



Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP) Overview

October 4, 2023

HBIP Overview and Enrollment Orientation

Agenda

- What's New?
- Overview
- Enrollment Orientation
- What's Next?
- Program Update
- Additional Opportunities



What's New?



HBIP – What's New?

- Quarterly competitions with \$90 million available each quarter.
- Make available approximately \$68.5 million to transportation fueling facility applicants, \$18 million to fuel distribution facilities, and \$4.5 million to home heating oil distribution facilities.
- Add home heating oil distribution facility as applicant type under Fuel Distribution Facility applicant type.
- Increase Federal cost share for eligible activities to 75 percent for transportation fueling facilities owning 10 or fewer stations and home heating oil distribution facilities.
- Updated capped costs for fuel dispensers and fuel storage tanks for transportation fueling facility applicants.

Overview



Overview

Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP)

What does this program do?

The purpose of the HBIIP is to ***increase significantly*** the sales and use of higher blends of ethanol and biodiesel,

by **expanding the infrastructure** for renewable fuels derived from U.S. agricultural products.

Who may apply?

Owners of –

Transportation fueling facilities:

Fueling stations, convenience stores, hypermarket fueling stations, fleet facilities (including rail and marine), and similar entities with capital investments;

Fuel distribution facilities:

Terminal operations, depots, midstream partners, and similarly equivalent operations, including home heating oil distribution facilities.

HBIP Overview (continued)

What funding is available?

Up to **\$90 million** is available to eligible participants/owners each quarter:

- Approximately \$68.5 million is available to transportation fueling facilities,
- Approximately \$18 million is available to fuel distribution facilities, and
- Approximately \$4.5 million is available to home heating oil distribution facilities

for activities related to higher blends of fuel ethanol, **greater than 10 percent ethanol**, including E15 and E85, and biodiesel **greater than 5 percent biodiesel**, including B20 or higher.

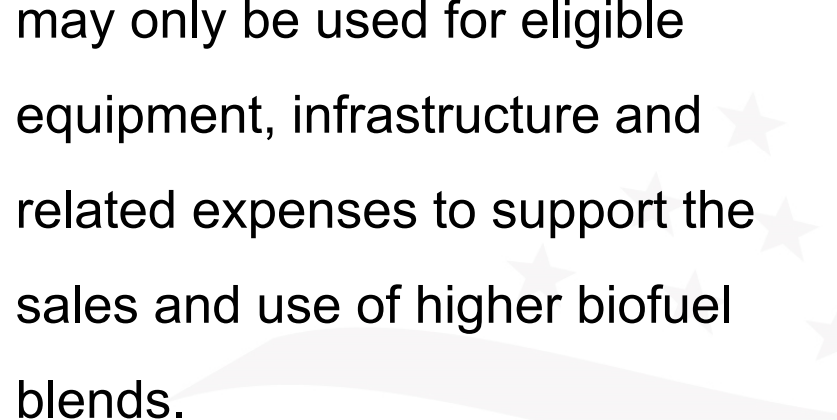
HBIIIP Overview (continued)

What are the terms?

Grants for up to 75 percent of *total eligible project costs*, but not to exceed \$5 million, whichever is less.

How must funds be used?

Funds made available under HBIIIP may only be used for eligible equipment, infrastructure and related expenses to support the sales and use of higher biofuel blends.



HBIIIP Overview (continued)

Eligible Project Costs:

- Incurred after a **complete application is submitted**;
- Purchase, installation, and/or retrofitting of fuel dispensers related equipment and infrastructure to support higher blend fuel sales;
- Construction, replacement, improvements;
- Fees – construction permits, and licenses;
- Professional service fees.

Ineligible Project Costs:

- Renewable diesel projects;
- Sustainable aviation fuel projects;
- Used equipment and vehicles;
- Construction or equipment costs that would be incurred regardless of the HBIIIP project;
- Purchase of real property/land or lease payments;
- Expenses associated with applying for, reporting, reimbursement, and servicing of HBIIIP.

HBIP Overview (continued)

There is a **Matching Funds** (cost sharing) requirement. Matching funds will need to cover the remaining balance that grant funds do not.

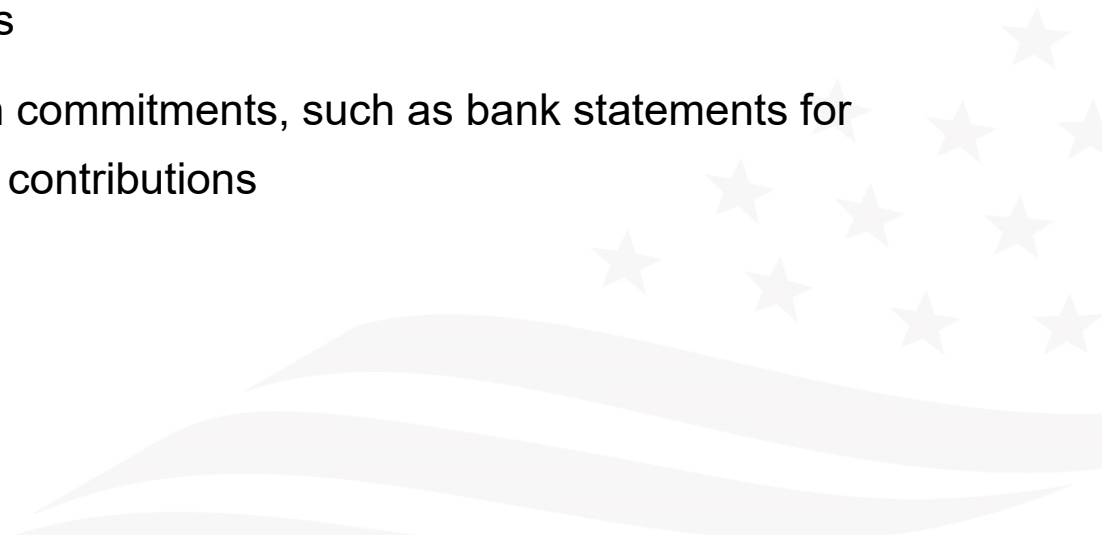
Estimated Funding:	Cash	In-kind value	All
Federal			
Applicant			
State			
Local			
Other			
TOTAL			

- Arrangements with private entities
- Commercial vendors of fuels
- Agricultural commodity/renewable fuel promotional organizations
- State-led programs and private sector efforts

HBIIIP Overview (continued)

Matching Funds:

- Required to receive HBIIIP grant
- Remainder – All eligible project costs not covered by Grant funds
- Consist of **CASH** and In-kind contributions
- Secured by applicant – **must** have written commitments, such as bank statements for cash or Letters of Commitment for in-kind contributions
- In-kind from applicants is not eligible
- Other Federal grants are not eligible
- Passive tax equity contributions allowed



HBIP Overview (continued)

Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA)

- If applying as:
 - State or Local Government
 - Indian Tribe
 - Institution of Higher Education
 - Nonprofit



Consideration for Geographical Diversity

A **Consideration for Geographical Diversity** is afforded to

Transportation fueling station owners based on the location of the proposed facilities.

Considerations include:

- Interstate Corridor
- Sole Station
- Western States
- New England States



Other Considerations

A **Targeted Assistance Goal** is established for applicants owning the fewest number of transportation fueling stations.

A **Consideration for First Time Applicants** may be given to those without a prior acceptance of an HBIIP Letter of Conditions.

A **Consideration of Rural Development Key Priorities**, including:

- Assisting rural communities recover economically from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly disadvantaged communities.
- Ensuring all rural residents have equitable access to RD programs and benefits from RD funded projects.

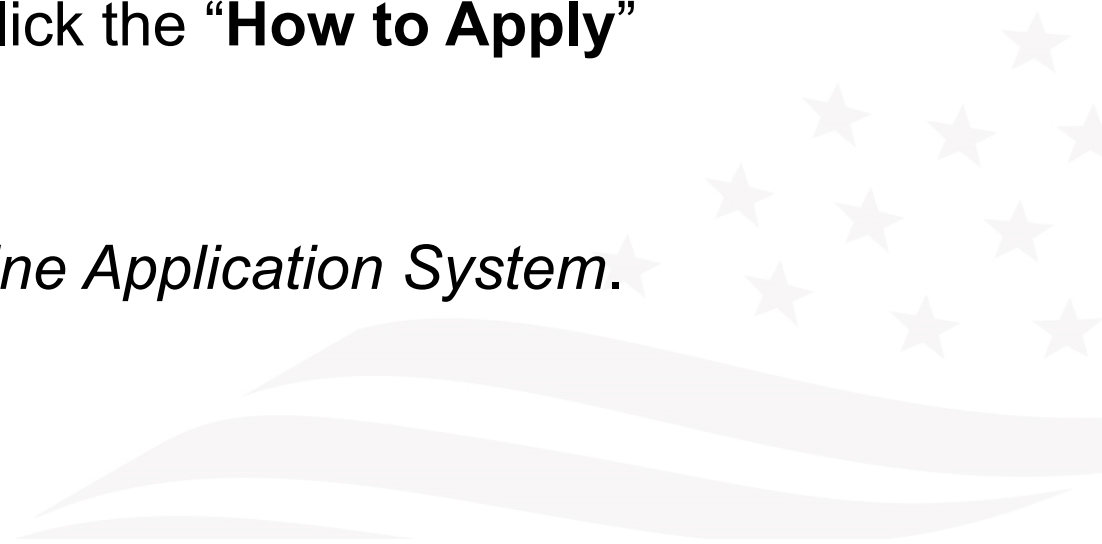
Please visit <https://www.rd.usda.gov/priority-points> for additional information.

HBIP Overview (continued)

Sounds great!

How do we get started?

- 1) <https://rd.usda.gov/hbiip>; Click the **“How to Apply”** button;
- 2) Click the **“To Apply”** tab;
- 3) Open the *Checklist for Online Application System*.

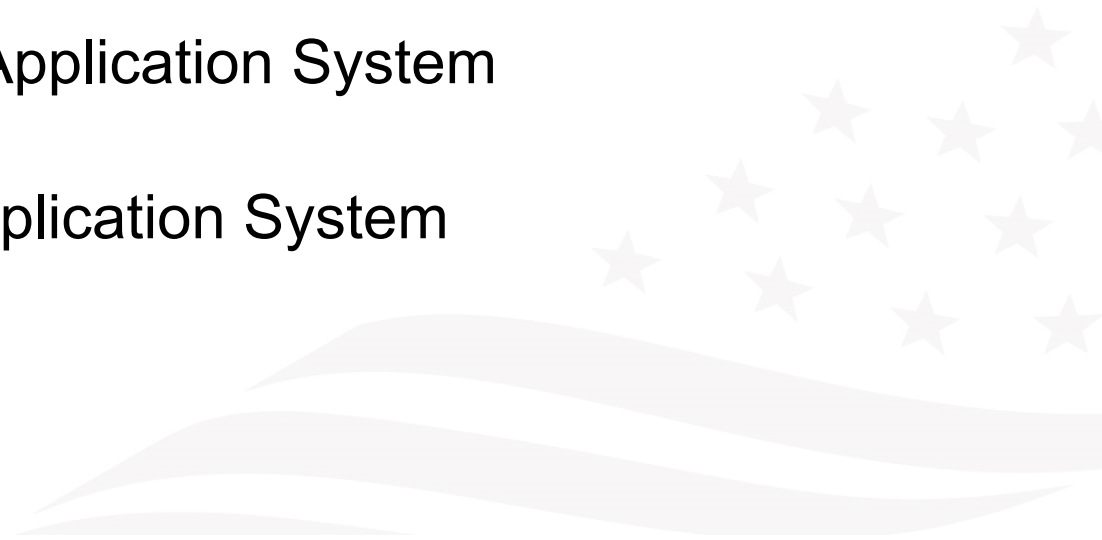


Enrollment Orientation



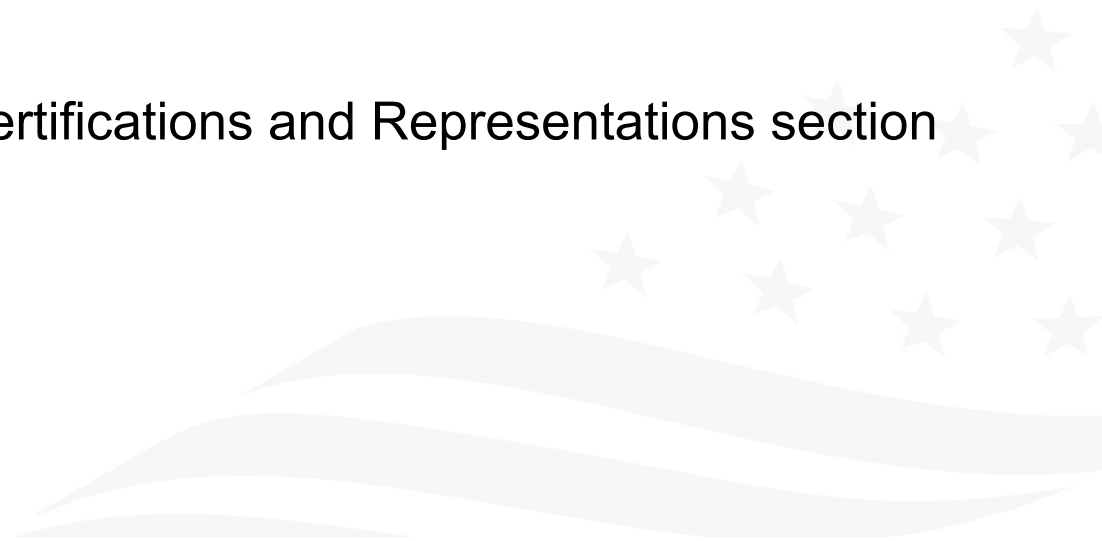
HBIP Enrollment

- Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
- USDA eAuthentication/Login.gov
- Request access to the Online Application System
- Obtain access to the Online Application System



HBIP Enrollment

- “Register Your Entity” with the System for Award Management (SAM) at www.sam.gov to obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and expiration date.
 - Make sure you complete the Certifications and Representations section when registering your entity.



HBIP Enrollment

- Visit USDA eAuthentication <https://www.eauth.usda.gov>.
- Create a Login.gov Account or utilize existing account <https://login.gov/>.
 - Verified Identity will be required.
 - Visit <https://higherblendsgrants-apply.rd.usda.gov/s/>
 - Verify Identity through Login.gov

To Apply

Login.gov

An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#) ▾

USDA eAuthentication
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE




eAuth

HOME | CREATE ACCOUNT | MANAGE ACCOUNT ▾ | HELP ▾

Login ?


Select your user type to continue

Remember my user type

-  **Customer**
Public citizens conducting business with USDA Agencies >
-  **USDA Employee/Contractor**
Federal employees and contractors working for USDA >
-  **Other Federal Employee/Contractor**
Non-USDA federal agency employees and contractors >

To Apply


Login.gov




Customer Login

[Need an account?](#)
Not a Customer? [Change user type](#)

Select an option to continue

**Login.gov**
Enter Login.gov User ID and Password >


**eAuth User ID**
Enter User ID and Password

User ID [Forgot User ID](#)

Password [Forgot Password](#)

Show Password

Log In




Customer Login


[Need an account?](#)
Not a Customer? [Change user type](#)

Select an option to continue

To Apply Login.gov

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LOGIN.GOV

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To Apply

Login.gov

Link with Login.gov ?

Login.gov must be linked to an eAuth account to use it with USDA applications.

Use an existing eAuth account to link to my Login.gov account.

Continue without linking to an existing eAuth account.

Continue

Continue Link with Login.gov?

After linking, your Login.gov account must be used for all future access to USDA websites and applications.

No

Yes

Request to Participate

HBIIP Online Access Request Company/Account and User Creation Request

Submit this completed document to HBIIP@usda.gov, ensuring that all Authorized Users have Level 2 USDA eAuthentication (verified identity) access prior to submission.

Request Type

1 Create Company Account only

2 Create User Account only

3 Create both Company Account and User Account (*New applicants)

4 Generate New Application and Add User Account (*Repeat applicants)

Company Information

Company Legal Name

Company Tax ID Number (TIN)

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

UEI Expiration Date

Applicant Type (Select One)

Authorized User Information

Last Name	First Name	Email	eAuth ID
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

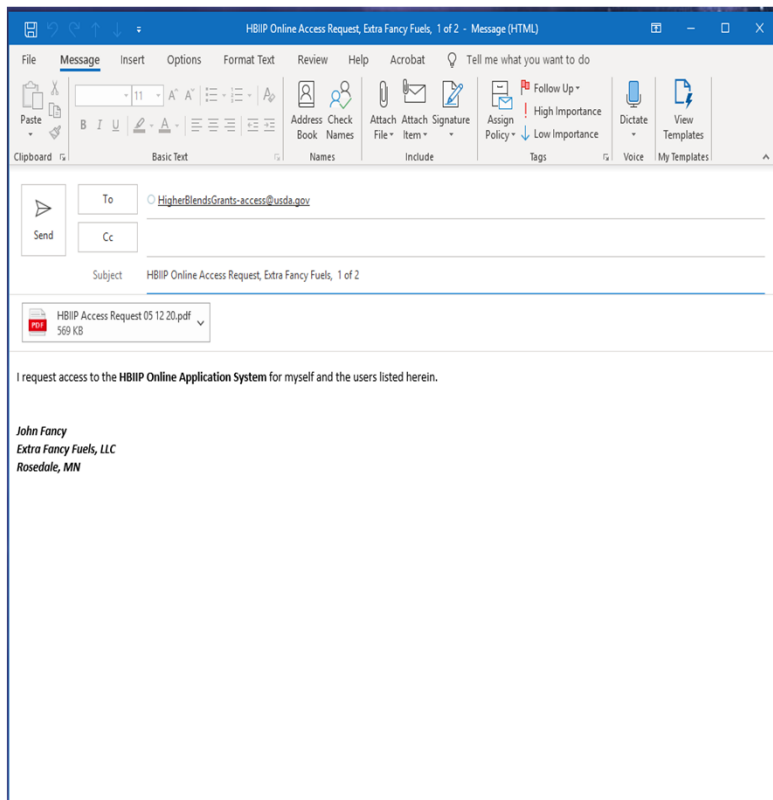
*If you are a repeat applicant and need to have Authorized Users removed from account access, please provide user names in a written request to HBIIP@usda.gov.

Please complete this authorization to allow access to the company account or attach an authorization allowing access to the account for users not affiliated with applicant entity. I, as a representative of the entity above, grant permission for the users listed in the Authorized User Information table to have access to our application.

Signature Date

- Select: Create both Company Account and User Account
- Company's Legal Name
- Company TIN
- Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
- UEI Expiration Date
- Applicant Type (Select One):
 - Owner of 10 or fewer fueling stations
 - Owner of more than 10 fueling stations
 - Fleet facility (including rail/marine)
 - Fuel Distribution Facility
 - Home Heating Oil Distribution Facility
- Provide authorized user information
- Provide authorization

Request to Participate



To request access to *HBIP Online Application System*:

1. Send an Email attached with a completed and encrypted HBIP Online Access Request to, HBIP@usda.gov.
2. Send second email immediately with encryption password.

Please allow at least one week to process your request. If you do not receive a response after one week, please resubmit your request.

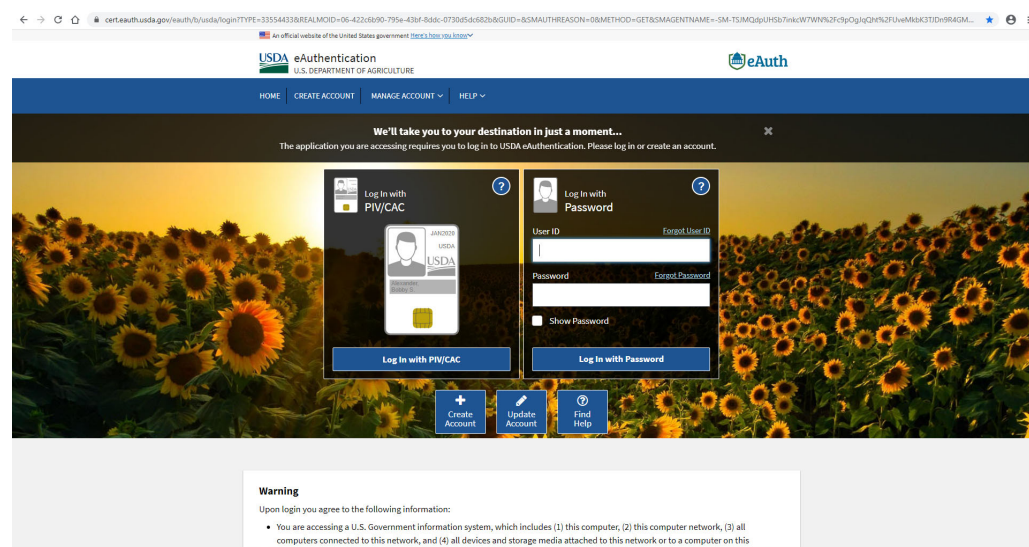
Obtaining access to the Online Application System

Upon approval, a Company's authorized/rightful users will each receive an email from HBIIP@usda.gov, with

A URL and instructions to access the system.

Copy the URL and paste it into the address bar of a **Google Chrome** internet browser and hit enter.

Bookmark the URL for future use.



To Apply

Important Documents

[Overview](#) **To Apply** [Other Requirements](#) [Contact](#) [Events](#)

To apply for the Higher Blends Grant program, please review the online application checklist below to determine the important documents you will need. You must also submit your completed [HBIIIP Online Access Request](#) to HBIIIP@usda.gov to gain access to the online application system.

Important Documents

i Accessing Forms

If you are using Google Chrome, your browser settings may require you to first download the form and then open the form.

If an error message populates when opening these forms, please follow these steps to resolve the error:

1. Open your version of Adobe Acrobat Reader.
2. Go to the menu and click "Edit".
3. Next click "Preferences" and under the "Categories" drop down select "General".
4. Under the General, uncheck the option "show online storage when saving files" and then click the OK button.

- [Checklist for Online Application System](#)
- [System for Award Management](#)
- [USDA eAuthentication](#)
- [HBIIIP Online Access Request](#)

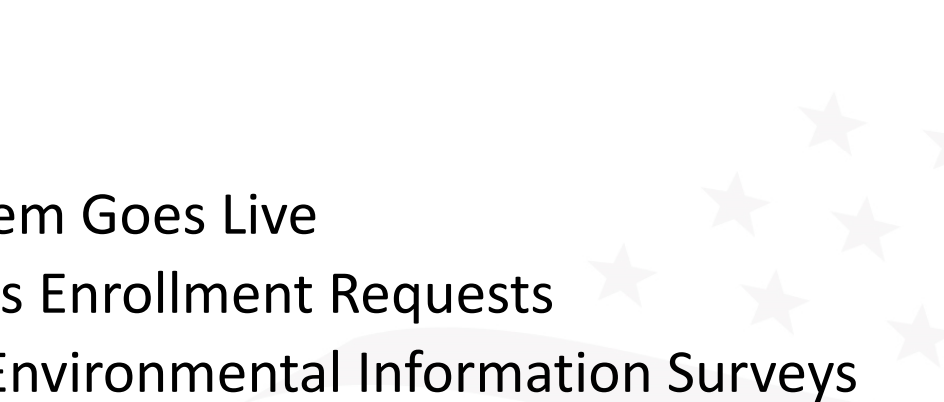


Important Dates

What's Next?



Important Dates

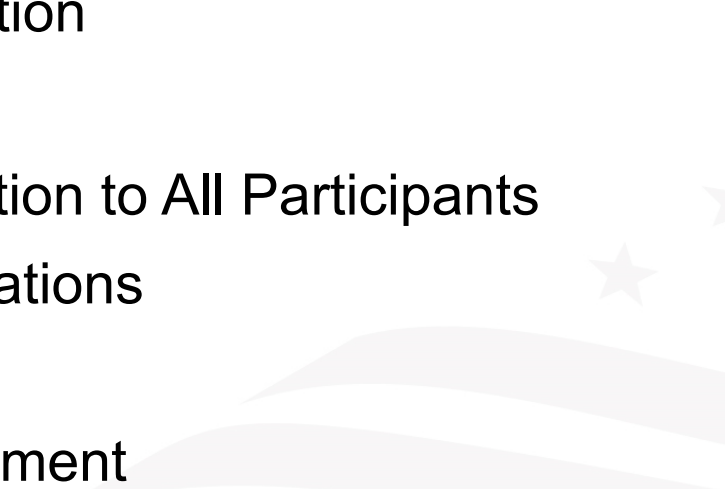
- June 28, 2023 - A ***Notice of Funding Opportunity*** (NOFO) published in the *Federal Register*
 - Announced Quarterly HBIIP Application Windows
 - Announced Changes to HBIIP
 - Beginning of Each Quarter
 - HBIIP Online Application System Goes Live
 - Begin Accepting Online Access Enrollment Requests
 - Begin Accepting Preliminary Environmental Information Surveys
- 

What's next?

- HBIIIP Application Windows – Closes at 4:30 pm Eastern on the final day of each quarter
 1. July 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023
 2. October 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023
 3. January 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024
 4. April 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024
 5. July 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024



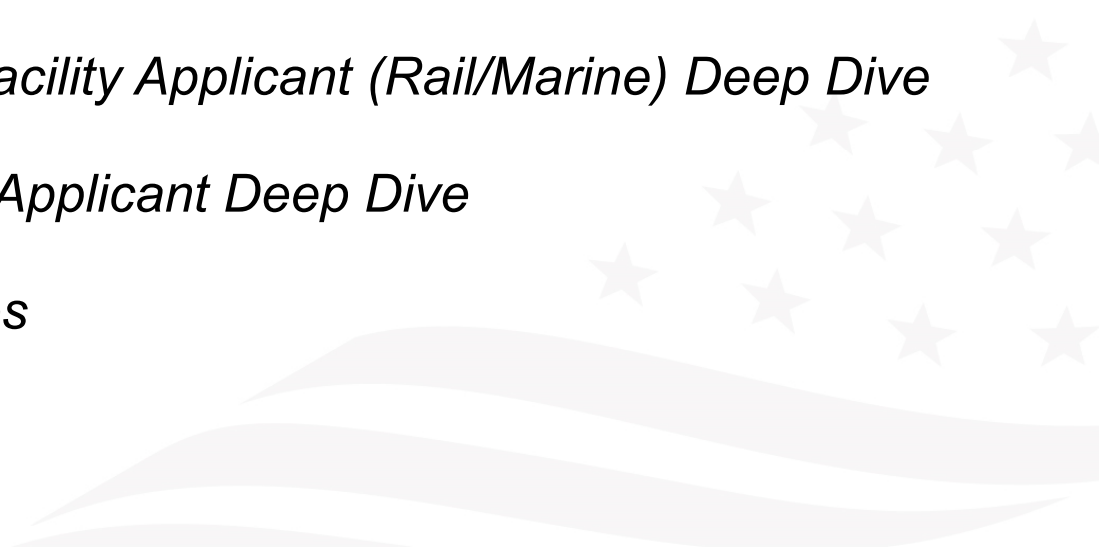
What's next? (Continued)

- Reviews – expected to take 90-180 days from the date an application window closes
 - Agency Review for Eligibility and Completeness
 - Evaluation Panel and Competition
 - Following Reviews
 - Selection, Written Communication to All Participants
 - Public Announcement of Obligations
 - Grant Agreement Execution
 - Project Completion/Reimbursement
- 

What's next?

Training

- Planned Training Webinars – See **Events** tab
 - *HBIIIP Environmental Review Process for Applicants*
 - *HBIIIP Transportation Fueling Facility Applicant Deep Dive*
 - *HBIIIP Transportation Fueling Facility Applicant (Rail/Marine) Deep Dive*
 - *HBIIIP Fuel Distribution Facility Applicant Deep Dive*
 - *HBIIIP Post Selection Next Steps*



Program Update



HBIP Update

How much interest was there?

Short answer – a lot!

- ~430 applications requesting over \$330 million
- ~1,850 locations (transportation fueling only)
- ~10,800 dispensers
- ~1,200 storage tanks

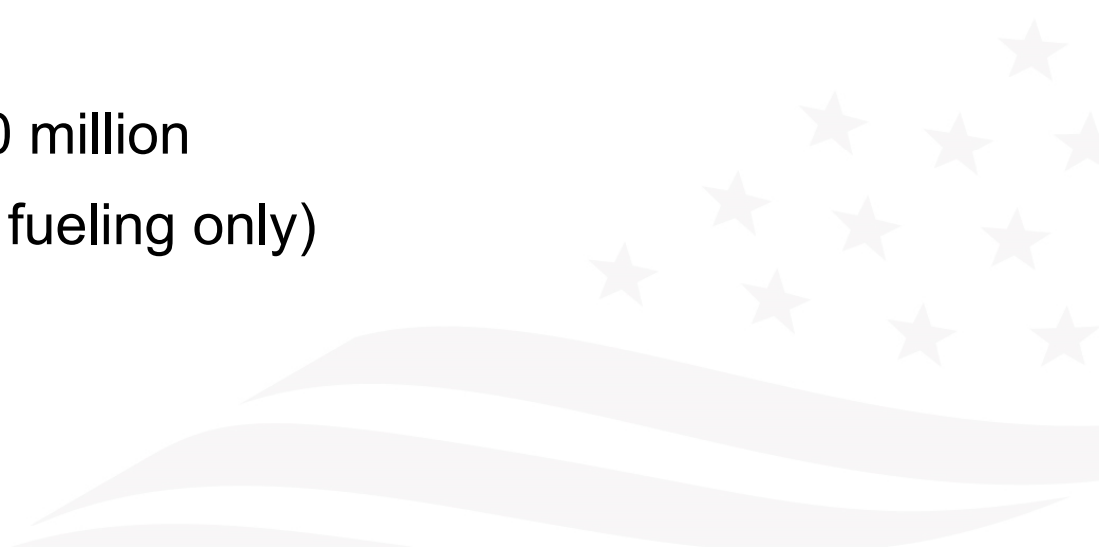


HBIP Update (continued)

Where are we with awards?

All awards have been made.

- ~370 applications totaling ~\$250 million
- ~1,740 locations (transportation fueling only)
- ~10,300 dispensers
- ~1,050 storage tanks



HBIP Update (continued)

Where are these projects?

CA has most of the locations awarded with 380.

- States with more than 100 locations – CA, IA, IL (3)
- States with between 50 and 100 locations – FL, MN, WI, TX, NE, IN, OH (7)
- States with between 25 and 50 locations – GA, KS, KY, PA, MI, CO, AR (7)
- States with between 10 and 25 locations – MD, NY, AL, MO, VA, SD, AZ, NC, TN (9)
- States with less than 10 locations – CT, SC, ND, HI, MA, NV, WY, OK, RI, LA, NJ, NM, WV, WA, MS, NH, DC, ID, MT, VT, DE, UT, ME (23)
- States with no locations – AK, US Territories (2)

HBIP Update (continued)

What has been installed so far (as of September 21 7, 2023)?

- 66 grantees with fully completed projects, which represents:
 - 59 transportation fueling facilities and 7 fuel distribution facilities
 - 239 locations
 - 916 E15 dispensers
 - 312 E85 dispensers
 - 256 B20 dispensers
 - 54 ethanol storage tanks
 - 36 biodiesel storage tanks
 - ~448.3 million higher blend gallons



HBIP Update (continued)

What has been installed so far (as of September 21, 2023)?

- 30 grantees with at least one reimbursement request, which represents:
 - 23 transportation fueling facilities and 7 fuel distribution facilities
 - 208 locations
 - 609 E15 dispensers
 - 525 E85 dispensers
 - 292 B20 dispensers
 - 101 ethanol storage tanks
 - 71 biodiesel storage tanks
 - ~556.4 million higher blend gallons



HBIP Update (continued)

How can we help make the program successful?

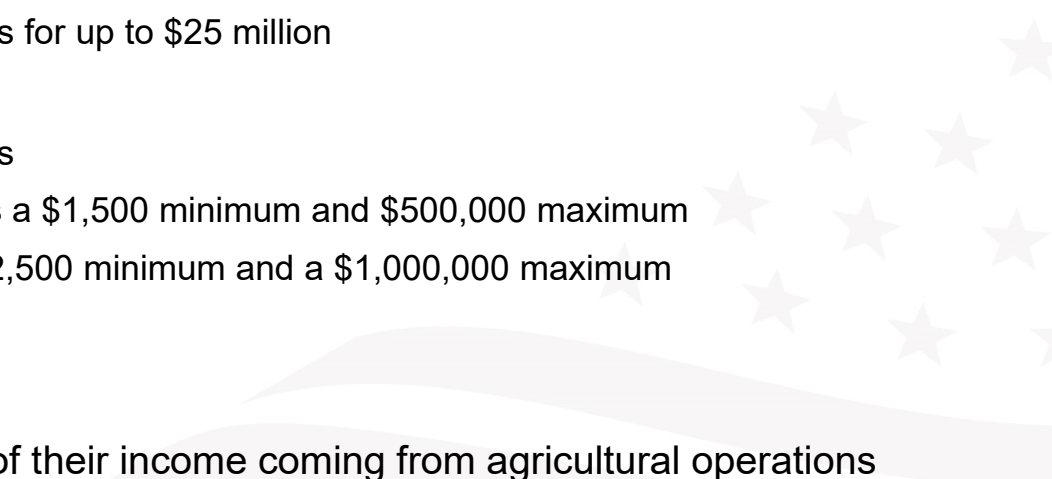
Spread the word!



Additional Opportunities



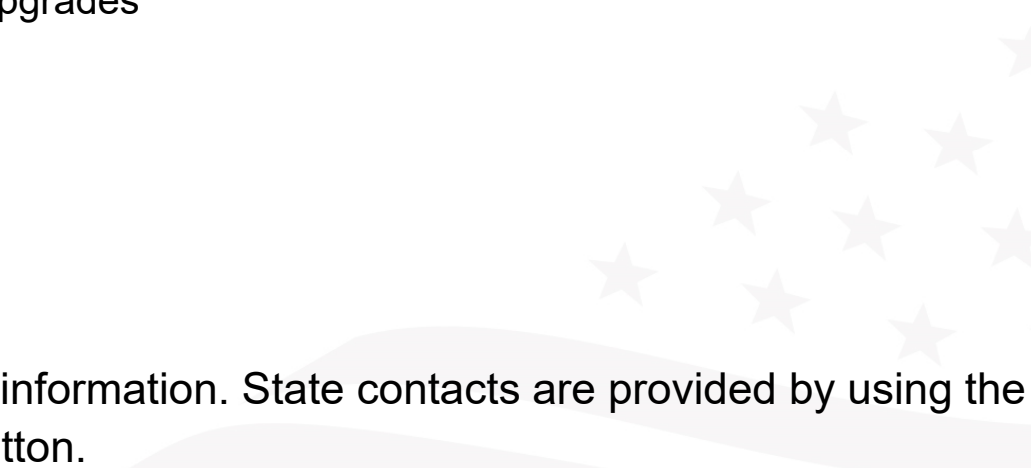
Additional Opportunities

- Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)
 - Provides financial assistance to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to make energy efficiency improvements or to install renewable energy systems
 - Types of funding
 - Guaranteed loans
 - Covers up to 75% of the eligible project costs for up to \$25 million
 - Grants
 - Covers up to 50% of the eligible project costs
 - For energy efficiency improvements, there is a \$1,500 minimum and \$500,000 maximum
 - For renewable energy systems, there is a \$2,500 minimum and a \$1,000,000 maximum
 - Eligible applicants
 - Small business is eligible rural areas
 - Agricultural producers with more than 50% of their income coming from agricultural operations
- 

Additional Opportunities (continued)

• Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) (continued)

Examples

- Energy Efficiency Improvements
 - Refrigeration/Freezer upgrades
 - Commercial kitchen, food prep equipment upgrades
 - Lighting upgrades
 - Heating and Ventilation (HVAC) systems
 - Renewable Energy Systems
 - Solar Array
 - Ethanol/Biodiesel Plant Retrofit
 - Visit <https://www.rd.usda.gov/reap> for more information. State contacts are provided by using the “Contact Your State Energy Coordinator” button.
- 

Additional Opportunities (continued)

- **Business & Industry (B&I) Guaranteed Loans**

- Provides financial assistance to rural businesses for things like business expansion, purchase of machinery and equipment, debt refinance, etc.
- Types of funding
 - Guaranteed loans for up to \$25 million
- Eligible applicants
 - Businesses located in rural areas (population of 50,000 or less)
- Contact your local USDA Rural Development Office by using the link below and selecting your state in the drop-down menu

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-programs/business-industry-loan-guarantees>

Thank you!

Jeff Carpenter

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402-437-5554

