#### Before We Begin

Please review the following meeting procedures and expectations

The webinar is being recorded.

All participants are muted and off camera.

All participants can submit questions via the Q&A chat feature.

All Q&As received during the call or via email will be summarized and published on the <u>IDOT Drive Electric website</u>.

A copy of the presentation will be distributed to today's participants and published on the IDOT Drive Electric website.



The information presented in this webinar is subject to change based on FHWA NEVI Guidelines and Rulemaking updates. Final NOFO and Contractual Language will provide final guidelines.



# **Agenda**

- Introduction and NEVI Overview
- 2. Illinois NEVI Round 2 Overview
- 3. Illinois NEVI Round 2 Activities Schedule
- 4. Overview of Application
- 5. How to Apply
- 6. Application Scoring & Evaluation
- 7. Q&A Session
- 8. Next Steps & Reminders





# INTRODUCTION AND NATIONAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE (NEVI) FORMULA PROGRAM OVERVIEW



#### Introductions: Meet Your Presenters



Elizabeth Irvin
Deputy Director, Office of Planning & Programming, IDOT



Saman Salahuddin Consultant, Guidehouse



#### What is the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program?

The NEVI Program is a federal program providing funding to states to strategically deploy EV charging stations to establish an interconnected EV charging network.



#### **Program Design**

The **State of Illinois** was awarded **\$148 million** in **NEVI funding over the next 5 years** to support the deployment of a stateside EV charging infrastructure network, prioritizing stations along the interstate highway system.



#### **Basic Federal Requirements**

Basic federal requirements for the NEVI program are detailed in 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 680.



#### **Phase 1 Goals**

In Phase 1, the State of Illinois is working to establish a charging network with an EV charger at least every 50 miles along major corridors. Rounds 1 and 2 are both part of Phase 1.



# State of Illinois' NEVI Plan

The State is using a portion of this funding to complete the build-out of its Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFCs). 37 projects in the State were selected in the first round of NEVI funding.

#### How is the State of Illinois Administering NEVI?

The NEVI Program is being administered in two phases as part of the State's *Illinois Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Deployment Plan*.

#### Phase 1

Goal: Build out a charging network where there is an EV charging station at least every 50 miles along AFCs.

Round 1: (Mar. 8, 2024 – May 7, 2024)
37 eligible locations across the state
were chosen to begin establishing this
charging network.

We are here

Round 2: (Nov. 15, 2024 – Dec. 17, 2025)
A second round of funding, up to \$24
million, will help to complete the full
buildout of this AFC charging network.

#### Phase 2

Goal: Expand EV charging infrastructure across US Routes and Scenic Byways, as well as filling remaining gaps within the State.

TBD

6



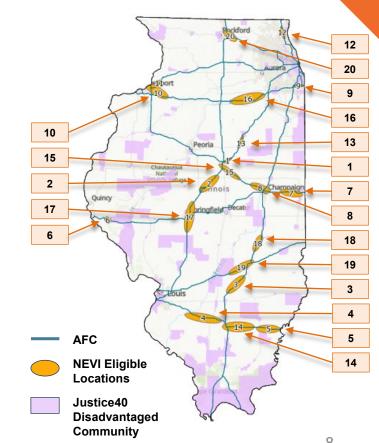
# **ILLINOIS NEVI ROUND 2 OVERVIEW**



# Round 2 NEVI Eligible Locations

Eligible Round 2 locations are displayed on the map, which is included in the NOFO.

- Up to \$24 million is being released in a second round of funding to help to complete the full buildout of a statewide AFC charging network.
- There are 20 eligible locations in Round 2.
- Each location represents a group of exits where one NEVI-compliant EV charging station can be located.
   See *Table 3* in the NOFO for the full list of eligible locations.
- EV charging stations should be located within a 1mile driving distance of an eligible exit but can potentially be located up to 5 miles away with FHWA approval.
- Visit the ArcGIS link on the Drive Electric page to view an interactive map of the eligible locations.



# Key Round 2 Funding Information

Up to \$24 million in grant funding is available for Round 2 of the Illinois NEVI Program.



#### Anticipated Number of Awards

IDOT has identified 20 eligible locations and expects to make one award per location with no minimum or maximum award size.



# Availability of Funds and Reimbursement

The grantee is responsible for incurring 100% of upfront costs and then is reimbursed up to 80% of eligible costs.



#### **Awarding Sites Per Applicant**

Applicants must apply for at least one of the eligible locations and may apply for multiple eligible locations. Applicants may not submit more than one application per eligible location.



# Anticipated Start Dates and Grant Period

The grantee may begin incurring costs and invoicing IDOT once a grant agreement is executed between the grantee and IDOT. IDOT will not reimburse costs incurred prior to the execution of a grant agreement.

# Eligible Applicants

Prior to reviewing an application, IDOT will confirm applicant eligibility.

#### All applicants are eligible under this NOFO if they meet the following requirements:

- Agree to conform to the guidelines in the NEVI Final Rule.
- Agree to the terms and conditions set forth by IDOT.



- **If Applicant and Site Host are the** *same* **entity:** Applicant submits site ownership documentation.
- **If Applicant and Site Host are** *different* **entities:** Applicant submits site ownership documentation and completed Form 6 Letter from Site Host.
- Be Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) registered and pre-qualified through the GATA Grantee Portal.\*

#### **Teaming Partnerships:**



- Teaming partnerships are permitted; however, the application should be submitted by the primary applicant responsible for the full performance of the grant agreement.
- Public sector entities may not own the charging station but may agree to be site hosts as part of the project team.

# Mandatory Federal Application Requirements

Prior to developing an application, applicants should confirm ability to meet statutory application requirements.

- Mandatory federal application criteria, detailed in Sections 3 and 3.1 of the NOFO, covers the NEVI Standards and Requirements (23 CFR 680) as well as the NEVI Formula Program Guidance.
- Any awarded NEVI funding must comply with all federal requirements included in the table.

nts	Title 23 United States Code (U.S.C)
mer	• 2 CFR 200
uire	The NEVI Final Rule in 23 CFR 680
Req	• FHWA 1273
ral	Davis-Bacon Act
ede	Title VI of the Civil Rights Act
ble F	The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
Applicable Federal Requirements	Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)
	Build America, Buy America (BABA)

# Additional NEVI Final Rule Requirements

Federal guidance provides requirements that all sites in all states must satisfy, including but not limited to the following:



#### **Charging Equipment Requirements:**

- Include at least four 150kW DCFCs with CCS ports (not including future proofing potential)
- Each station must be capable of simultaneously charging four EVs at 150 kW or above at each port, with a minimum station power capability at or above 600 kW
- Meet the minimum standards and requirements as described in 23 CFR 680

#### **Accessibility and Availability Requirements:**

- Available to the public 24 hours per day, seven days a week, year-round.
- Have dusk-to-dawn area lighting.
- In addition to NEVI Program requirements, grantees must confirm and comply with all applicable local, state and federal accessibility laws for design and construction. The <u>U.S.</u> <u>Access Board Design Recommendations for Accessible Electric Vehicle Charging</u> <u>Stations</u> provides non-exhaustive accessibility guidance in the linked document.



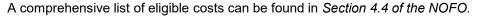
# **Eligible Costs**

Eligible costs have been determined by the NEVI Final Rule (23 CFR 680) as well as other applicable, state, and local laws.

#### **Eligible Costs:**

- · Costs of minor grid updates;
- Costs to procure and install, update, and/or replace existing EV charging equipment;
- Costs to acquire and install on-site electric service equipment (pending cost reasonableness);
- Costs to procure and install EVSE-related hardware and software;
- Fixed operating and maintenance costs (up to five years after the charging station is commissioned);
- · Costs of engineering, design, and permitting;
- Costs for additional ports or chargers beyond the NEVI requirement of four 150kW ports per EV charging site may be considered but not guaranteed provided they meet the same criteria (capable of simultaneously charging at 150kW or greater with a CCS Type 1 connector, etc.);
- Costs for adaptors to accommodate non-CCS charging will be limited to a reimbursement of \$200 per port for the adapter hardware;
- Costs for renewable distributed energy resources or energy storage equipment and/or systems (pending cost reasonableness).





# **Ineligible Costs**

Ineligible costs have been determined by the NEVI Final Rule (23 CFR 680) as well as other applicable, state, and local laws.

#### **Ineligible Costs:**

- Costs incurred prior to a fully executed grant agreement with IDOT;
- Costs not related directly to vehicle charging;
- Costs for lobbying, or for the intervention in state, federal regulatory, or adjudicatory proceedings;
- Costs for construction or general maintenance of building and parking facilities (if not related directly to vehicle charging);
- · Costs of major grid upgrades not within reason;
- Costs for additional ports or chargers that do not meet the same criteria listed for the minimum four 150kW ports in <u>23 CFR 680 (capable of simultaneously charging at 150kW or greater with a CCS Type 1 connector, etc.)</u>;
- Utility service upgrade costs covered by the utility;
- Costs covered by programs or tariff rules of the electric utilities;
- Costs for research projects;
- Administrative costs, including overhead and indirect costs, as well as research project costs.



A comprehensive list of ineligible costs can be found in Section 4.5 of the NOFO.



# ILLINOIS NEVI ROUND 2 ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE



#### Illinois NEVI Round 2 Activities Schedule

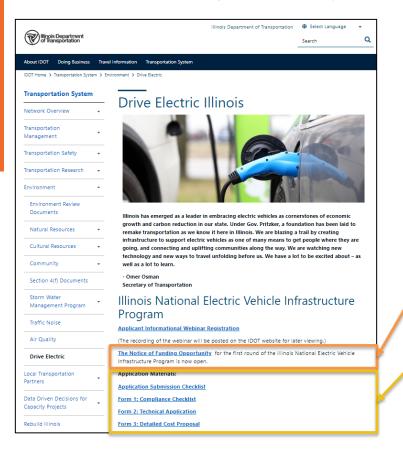
Activity	Date	
Illinois 2023 Electric Vehicle Deployment Plan Approved by FHWA	Sept. 29, 2023	
IDOT NEVI Round 2 NOFO Released & Application Period Opens	Nov. 15, 2024	
IDOT NEVI Round 2 Informational Webinar Held	Nov. 21, 2024	
Deadline to Submit Utility Form*	Nov. 26, 2024	
Deadline to Submit Round 2 Application(s)	11:59 PM, Dec. 17, 2024	
Review Completion and Contingent Award Notifications	Jan. – Feb. 2025	
Executed Grant Agreement and NEPA Compliance	3-24 months from Contingent Award	

<sup>\*</sup>This deadline is flexible, but it is highly recommended that applicants submit the Utility Form prior to or on November 26.



#### **IDOT Drive Electric**

The Notice of Funding Opportunity can be found on the <u>IDOT Drive Electric Webpage</u>.



Click this link to access the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

Click the links below to download the application materials.



# **OVERVIEW OF APPLICATION**



#### Mandatory Grant Application Components

There are **three main sets of forms** to complete, with expectations that some will take longer to complete than others

#### Part A: Application Forms (1) (1)



Form 1: NEVI Compliance Checklist

Form 2: Technical Application

Form 3: Detailed Cost Proposal

Form 4: Detailed Project Schedule

Form 5: Utility Form

Form 6: Letter from Site Host

#### Key

Short completion time



Medium completion time Long completion time



Part B: GATA Forms (1) (1)



**GATA Form 1:** Uniform Budget

**Template** 

**GATA Form 2:** Uniform Grant

Application

**GATA Form 3:** Conflict of Interest

Disclosure

**GATA From 4:** Programmatic Risk

Assessment

**GATA Form 5:** IDOT Subrecipient Risk Assessment (Only required for Local

Public Agencies - LPAs)

#### Part C: Attachments



A. Resumes of Key Personnel

B. Proof of Technical Licenses/ Certifications

C. EVSE Equipment Certifications

D. Site Ownership Documentation

Site Schematic

F. Optional - Evidence for Future **Proofing** 

G. Optional - Community Letters of Support



**Note:** A separate grant application must be submitted for each proposed site

#### Key Differences Between Round 1 and Round 2

Adjustments have been made to the Round 2 application based on feedback received in Round 1.

Several new questions have been added to introduce new topics on which applicants will be evaluated that were not in the Round 1 application package.

Forms were adjusted based on feedback received and common issues with Round 1 applications to clarify the level of detail that is expected in the response.

#### **Summary of Adjustments to Forms**

Form	Round 2 Application Adjustment
NOFO	<ul> <li>Evaluation Criteria redefined based on NOFO and Application adjustments.</li> <li>Eligible costs include Distributed Energy Resources</li> </ul>
Form 2: Technical Application	<ul> <li>Added a Distributed Energy Resources section</li> <li>Added a question regarding Pricing Structure</li> <li>Adjusted questions regarding ADA compliance, community engagement, J40 planning</li> </ul>
Form 3: Detailed Cost Proposal	<ul> <li>Added a question regarding Reasonable Rate of Return</li> <li>Added a question regarding budget narrative</li> <li>Added questions related to source of match funding</li> <li>Added cost line item for Distributed Energy Resources</li> </ul>
Form 5: Utility Form	Added a tab that includes a list of utilities and their contacts based on Round 2 location IDs



**Note:** To allow for adequate return time, submit Form 5: Utility Form to your utility, **at least 15 business days prior** to the deadline.

# Required Application Forms Checklist

A checklist has been developed to assist applicants in tracking the required forms.

Application Document	File Format			
Compliance Checklist	Excel			
Technical Application	Excel			
Detailed Project Schedule	Excel			
Detailed Cost Proposal	Excel			
Utility Form	Excel	-	Submit one per site	
Letter from Site Host	PDF			
Uniform Grant Application	PDF			
Uniform Budget Template	PDF			
Conflict of Interest Disclosure	PDF		Submit one per	
Programmatic Risk Assessment	PDF		applicant	
IDOT Subrecipient Risk Assessment	PDF	<b></b>	Completed by LPAs Annually	
	Compliance Checklist Technical Application Detailed Project Schedule Detailed Cost Proposal Utility Form Letter from Site Host Uniform Grant Application Uniform Budget Template Conflict of Interest Disclosure Programmatic Risk Assessment	Compliance Checklist Excel Technical Application Excel Detailed Project Schedule Excel Detailed Cost Proposal Excel Utility Form Excel Letter from Site Host PDF Uniform Grant Application PDF Uniform Budget Template PDF Conflict of Interest Disclosure PDF Programmatic Risk Assessment PDF	Compliance Checklist Excel  Technical Application Excel  Detailed Project Schedule Excel  Detailed Cost Proposal Excel  Utility Form Excel  Letter from Site Host PDF  Uniform Grant Application PDF  Uniform Budget Template PDF  Conflict of Interest Disclosure PDF  Programmatic Risk Assessment	

**Note:** Letter from Site Host is not required if applicant is the same entity as the site host

# **Supporting Attachments Checklist**

A checklist has been developed to assist applicants in tracking supporting forms, most of which are required.

Component	Application Document (one form per site)	Mandatory	File Format
Attachment A	Resumes of Key Personnel	Yes	PDF
Attachment B	Proof of Technical Licenses/Certifications Required Under 23 CFR 680	Yes	PDF
Attachment C	EVSE Equipment Certifications Required Under 23 CFR 680	Yes	PDF
Attachment D	Site Ownership Documentation (deed, lease agreement and deed, or property tax bill)	Yes	PDF
Attachment E	Site Schematic	Yes	PDF
Attachment F	Evidence for Future Proofing (Optional)	No	PDF
Attachment G	Community Letters of Support (Optional)	No	PDF



# **HOW TO APPLY**



# Give Yourself Time to Prepare

Plan to make sure you have ample time for adequately preparing the required documentation and registration requirements for the application.

Application Requirement	How should you prepare for this?
GATA Registration	Applicants will need to fully complete the <u>GATA</u> registration process unless they are a local public agency. The turnaround time for GATA <b>may take up to 14 days.</b>
Site Permitting	Applicants should begin the permitting process as soon as possible. Depending on the location of your proposed site(s), you'll need to familiarize yourself with the local permitting processes and requirements to ensure that your site will meet full compliance.
Site Ownership Documentation	Applicants should ensure that they have the appropriate <b>site ownership documentation</b> to prove that the Site Host has control over the property for a minimum 5-year. Make sure to communicate early with site hosts if you'll need to obtain a <b>Letter from Site Host</b> .
Utility Documentation	Applicants will need to engage with the utility to complete the <b>Utility Form</b> . This form requires the applicant to fill out details related to the site and electricity needs and asks for the applicant to then send to their utility to complete the rest.
Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) Requirements	Based on the timeline for <u>BABA</u> , applicants should ensure that they have a <b>compliance plan</b> in place and documentation to prove compliance.
Workforce Requirements	Ensure that any of your project workforce (electricians, contractors, etc.) have the <b>appropriate</b> licenses, certification, and training as required by IDOT and the finalized NEVI program  minimum standards and requirements.



**Note:** IDOT **will not** accept any late or partial applications.

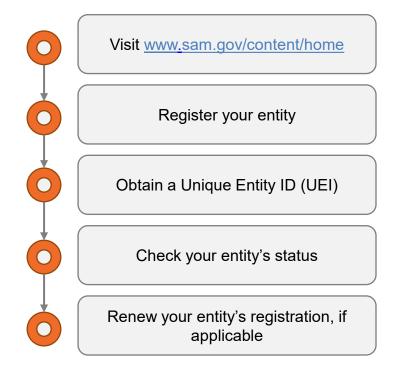
# Getting Ready to Apply: GATA Pre-award Requirements

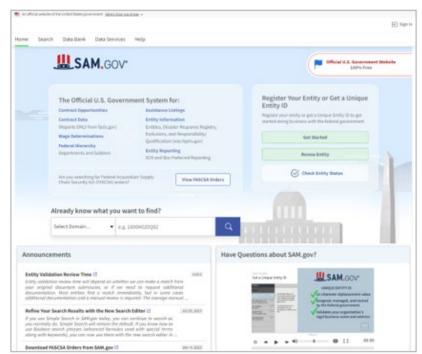
Applicants must complete all GATA pre-award requirements to be eligible for an award.

- Authentication Each entity must establish an account with the <u>Illinois.gov Authentication Portal</u>. Authentication is performed once for everyone associated with a registration.
- Grantee
  Registration
  All grantees must be registered with the State of Illinois. Grantee Registration is completed by browsing to <a href="https://grants.illinois.gov/portal">https://grants.illinois.gov/portal</a>
- Grantee Pre-qualification status will be verified after Grantee Registration is registered and nightly thereafter. To be qualified for an award, an entity must be qualified.
- Fiscal & Entities must complete an Internal Controls Questionnaire (ICQ) as the Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment, once annually.
- Programmatic Entities must complete the Programmatic Risk Assessment included in the Risk Assessment application package.
  - For guidance on completing pre-award requirements visit gata.lllinois.gov

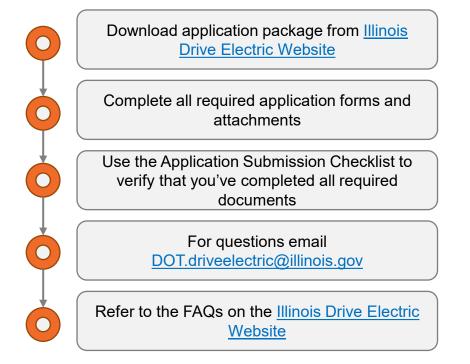
# Getting Ready to Apply: System for Award Management

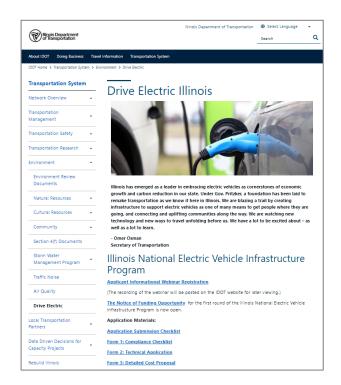
Applicants must be registered in SAM.gov and maintain an active SAM registration before applying for this NOFO.



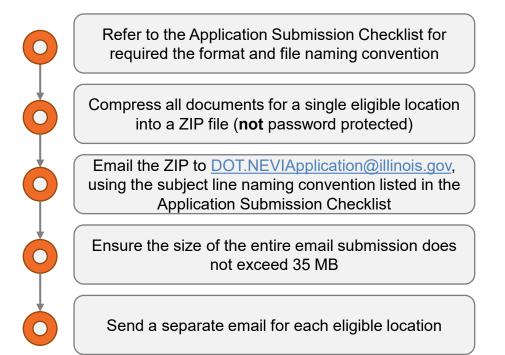


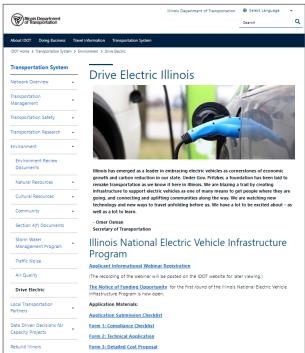
# How to *Complete* the Grant Application





# How to **Submit** the Grant Application





# Important Application Details



#### **File Transmission**

- Email your application forms and all attachments in one ZIP file to <u>DOT.NEVIApplication@illinois.gov</u> using the following subject line name convention:
  - NEVI Round 2 Application Submission [Prime Applicant Name] [Location ID]

#### **File Format and Naming Convention**

- All Excel files must be in an .xlsx format.
- Each file must be saved using the following file naming convention: [Form #]\_[Location ID]\_[Applicant Name]

#### Resumes

- Uploaded resumes of key personnel must be limited to one page each.
- Resume should include relevant EV charging installation and operation experience.

#### **GATA Forms**

- Required GATA Forms can be downloaded with the application package from the Illinois Drive Electric website.
- Applicants must complete all required fields for each form.
- GATA Form 1, Uniform Budget Template, must be submitted in the original **editable** format.
- An accurate GATA Form 1 is a requirement to receiving an award through the Illinois NEVI Program. Applicants are encouraged to **review the FAQs** for detailed instructions on how to complete the form.

#### Resources

Illinois Drive Electric Webpage

**NEVI Standards and Requirements** 

**NEVI Formula Program Q&A** 

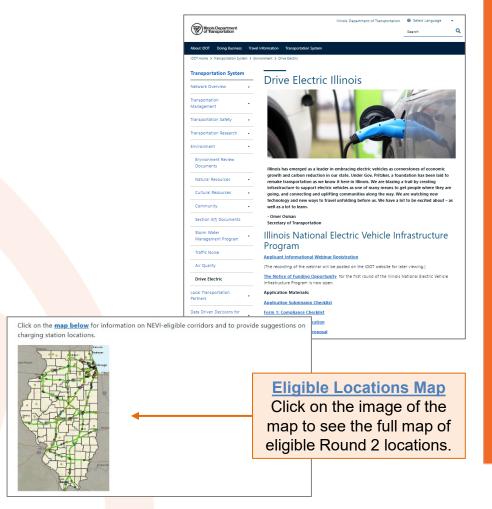
**BABA Standards for EV Charging** 

**GATA Resources** 

For NOFO related questions email:

DOT.DriveElectric@Illinois.gov

For GATA related questions reference the Grantee Portal FAQ







# APPLICATION SCORING & EVALUATION



# **Application Merit-Based Review Process**

All projects funded by the Illinois NEVI program will be selected through a competitive merit-based review process. Applications will be evaluated through two separate reviews:



#### **Application Baseline Requirements:**

- IDOT will perform an initial review on a pass/fail basis to determine compliance with baseline NOFO requirements and NEVI requirements outlined in 23 CFR 680.
- Applications that do not meet the baseline requirements will not be evaluated further.



#### **Application Scoring Criteria:**

- Once applications are determined to be compliant with the baseline requirements, each application will be reviewed, evaluated, and scored by IDOT based on the evaluation criteria outlined in Table 6, Scoring Criteria, in the NEVI Round 2 NOFO.
- Each application will be scored out of 100 points.

# **Evaluation Criteria**

Part	Title	Contents	Points
A	Baseline Requirements	Applicant Meets Minimum NEVI Requirements	Pass/Fail
		Deed Holder or Agreement with Deed Holder	Pass/Fail
		Site Location	Pass/Fail
		Applicant meets GATA Registration Requirements and Prequalification Requirements (LPAs are exempt)	Pass/Fail
	Baseline Requirements Subtotal		Pass/Fail
В	Technical Application	Project Budget	20
		Site Readiness	22
		Site Characteristics	14
		Project Team Qualifications, Experience, and Project Approach	24
		Future Proofing and Innovation	8
		Equity	12
	Technical Application Subtotal		
TOTAL F	POINTS POSSIBLE		100

# Common NEVI Application Pitfalls to Avoid

Applicant fails to meet baseline NEVI requirements.

Applicant submits an inconsistent project budget, requests a match of ineligible funds, or includes incurred costs in budget.



Applicant provides insufficient supporting information for questions or provides a short response, lacking details.

Applicant fails to demonstrate sufficient site control.

Applicant submits incorrectly formatted files. Closely follow instructions on file format and naming.

Applicant submits the Utility Form less than 15 business days from the deadline.

# Award Process and Project Milestones

Finalist Selection

Grant Agreement
Execution

documents

Construction & Installation

Operations & Maintenance

- Complete all preaward requirements
- Resolve any errors with GATA Uniform Budget forms
- Accept the Notice of State Award (NOSA)
- Note: NOSA is not an authorization, do not begin incurring costs yet

- Submit all required C
- Sign and return grant agreement to IDOT
- NEPA and other Federally-required clearances
- Note: Grantee can begin incurring costs after the execution of the grant agreement by IDOT

- Complete installation
- Open site to the public after successful testing and certification
- Submit invoices after incurring expenses
- Submit quarterly performance reports to IDOT

- Perform O&M activities
- Maintain an average annual uptime of 97%
- Submit O&M reimbursement requests annually
- Submit annual performance reports to IDOT



# **Q&A SESSION**



# **NEVI Frequently Asked Questions**

#### Do Buy America requirements apply to the NEVI Formula Program?

**Yes**. The Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) ensures that EV chargers acquired through the NEVI Formula Program will be assembled in the United States immediately and fully comply with BABA requirements for manufactured products. Applicants should describe in detail their ability to comply with BABA in their applications.

#### Will pre-contract expenses be eligible for reimbursement?

**No**. Costs incurred prior to a fully executed grant agreement with IDOT are ineligible.

#### What is the cost-sharing arrangement for awardees?

Illinois NEVI Program funds are federal funds. Applicants may apply for up to 80% federal cost share of the eligible costs, with a minimum required match of 20% from non-federal sources (project participants, state or local governments, or other third-party financing).

#### Is the 1 mile from the exit requirement flexible?

**It depends**. FHWA *may* grant approval for sites to be located up to 5 miles away from eligible exits.

#### Will sites be required to include J3400 (NACS) adapters along with CCS?

**No**. Sites will not be required to incorporate J3400/NACS adapters in their plans. Applicants are welcome to include plans for J3400/NACS adapters in addition to the minimum CCS Type 1 connector NEVI requirements in their application, but should be aware that there is a \$200 per port cap on reimbursement for the adapter hardware.



# **NEXT STEPS & REMINDERS**



#### Next Steps and Reminders

For any questions regarding your application, please email <a href="mailto:DOT.DriveElectric@illinois.gov">DOT.DriveElectric@illinois.gov</a> with your prime contact's name, email, and phone number.

Activity	Date
Illinois 2023 Electric Vehicle Deployment Plan Approved by FHWA	Sept. 29, 2023
IDOT NEVI Round 2 NOFO Released & Application Period Opens	Nov. 15, 2024
IDOT NEVI Round 2 Informational Webinar Held	Nov. 21, 2024
Deadline to Submit Utility Form*	Nov. 26, 2024
Deadline to Submit Round 2 Application(s)	11:59 PM, Dec. 17, 2024
Review Completion and Contingent Award Notifications	Jan. – Feb. 2025
Executed Grant Agreement and NEPA Compliance	3-24 months from Contingent Award

<sup>\*</sup>This deadline is flexible, but it is **highly** recommended that applicants submit the Utility Form prior to or on January 10.





# THANK YOU

