

GEFA is offering phase three of the Solar Resiliency program to increase resiliency for critical facilities in communities across Georgia. This program is offered to government entities, including cities, counties, K-12 schools, and state agencies.

OVERVIEW:

GEFA will reimburse selected applicants for up to 85% of the balance of solar PV and backup battery costs, up to \$200,000, for one installation per selected applicant. Applicants that already have solar PV installed onsite or who are entering into a third-party financing arrangement for solar (under HB 57, Solar Power Free-Market Financing Act of 2015), are eligible for reimbursement of 30% of backup battery system costs, up to \$30,000.

GEFA will open a competitive application process. Applications will be evaluated based on their positive impact to the community's critical facility resilience. Disadvantaged communities will be given extra points in the scoring process, based on the community's median income, population growth, and unemployment rates. Each entity may only submit one application.

ELIGIBILITY:

Applicants must be a Georgia city, county, registered local government authority, K-12 school, or state government entity. Only one installation per community/applicant will be funded. The funding is provided by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) State Energy Program. Critical facilities can vary from community to community, but often include transportation, water, energy, and communications. Examples include public safety buildings, water and wastewater facilities, IT/data centers, healthcare/public health facilities, emergency management offices, government facilities, transportation systems, shelters, and community hubs. The applicant must include a clear description of the facility, and state why it is critical to the community during an emergency.

GEFA funding will not cover any costs to upgrade roofing or building electrical infrastructure. Allowable equipment for reimbursement includes:

- o Solar PV panels, Battery, Inverter, Racking systems, Isolation switch
- o Design and engineering

SCORING:

GEFA will review completed applications until all funding has been expended. GEFA will utilize the below competitive scoring methodology. The scoring methodology is designed to prioritize communities with a greater need of assistance.

Demographics (AMI, Unemployment, Pop Change) 12

Existing Generator

<i>Yes, good shape</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Yes, poor shape</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>No Generator</i>	<i>3</i>

Maximum Total 23

The 12 points assigned to demographic and economic factors are based on 2018 census numbers and the 2019 Georgia Affordability Assessment Tool. Communities that score an 8 or greater on demographic and economic factors will be reimbursed at 85% of solar PV and battery costs, up to \$200,000. Communities that score a 7 or lower on demographic and economic factors will be reimbursed at 75%, up to 200,000. Battery only projects will be reimbursed at 30%, up to \$30,000.

AWARD:

If GEFA does not receive enough qualified applications by the deadline, GEFA will make a decision to either extend the deadline or move to a first-come, first-served process.

Selected applicants will be reimbursed after the installation is complete. All applicants must complete installation and invoice GEFA by September 30, 2022. GEFA will not reimburse for installations that are in process prior to selection.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Kelly Cutts at 404-584-1089.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Location and Facility Purpose:

- Do you have one year of utility data available?
- List of critical loads?
- Does the facility currently have backup generator?
 - If yes, condition/age/fuel type
- Does the facility have architectural/engineering drawings?
- Who is the electric utility provider?
- Has the facility been impacted by disasters in the past?
 - How long?
- Describe overall resiliency goals for the facility.
- Describe any energy efficiency measures that have been implemented at the facility.

Proposed PV system size:

- Roof or ground mount?
- If roof, is the building more than 10 years old?
 - *any proposed PV installation more than 60kW will require NEPA approval from DOE and will require additional review.

Proposed battery size:

Estimated total cost:

- Is estimate or proposal from a solar installation company?

*GEFA requires a letter of commitment from a senior level official that project will move forward in a timely manner if funding is awarded.

Applications must be submitted online by COB September 17, 2021.