



# Energize Delaware Solar Schools Grant Application

## ***Project Eligibility***

### ***Purpose and Project Eligibility***

Energize Delaware wants to catalyze the use of solar energy in our public-school districts. \$15 million dollars has been budgeted for Fiscal Year 2022-23 and beyond. This grant funding is available to each of Delaware's Public-School Districts that desire to install solar panels at one or more locations. Any public schools are eligible whether they are served by Delmarva Power, Delaware Cooperative or DEMEC. System designs can be roof, ground or carport mounted. The grant may cover the cost of the feasibility study, installation, utility upgrades and the other components of the system including modules, inverters, and batteries, etc. Each district has been allocated a specific amount of grant money determined by enrollment and current estimated costs of kW per student. School districts are encouraged to collaborate with other districts to select installers at more competitive pricing. Energize Delaware is not responsible for your District's procurement guidelines, please consult with your procurement office to obtain bids. Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECs) generated by the systems shall be owned by the school district.

### ***District Allocations***

Grant allocations are based on the 2021 Regular Student Enrollments allocated \$105 per student with a minimum allocation of \$500,000. The appendix shows the allocation for each school district. Installation costs can vary widely depending on many factors, using some national and state data we estimate that a \$500,000 investment should be able to serve a school with 400 to 800 students depending on costs. Smaller districts will receive a minimum \$500,000 grant to ensure that they can still receive a system to serve at least one school. Larger school districts may choose to construct systems for one large school or multiple schools.

If you have questions regarding the eligibility criteria, please contact Energize Delaware at (302) 883-3048.

### ***Application Requirements***

- School must be within a Delaware public school district
- Apply for ground, roof or carport mounted solar system
- Energize Delaware reserves all rights to deny applications at our discretion.
- Accompanied by a feasibility study

- Schools will be required to provide signage recognizing Energize Delaware for funding during construction. A permanent sign or plaque is also required after construction.
- Schools will be required to report solar system production on an annual basis for the first three years in service.
- Successful Grantees will be offered a contract with Energize Delaware that will set forth in detail the terms of the grant.
- Grants will be active for a period of 24 months after the funding has been allocated and the grant has been approved by Energize Delaware. Grant extensions will require pre-approval by Energize Delaware.
- Third-party system ownership with Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) are not eligible for funding through this grant.

### ***Application Timelines***

Applications will be accepted after December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Applications should be emailed in PDF format to Keith Modzelewski, [keith@deseu.org](mailto:keith@deseu.org) with Energize Delaware Solar for Schools Grant Application in the subject line. There is no application deadline; applications will be accepted until all funds have been allocated. Energize Delaware reserves the right to close the application acceptance window at any time. We strongly encourage each applicant to focus on a fully completed high quality application to support the funding requested by the district. There is no advantage to rushing an application seeking an early position in the submission window. Energize Delaware may consider future funding for this program based on participation, need and popularity of the program.

### ***Selection Criteria***

- How much energy will the system generate, compared to electric usage?
- Quality and depth of feasibility study
- Use of batteries, whether designed for emergency backup and/or resiliency
- Overall cost and size of the system
- History of sustainability practices within the district and amongst the schools
- Schools that have been upgraded under an energy savings performance contract grant or schools built under modern building codes will receive preference
- Newer schools and schools under construction are more favorable than older buildings due to the evolution of building efficiency guidelines overtime.
- A more efficient building may require a smaller solar system. Factors that will be considered are as follows:
  - Age of Roof
  - Age of Building
  - Ground Mount vs. Roof Mount reasoning
  - Age of HVAC Equipment
  - LED Lighting Upgrades in classrooms, hallways, offices

- Energy Efficiency of building weatherization/insulation
- Cost per watt (installed)
- Is the school district collaborating with other districts to achieve a better cost proposal?
- Project Readiness: How long is it expected for your district to purchase and install this project?
- How will the installed solar PV system be incorporated into the school curriculum?

***Applicant Information:***

Please mark all funding requests covered by this application

	Solar Feasibility Study Grant
	Solar System Grant- all grants must include a solar system grant
	Battery Backup
	Utility Upgrade Grant

***Applicant Summary Information***

School District	
School(s) Proposed	
Total annual energy usage (kWh)	
Requested funds (Dollars)	
Utility Provider	
Have you contacted utility provider about interconnection capacity at your location?	
Is the solar system designed for emergency backup?	
Is this a collaborative project? If so with what district(s)?	
What is the Expected Installation Date?	
Did this grant application require School Board approval? (Yes/No)	

**Primary Contact Information**

Primary Contact	
Phone	
Email	
Mailing address	

**Other Contacts**

	Name	Phone	Email
Superintendent			
Chief Financial Officer			
Principal (s)			
Facility Manager			
Other			

**Grant Requests**

**Feasibility Studies:**

A feasibility study or renewable energy assessment is required. The feasibility study can be performed by an independent consultant or by your selected solar installer. It is highly recommended to districts that they receive multiple proposals from different firms.

A feasibility study typically consists of ensuring there is an acceptable level of sunlight at the location of the system, evaluating the electric usage of the building to ensure proper sizing, ensuring stability of the roof, and pricing out the most optimal system components. The feasibility study should also contain an estimated energy production and savings over the life of system. etc. This information can be helpful in creating the optimal solar system set up for your location. During the feasibility study, the utility company should be contacted to understand if an electrical upgrade is needed to the transformer feeding the school and if the substation feeding the school allows for interconnection to the grid.

Does your school already have a completed feasibility study for your solar project? If yes, please complete the table below and submit your study as a separate PDF with your completed application.

Study prepared by?	
Date study was completed?	
Does the study cover the complete solar system? Please Explain	

You may apply for a Feasibility Study only grant by an independent solar consultant, then you will be able to reapply for a solar system grant once you have received your finished study. *We will not provide funding for feasibility studies provided by the selected installer.*

The following is a known list of companies performing independent Solar Feasibility Studies. Energize Delaware does not endorse any of these firms. The school district is responsible for vetting and hiring these, or any firms.

1. EnSave, <https://www.ensave.com> Margaret Lee [margaretl@ensave.com](mailto:margaretl@ensave.com)
2. InClime, <https://inclimesolutions.com> Kevin Quilliam [kevin.quilliam@inclimesolutions.com](mailto:kevin.quilliam@inclimesolutions.com)
3. Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC), <https://www.veic.org> David Gelman [dgelman@veic.org](mailto:dgelman@veic.org)
4. Gabel Associates, <https://www.gabelassociates.com>, Andrew Conte [Andrew.conte@gabelassociates.com](mailto:Andrew.conte@gabelassociates.com)
5. Pivot Energy, <https://www.pivotenergy.net/> Anne Kirby [akirby@pivotenergy.net](mailto:akirby@pivotenergy.net)
6. Affinity Energy Management, <https://www.affinityenergy.net> Ed Jackson [ed@affinityenergy.net](mailto:ed@affinityenergy.net)

### *Feasibility Study Grant Request*

What Firm is Completing Your Feasibility Study?	
Estimated Cost of the Feasibility Study?	
Estimated Date of Completion?	
Feasibility Grant Requested Amount?	

Total Requested Feasibility Grant Funds \_\_\_\_\_

**Grant Disbursement for Feasibility Study Grants:** Energize Delaware will transfer 50% of the invoiced or contract amount when the school district provides documentation that a feasibility contract or purchase order has been approved; and 50% upon receiving a copy of the completed study.

## Solar System Grant Request

### Solar Contractor Description:

Name of Contractor	
Contractor's Business Address	
List of Subcontractors (if any)	

### System Description:

What type of panels and wattage is being recommended?	
What type of Inverter System will be used? (String, Microinverter, Other?)	
How is production from system monitored?	
PV System Meter for system production? Smart Meter?	
Does the system include a Warranty for equipment, parts, and labor?	_____Yes      _____No

## ***Proposed Solar System Locations***

If you are proposing more than two schools, please attach chart as a PDF document.

	School #1	School #2	School #3
School Name			
Address			
Year Built			
Age of roof & roof material (if applicable)			
Student population			
Utility Company			
Utility upgrade required (Y/N)			
Size of system			
Are batteries part of the system? (Y/N)			
What is the capacity of the batteries?			
Estimated energy offset?			
How will the system be mounted? (Roof, Ground, Carport, etc.)			
What is the solar systems compass azimuth for each mounting direction?			
What is the Total Solar Resource Factor for the system (TSRF)? <a href="https://deanza.edu/faculty/hamidiridha/esci61/documents/solmetric-shade-measurement-training.pdf">https://deanza.edu/faculty/hamidiridha/esci61/documents/solmetric-shade-measurement-training.pdf</a>			
Estimated time to installation?			

## ***History of Sustainable Practices***

Energize Delaware’s mission is to inspire sustainable energy solutions for a thriving environment and economy. And its Vision is: “Powering tomorrow with clean, efficient, and affordable energy.” In the space below, please briefly state your School District’s work toward an environmentally sustainable Delaware.

Please indicate if the school(s) planned for solar have participated in an Energy Savings Performance Contract for improvements.

How will this solar system installation be incorporated into the school curriculum?



**Budget Breakdown:**

Cost Share	School 1	School 2	School 3
Energize Delaware Funds Requested?			
School District Funds (Not Required)			

	Energize DE Grant Request	School 1	School 2	School 3	Total
Feasibility Study					
Installation Cost					
Battery Cost					
Estimated Utility Upgrade Costs or 15% of Project Budget?					
Cost Share (Not Required)					

Total Solar Installation Cost \_\_\_\_\_

**Grant Disbursement for Solar System Installation Grants:** Energize Delaware will transfer 50% of the invoiced or contract amount when the school district provides documentation that a solar system component purchase order has been approved. And 50% upon receiving installation scheduling date.

**Sources of Information:**

Please attach documentation such as quotes, invoices, purchase orders that support your budget numbers.

## **Data Agreement/ Applicant Declaration**

- a) I have read and understand the eligibility requirements.
- b) I understand this application does not guarantee payment.
- c) I understand that incomplete applications will not be processed and submitting an incomplete application may result in loss of grant funds.
- d) Energize Delaware will require recognition of funding to be placed upon a mutually agreed upon site.
- e) Energize Delaware will require annual energy production reports for three years.
- f) I understand and accept that grant distribution processing may take **4 to 6 weeks** from the date Energize Delaware receives a complete application.
- g) It is further understood that Energize Delaware is not responsible for any other grant or incentive funding received by the applicant besides the funding Energize Delaware itself is providing.
- h) It is understood that the program may be changed or cancelled by Energize Delaware at any time for any reason whatsoever, without notice.
- i) Once funding has been awarded the MOU will be issued to secure funding for 24 months to implement the project.
- j) It is further understood that Energize Delaware will not be held liable or accountable for anything related to the installation, operation or non-performance of the PV system, infrastructure, and components installed.
- k) It is understood that the school district will abide by all local, state and school district requirements and standards for installing the solar system.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above declarations:

School District: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name of Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## ***Appendix***

Appendix 1- School District Enrollment and maximum funding chart. Funding is based on \$105 per student with a minimum grant funding of \$500,000.

<b>School</b>	<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>Maximum Grant Funding</b>
Red Clay	14837	\$ 1,557,885.00
Christina	13553	\$ 1,423,065.00
Appoquinimink	12466	\$ 1,308,930.00
Indian River School District	10651	\$ 1,118,355.00
Brandy	10401	\$ 1,092,105.00
Colonial	9531	\$ 1,000,755.00
Caesar	7741	\$ 812,805.00
Capital	6384	\$ 670,320.00
Cape	6078	\$ 638,190.00
Smyrna	6034	\$ 633,570.00
NCC Vo-tech	4726	\$ 500,000.00
Milford	4389	\$ 500,000.00
Lake Forest	3544	\$ 500,000.00
Seaford	3276	\$ 500,000.00
Laurel	2566	\$ 500,000.00
Woodbridge	2495	\$ 500,000.00
Delmar	1424	\$ 500,000.00
Sussex Tech	1306	\$ 500,000.00
Polytech	1196	\$ 500,000.00

Rush, M., Student Enrollment and Unit Allotment Report for School Year 2021-2022 70–74 (2021). Dover, Delaware; Delaware Department of Education.