yes. Applicants can apply in multiple categories with the same project, although a separate application is required for each category.

**Q: Can funding be used for new buildings or buildings under construction?**

**A:** Yes. Although federal law states that funding can't be used to construct buildings, it can be used to fund energy efficiency or renewable energy improvements on buildings that are being constructed or which are newly-constructed.



**Q: If our city or county is applying for funding under the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grants Program, can we still apply for State Energy Program funding as well?**

**A:** Yes. There is no restriction on applying for both programs. Applications for the Block Grants Program will likely be released within the next 60 days.

**Q: What is a job created or retained?**

**A:** The Office of Management & Budget defines a job created as a new position created and filled or an existing unfilled position that is filled as a result of Recovery funding. A job retained is defined as an existing position that would not have been continued to be filled were it not for Recovery funding.

**Q: How do we calculate jobs created or retained?**

**A:** The Office of Management & Budget requires that estimates on the number of jobs should be expressed as full-time equivalents. This is calculated as total hours worked divided by the number of hours in a full-time schedule. Full details can be found on pages 33 to 37 at [http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda\\_fy2009/m09-21.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda_fy2009/m09-21.pdf).

**Q: When filling out the application, should we use numbers for the entire project?**

**A:** No, unless you are seeking funding for the entire project. The jobs created, funds leveraged, and all other criteria should only be reported for the portion of the project that an applicant is seeking funding for. For example, if \$200,000 in funds will be leveraged for a building renovation, but only \$10,000 of those funds will be used for an energy efficiency improvement, then only the \$10,000 in funding will be counted.

As always, thank you for your interest in the Recovery programs and in our activities. We look forward to working with you in the coming weeks.

**“If you would like to receive Recovery Updates, please e-mail Sean Bagniewski at [sean.bagniewski@iowa.gov](mailto:sean.bagniewski@iowa.gov)”**