

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AEA Opens Application Period for Renewable Energy Fund Round 18

Competitive grant program provides financial assistance for renewable energy projects statewide

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (July 14, 2025) — The Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) is now accepting applications for Round 18 of its Renewable Energy Fund (REF) competitive grant program. The REF is a long-standing program, recognized for effectively deploying state funds in support of vetted renewable energy projects, helping diversify and strengthen Alaska's statewide energy portfolio. Applications are due at **4 p.m. on Friday, September 12, 2025**.

Established in 2008 by the Alaska State Legislature, the REF provides grant funding for qualifying, competitively selected renewable energy projects. Since its inception, 296 REF grants totaling \$333 million in state funding have supported more than 110 operational projects statewide, displacing more than 13 million gallons of fuel annually. Bipartisan support for the REF continued with the passage of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 capital budget bill, which appropriated \$6.3 million to fund the top six recommended projects from Round 17. This funding matches the amount proposed in the Governor's amended FY2026 budget, resulting in full funding for REF despite the significant fiscal constraints.

The maximum grant request is \$2 million for communities with low energy costs and \$4 million for those with high energy costs. All timely submitted project proposals undergo a thorough, four-stage evaluation process, assessing project and applicant eligibility, organizational capacity, economic and technical feasibility, financial strength, matching funds, and local support.

In preparing its REF project funding recommendations, the REF Advisory Committee will review and issue recommendations. Final funding decisions remain at the discretion of the Governor and the Legislature.

For eligibility criteria and instructions on submitting a Round 18 application, please visit AEA's website [here](https://www.akenergyauthority.org). Additional questions may be directed to AEA's grants manager at grants@akenergyauthority.org or at (907) 771-3039.

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About the Alaska Energy Authority

The Alaska Energy Authority is a public corporation of the state. Its mission is to reduce the cost of energy in Alaska. To achieve this mission, AEA strives to diversify Alaska's energy portfolio increasing resiliency, reliability, and redundancy. To learn more, visit akenergyauthority.org.