



Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator (RAA)

RAA Office Hours
May 22, 2025

Today's Agenda

- Program requirements
- Timeline
- Q & A session

Office Hours will be recorded

Slideshow will be posted to Drive Electric website





PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS/DETAILS

More details on program

- [IDOT RAA website:](#)
 - Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
 - FAQs
 - Webinar (August 2024)
 - Overview of application process
 - Application materials

Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator (RAA) Program

The Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator (RAA) Program will advance Illinois' goal of one million electric vehicles (EV) on the road by 2030 and will provide the necessary infrastructure to support rising EV sales. In January 2024, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) was awarded \$7.1 million in RAA funds from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to repair or replace 76 EV chargers that were non-operational as of October 12, 2023. IDOT sent letters and emails to site owners in August/September 2024 to inform them that their sites could be eligible for federal funds to repair or replace EV chargers. A complete list of locations where chargers will be repaired or replaced can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

The Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Illinois RAA Program is now open. Preliminary applications are due 4 PM on July 8, 2025. Final applications are due August 7, 2025. A preliminary application submittal is required to submit a final application. The full text of the Notice of Funding Opportunity and all required applications materials are provided below.

[RAA Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)

[RAA Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[RAA Program Webinar – August 27, 2024 \(Slideshow\)](#)

[RAA Program Webinar – August 27, 2024 \(Recording\)](#)

[RAA Application Summary/Overview of Application Process](#)



Background

- RAA funds are a setaside of the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program
 - Based on 'temporarily unavailable' charging ports from the Department of Energy's Alternative Fuels Data Center as of October 12, 2023
 - Focus to repair or replace broken/non-operational EV chargers
- 76 eligible locations
 - Level 2 (L2) or Direct Current Fast Chargers (DCFC)
- Projects must adhere to NEVI Standards and Requirements – [23 CFR 680](#)

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Program Details

- Cost Share
 - Federal share shall not exceed 80% of total project cost
 - Awardees must provide at least 20% of the total project cost
 - Example: Two L2 chargers with four ports cost \$15,000 – station owner would be responsible for \$12,000 of the cost
 - Costs for operations and maintenance/data collection for up to five years after station operational eligible for reimbursement
- EV chargers will belong to the charging station operator at end of five year operation period if all conditions met
- ANY WORK COMPLETED PRIOR TO IDOT APPROVAL NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT

Program Requirements/23 CFR 680

- Funding cannot be used on EV chargers that were covered under a warranty to cover needed repairs as of October 12, 2023
- EV chargers must comply with Build America Buy America
 - Your responsibility to verify proposed EV charger meets this
 - All chargers must be, at a minimum (1) assembled in the US; (2) the cost of components manufactured in the United States is at least 55 percent of the cost of all components; and (3) must use 100% US origin steel or iron in their housing, if the housing is predominantly made of iron or steel.
- New/upgraded EV charging stations and ports must be NEVI compliant which means charging stations:
 - **Must be open to the public**
 - **Must have at least one Americans with Disability Act compliant parking stall**
 - Must be maintained for at least five years of operation
 - Must provide quarterly and annual data submittals that detail the status/usage of EV chargers for five years
 - Must provide four ports
 - Each port must have permanently attached Combined Charging System (CCS1) for DCFC and J1772 for Level 2 (L2) charger
 - DCFC ports must have continuous power of at least 150 kW if located on Alternative Fuel Corridor
 - DCFC ports not on Alternative Fuel Corridor may have continuous power less than 150 kW
 - L2 ports must have continuous power of at least 6kW
- More details in NOFO

Americans with Disability Act (ADA)

- At least one parking stall must meet ADA
 - Space 11' wide and 20' long
 - Adjoining access aisle at least 5' wide
 - Clear floor and ground space at the same level as the vehicle charging space and positioned for an unobstructed side reach
 - Accessible operable parts, including charger on connector
- Must connect to an accessible route that leads to an accessible entrance of the building on the same site
 - Should be on the shortest accessible route relative the accessible entrance relative to other chargers
 - EV charging stations in parking garages must provide an accessible route that connects to the accessible pedestrian entrance of the parking garage. Additionally, a minimum vertical clearance of 98 inches should be maintained throughout the vehicular route to the accessible vehicle charging space and access aisle.



Americans with Disability Act (ADA)

- Examples:



Source: Access Board - <https://www.access-board.gov/ta/tad/ev/>

Charger Replacement Examples

Current Charger	Current # of Ports	Replacement Charger	Replacement # of Ports
Level 2	2	Level 2	4
Level 2	4	Level 2	4
Level 2	7	Level 2	7
DCFC	2	DCFC	4
DCFC	4	DCFC	4



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Application process

- Application scenarios
 - Site host has agreement with charging company
 - Charging company has an agreement with site host
 - Only one application per location

Application Requirements

- Preliminary application submittal is required to submit final application
 - IDOT staff will review preliminary application to make sure EV charger configurations for eligibility prior to the final application
 - Each location must have 4 ports
 - More ports allowed if existing station has more than 4 ports
 - Applicant must provide certify that charger will meet 23 CFR 680 (i.e. Build America Buy America, power, connectors, etc)
 - Verify application was not under warranty as of Oct. 12, 2023
- NOFO details requirements for preliminary and final application



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TIMELINE

Illinois RAA Schedule

Activity	Date (2025)
Office hours #1 (virtual)	May 22 – 10 AM-11 AM
Preliminary application due	July 8 by 4 PM
Office hours #2 (virtual)	July 10 – 11 AM-12 PM
Final application due	August 7 by 4 PM
Contingent award notification	September
Grant agreement	December





QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU!

- Email: DOT.DriveElectric@Illinois.gov



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