



Further questions may be directed to REVCampusChallenge@nyserda.ny.gov

ELIGIBILITY

Does an institution have to be a REV Campus Challenge member to submit a proposal?

Yes. Learn more about becoming a REV Campus Challenge member [here](#).

Does an institution have to pay into the System Benefits Charge (SBC) to be eligible?

No.

Can an institution submit more than one proposal?

Yes. There are no restrictions on the number of proposals an institution can submit. Each submitted proposal will be scored independently.

If an institution submits more than one proposal, may an individual staff or faculty member participate on more than one project team?

Yes. There are no restrictions on a staff or faculty member participating as a project team member on multiple proposals.

Can an institution submit a proposal on its own, or must it partner with another institution or third party?

An institution may submit a proposal on its own. There is no requirement for an institution to partner with any other entity.

PROJECTS

What kinds of projects are eligible for the Energy to Lead Competition 2020?

Successful proposals will highlight projects that emphasize deep, impactful, and replicable energy savings that result in carbon emission reduction. A list of example projects is available on the REV Campus Challenge [Energy to Lead Competition 2020 website](#).

How soon must a project start? Is there a deadline for project completion?

Projects must be ready to commence within the calendar year of award notification in accordance with the schedule provided as part of the Statement of Work (Attachment A). While there is no deadline for project completion, NYSERDA anticipates projects will last no more than 3 to 5 years. Projects must show consistent progress throughout the duration of the project.

Is student involvement and/or engagement required?

As a higher education focused competition, inclusion of students (e.g., students as part of project team, engagement of student groups, project integration into courses and/or research, etc.) in an Energy to Lead Competition 2020 project will be viewed favorably by the Scoring Committee evaluating proposals.

Who should provide letters of support?

Letters of support provide insight into the validity and soundness of the proposed project and may illustrate whether the project has buy-in from the necessary internal and external stakeholders to be implemented successfully if awarded funding. Letters must be provided by internal or external parties participating in the execution of the project directly, or whose buy-in will push the project forward to successful implementation.

If multiple institutions are collaborating on a single proposal, the lead institution must provide letters of support from each institution involved in the project.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Where can I find the documents I need to complete my proposal?

Proposal documents can be found on the NYSERDA website. Visit the REV Campus Challenge [Energy to Lead Competition 2020 website](#) to download them.

How do I submit my proposal?

Proposals may be submitted through NYSERDA's online portal. To create an account and submit your proposal, visit the REV Campus Challenge [Energy to Lead Competition 2020 website](#).

What is the maximum or preferred length of the proposal?

Attachment A: Statement of Work provides clear maximum word counts for many sections of the proposal. If no maximum word count is provided for a particular section, proposers should provide a clear, concise response that fully answers the prompt.

FUNDING

Are there restrictions to using NYSERDA or other incentives, such as utility incentives, to fund a portion of the project submitted through the Energy to Lead Competition 2020?

No. Applicants may pair Energy to Lead Competition funding with other funding sources such as internal funding, in-kind services, and external grants and incentives, as applicable. Any funding sources outside the funding requested through this competition must be clearly identified in the proposal in the format provided in the budget section of Attachment A: Statement of Work RFP. This is due to the fact that in order to receive an award through the Energy to Lead Competition, there must be additional energy savings impacts achieved beyond those associated with any other funding source.

Note: Cost share is NOT required for the Energy to Lead Competition, though may be viewed favorably by the scoring committee.

Will the award be made as a single lump sum payment or as progress payments?

Payment details will be negotiated during contracting, but NYSERDA anticipates making progress payments over the course of project implementation in accordance with the tasks and deliverables established in Scope of Work and Proposal Milestone Budget (see Attachments A and B).

SCORING

How will proposals be scored?

Proposals will be evaluated by a Scoring Committee based on the degree to which the proposal meets the objectives of the Energy to Lead Competition 2020 provided in Section I: Introduction, provides clear, concise responses to the prompts outlined in Section III: Proposal Requirements and meets the evaluation criteria established in Section IV: Proposal Evaluation.

Who is on the Scoring Committee?

The Scoring Committee will include NYSERDA staff and various stakeholders with expertise related to the objectives of the Energy to Lead Competition 2020.

OPTIONAL FEEDBACK SESSIONS

What is the feedback session?

Proposing institutions are invited, but not required, to present preliminary proposals to NYSERDA staff to receive questions and comments. Additional information is available on the REV Campus Challenge [Energy to Lead Competition 2020 website](#).

How do I sign-up for a feedback session?

Interest in a virtual feedback session can be expressed by emailing REVCampusChallenge@nyserda.ny.gov with the subject line "ETL2020 Feedback Session Request." Formal registration for the virtual feedback session will be available on the REV Campus Challenge [Energy to Lead Competition 2020 website](#) no later than January 1, 2020.