



PREPARING FOR THE NEXT GRANT OPPORTUNITY

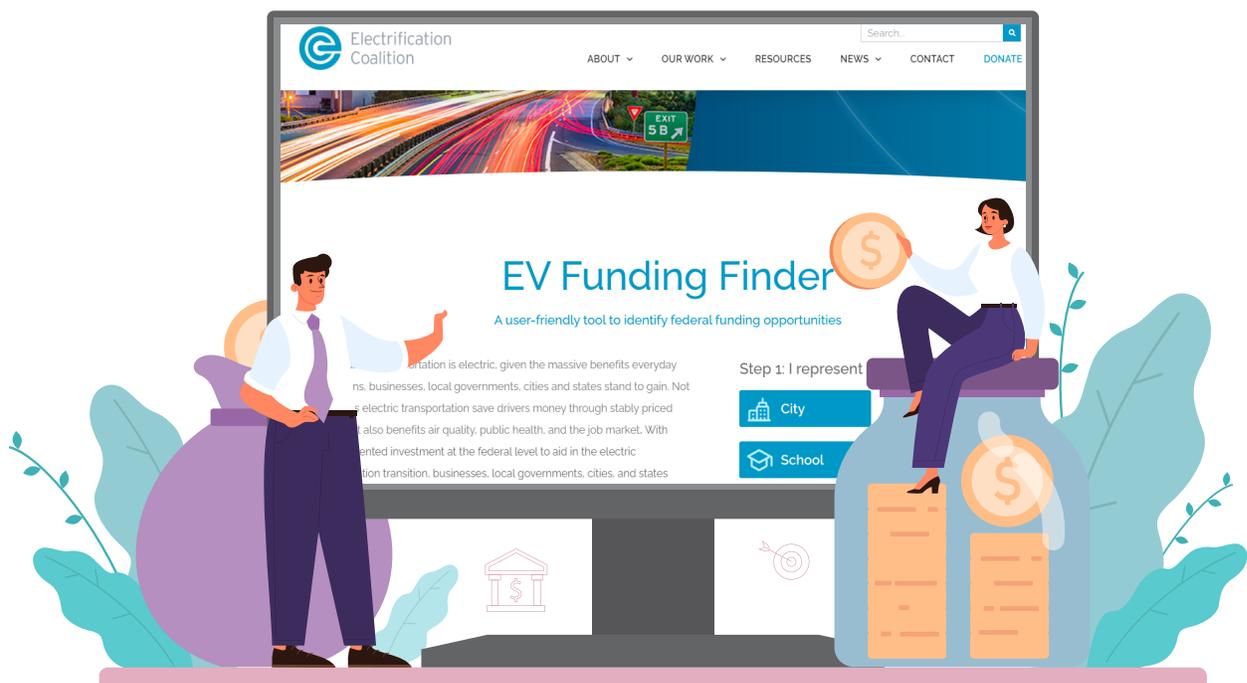
Unprecedented Electric Vehicle Funding

The growth of Electric Vehicles (EV) in the US was sparked by recent legislative initiatives that aimed to address the negative environmental impacts of fossil fuel vehicles and to create clean energy jobs. The legislative initiatives included:

- The **Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)** accelerated transportation electrification by providing federal money for charging infrastructure and tax credits for consumers and manufacturers of EVs or batteries that upgrade or build new facilities ([Electrification Coalition](#)).
- The **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)**, enacted as the **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act**, established a **National EV Infrastructure (NEVI) Program** “to provide funding to States to strategically deploy EV charging infrastructure and to establish an interconnected network to facilitate data collection, access, and reliability” ([Federal Highway Administration](#)).
- The BIL also created the **Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program**. CFI is a competitive grant program to strategically deploy publicly accessible EV charging and alternative fueling infrastructure in the places people live and work – urban and rural areas alike – in addition to along designated Alternative Fuel Corridors ([Federal Highway Administration](#)).

Identify EV Funding Opportunities

With unprecedented funding available, the process for identifying and applying for the proper funding can seem daunting. For this reason, the Electrification Coalition created the [EV Funding Finder](#) which helps eligible recipients identify available federal funds for transportation.





Step 1

Engage with Community Members

Community engagement can both help you develop community priorities and increase your competitiveness for grant funding. Many grant programs emphasize an inclusive and representative community process as well as collaboration with the public and relevant stakeholders. To prepare a successful grant application, you should:

- Clearly identify a problem and community need that will be addressed by the project
- Point to community engagement that has already occurred prior to the grant
- Consider how this project helps “transportation disadvantaged” communities



Step 2

Align Plans and Policies with Grant Program Goals

Many of the new grant programs provide funding for both planning and implementation. Your grant application should demonstrate your community’s readiness for the project you are applying for by pointing to existing plans, policies, and processes that reflect the goals and objectives of the grant program.



Step 3

Build Relationships with Potential Grant Partners

Collaboration with partner agencies can be an effective strategy for leveraging project funding and developing successful grant proposals. When considering grant teaming partners make sure to:

- Build a well-rounded team with partnerships
- Pick the right partners, which can involve public/private partnerships as well as new inter-agency partnerships
- Demonstrate strong, tangible commitment from project partners



Step 4

Assemble Your Grant Writing Team

Assemble or hire a multidisciplinary grant-writing team whose members have a strong understanding of each element of the grant.

Step 5

Track Future Funding Opportunities



- Stay tuned for upcoming grant notifications, which you can find on the [USDOT’s](#) or [Department of Energy’s](#) (DOE) web sites.
- Here are some of the key USDOT and DOE programs:
 - National EV Infrastructure Formula Program (NEVI)
 - Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ)
 - Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program
 - Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)
 - Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Formula Program
 - Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE, formerly known as BUILD and TIGER)
 - Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside from the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program
 - Funding Opportunity Announcements (Vehicle Technologies Office)
 - State Energy Program (Office of State and Community Programs)
 - Title XVII Renewable Energy and Efficient Energy Projects (Loan Programs Office)



More Information/Resources

- Visit [MDOT’s EV webpage](#) for information about EV and charging data in Maryland.
- Learn more about the [Maryland Energy Administration’s \(MEA\) transportation incentives](#).
- Check out [MarylandEV.org](#) – the consumer-facing website supported by MDOT, MDE and MEA, dedicated to supporting the adoption of EVs in Maryland, including federal and utility incentives.

