Commercial New Construction
Program Opportunity Notice (PON) 1601Rev1
$19,351,548 Available
January 9, 2017

Applications are accepted January 4, 2012 through December 29, 2017 or until funds are fully committed, whichever comes first.

PROGRAM OPPORTUNITY NOTICE SUMMARY

The Commercial New Construction Program Opportunity Notice PON1601Rev1 offers objective technical and financial support to building owners to effect a permanent transformation in the way buildings are designed and constructed in New York State. Technical and financial support is offered on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to funding availability. Financial support is locked in at the time NYSERDA issues a written pre-approval of the financial offer.

NYSERDA provides cost-shared technical support to help applicants and their design teams assess and determine the most applicable energy efficiency and green building opportunities for the building. Applicants may select a technical consultant from a list maintained by NYSERDA, or may utilize the services of a provider of their choice, subject to NYSERDA approval. Supplemental technical support is available for applicants pursuing a deep energy savings or zero net site energy project.

For applications received on or after March 1, 2016, $19,351,548 is available through PON1601Rev1 to offset a portion of the incremental capital costs to purchase and install energy-efficient equipment in these buildings to reduce energy consumption. Financial support is based on the anticipated building energy efficiency improvements. A Green Building Bonus is offered to encourage applicants to integrate green building practices through Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) or the Northeast Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) certification.

Applications will be accepted January 4, 2012 through December 29, 2017 or until funds are fully committed, whichever comes first.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION:

Applicants must complete the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) online at: http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/Funding-Opportunities/Consolidated-Funding-Application.aspx.

Assistance to answer questions on the Consolidated Funding Application is available at 1-866-NYSERDA (toll free), or via email at cfa@nyserda.ny.gov. Please reference Consolidated Funding Application for the Commercial New Construction Program.

INTRODUCTION

The goal of the Commercial New Construction Program is to effect a permanent transformation in the way new and substantially-renovated buildings are designed and constructed in New York State. The Commercial New Construction Program meets this objective by providing technical and financial support to improve the energy efficiency of new and substantially-renovated buildings. Financial support is based on the anticipated building energy efficiency improvements. Technical and financial support are offered on a first-come, first-served basis subject to funding availability. Financial support is locked in at the time NYSERDA issues a written pre-approval of the financial support offer.

ELIGIBILITY

The Commercial New Construction Program is available for new construction or substantial renovations of commercial and institutional buildings in New York State.

> **New Construction -** defined as a project involving a new building, or space within a new building, for which a registered professional architect or engineer has prepared and certified building plans.
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> **Substantial Renovations** - defined as one of the following types of projects where a licensed professional architect or engineer has prepared and certified building plans for:
> - Change of use and reconstruction of an existing building or space within;
> - Construction work of a nature requiring that the building or space within be out of service for at least 30 consecutive days; or
> - Reconstruction of a vacant structure or space within.

State, federal and local governments, businesses, not-for-profit and private institutions, public and private schools, colleges and universities and health care facilities that are electricity customers of a participating utility company, and that pay, or will pay, into the System Benefits Charge are eligible for technical and financial support.

To ensure eligibility to participate in the Commercial New Construction Program and to maximize benefits, NYSERDA recommends that applications be submitted in the schematic design phase or earlier.

Applicants may not obtain financial support for the same energy efficiency measure through other NYSERDA programs or from programs offered by their local utility.

PROJECT AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

At no cost to the applicant, an outreach consultant will be assigned to the project. Outreach consultants are under contract to NYSERDA to assist applicants with project needs. The outreach consultant will interface with the technical consultant (see below), review scopes of work and studies, and be available to answer questions from the applicant.

NYSERDA provides cost-shared technical support to help applicants and their design teams assess and determine the most applicable energy efficiency and green building opportunities for the building. Applicants may select a technical consultant from a list maintained by NYSERDA, or may utilize the services of a provider of their choice, subject to NYSERDA approval. The technical consultant will work with NYSERDA to provide a written scope of work and budget for the technical support. The scope of work will be reviewed by the applicant for approval and commitment of their cost share prior to delivery of services.

Technical support is also available for applicants pursuing a Zero Net Site Energy or a Deep Energy Savings project. Zero Net Site Energy and Deep Energy Savings are defined in the program services and support documents. NYSERDA is interested in supporting replicable projects in the education and office sectors for applicants who have made a commitment to zero net or deep savings design. Ideally projects will be at a programming or concept design phase. For zero net or deep savings projects targeting other sectors or for projects beyond concept design prospective applicants are encouraged to contact NYSERDA to discuss participation opportunities.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Financial support is based upon the anticipated energy performance of the building relative to a designated baseline. Financial support covers a portion of the incremental costs of energy efficiency measures. Incremental costs are defined as the difference in cost between equipment that would meet the designated baseline condition and the more efficient equipment that will be installed in the building.

NYSERDA will provide written pre-approval of applications qualified for financial support prior to equipment installation. Upon NYSERDA review and approval of the completed installation and supporting documents, a check will be issued to the applicant.

The Commercial New Construction Program aims to help applicants achieve buildings with very low energy use and with sustainable design features. Paths of participation are categorized according to project size and complexity:

> **Custom Measure** – Through this approach, potential energy saving opportunities and associated financial support are calculated for a variety of individual measures. This approach may be most appropriate for smaller projects of moderate complexity. Custom measure projects must qualify for a minimum $30,000 incentive for participation.
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> **Whole Building Design** – This approach examines interactions among energy efficiency improvements and their impact on other systems throughout the building. Projects must be in the schematic design phase or earlier to be eligible for Whole Building Design financial support. Generally, the Whole Building approach is limited to projects of at least 25,000 square feet, or at least 100 tons of cooling load or at least 15 kilowatts (kW) of lighting load.

Green Building Bonus – Applicants pursuing the Whole Building Design approach (or Custom Measure for commercial office interiors projects) may also pursue the Green Building Bonus, which promotes the design and construction of green buildings, giving careful consideration to three main elements: healthy indoor environment, maximum energy efficiency, and conservative, thoughtful use of natural resources. The Green Building Bonus is limited to those projects which achieve LEED® or Northeast CHPS certification and additional credits as described in the program financial support documents. The Green Building Bonus can help to offset a portion of the costs of a green building consultant, project registration and certification.

Building Commissioning - Financial support is available for building commissioning services. Commissioning is a systematic quality-assurance service that verifies the building systems meet performance requirements and are operating at optimal efficiency.

Design Team Support - Financial support is available for the project Architect and/or Engineer-of-Record for participation in the Commercial New Construction Program. Eligible projects are those that participate under the Whole Building Design Approach.

Other Financial Support - Periodically NYSERDA offers other bonus financial support or special programs for specific energy initiatives. Applicants are encouraged to review current opportunities with their outreach consultant.

PROJECT INSPECTION, MEASUREMENT AND VERIFICATION

Upon project completion NYSERDA or its outreach consultant may perform a field inspection to confirm installation of the energy efficiency measures. Financial support payments may be adjusted if measures are not installed or operating.

All applicants must provide site access to NYSERDA staff or its contractors after project completion for possible measurement and verification.

ATTACHMENTS

Exhibit A – Commercial New Construction Program Terms and Conditions
Exhibit B – NYSERDA Prompt Payment Policy Statement
Exhibit C – Standard Terms and Conditions for all NYSERDA Agreements
Exhibit D - Technical and Financial Support Summaries – Non-Con Ed and Con-Ed Programs