

BIL FAQ

- Will there be a 15% Owner Contribution of the project cost for BIL?
 - No, it is not required for BIL, but it is encouraged for owner's to contribute. A waiver will be required to proceed without investment and please see the link [here](#) to the waiver form.
- Can HUD funds be used with BIL?
 - Yes, HUD programs are compatible with the DOE funds. CDBG and CDBG-DR have been previously combined with DOE funds in past years.
- Is there a methodology behind the \$20 million for temp subgrantees?
 - Yes, there is a prioritization for disadvantaged communities as designated by NYS. The State requires that at least 40% of the investments to go towards designated Disadvantaged communities (DAC's).
- Are all subgrantees required to participate in Year 1 of BIL?
 - Yes, subgrantees are required to participate in Year 1 of BIL and the funding was allocated by formula and is included in the [BIL State Plan](#).
- Will there be vehicle funding available? Also, are there specific forms that must be used for BIL funding?
 - Yes, the same rules apply as for WAP and the forms on the HCR-WAP website will be used for BIL as well. Vehicle funding will be available as an eligible expense within subgrantee contracts.
- Do subgrantees need to declare a project for BIL before work starts or can this decision be made at presentation?
 - Yes, subgrantees should know which projects are for BIL and which are for WAP prior to presentation.
- Is there a plan on the manufacturing side of business to increase availability of American made materials?
 - DOE provided guidance that Buy American will only apply to public buildings or private buildings that are publicly operated or managed.
- Is fuel switching permitted under BIL?
 - Not yet, HCR has not received authorization for fuel switching audits yet and is currently seeking authorization from DOE. Once approved, TREAT Software will be used for the fuel switching audits. There is currently no timeline provided, but we will be in contact with the network.
- Can non-fuel switching audit tools be used under BIL?
 - Yes, TREAT, EA-QUIP and TIPS can be used for non-fuel switching audits and NYS will establish rules and these will be rolled out to the subgrantee network.
- Are past American Rescue Act (ARA) projects eligible to now receive BIL funding?
 - Yes, projects that received funding under ARA would be eligible under BIL if it has been at least 15 years since they were funded. Prior to 2009.
- Are Public Housing Authority's (PHA's) eligible for BIL projects?
 - Yes, PHA's are categorically eligible for WAP and for BIL and this is not specific to one program. However, Public Housing Authority's are subject to Buy American regulations.
- How is program income handled under BIL?

- Program income would be addressed as it would under WAP and can be used as either fee for service or program income.
- Will the BIL workforce development program have a weatherization certification program?
 - Yes, in partnership with SUNY and CUNY there will be a Weatherization Certification Program and temporary job placement offered statewide.
- Does HCR need to complete 30% of units by fall of 2024 ?
 - Yes, HCR must produce 30% (6000) of total estimated units by the fall of 2024. If 30% production milestones are not met on time, HCR will not receive the remaining \$144 million of the BIL allocation.
- T&TA allocation seems lower than WAP and is this capped at 2%?
 - Yes, T&TA for BIL for Period 1 PY23-25 is 2% which is a lower percentage than for WAP contracts. Subgrantees will also receive T&TA funds through WAP PY23 contracts. Overall this will be an annual increase for T&TA dollars.
- H&S percent is low - Are these capped?
 - Yes, H&S budgets will be 8% for subgrantees for Period 1 PY23-25. This percentage can be revisited in the following contract term.
- Can subgrantees start working on their budgets now?
 - Yes, subgrantees can start working on the budgets and they are due June 2nd.
- Are the administration budgets for subgrantees 10% for BIL?
 - Yes, administration allocations that subgrantees will receive are 10% for BIL. As per DOE, no more than 15% of the total BIL contract will be reserved for administration by both the subgrantees and grantee.
- Should subgrantees enter a 1-year or 2-year budget for BIL?
 - Subgrantees should enter a 2-year budget and will receive an initial 1-year budget. HCR will enter new two-year contracts with each subgrantee in 2023 and these contracts will be divided into defined budget periods, referred to in the contract as “program years.”
- Are subgrantees able to request the full 15% of the 24-month BIL PY23 allocation as listed on the chart?
 - No, advances will only be for 15% of program year 1 and once program year 2 is available to HCR via DOE, subgrantees can request that 15% of program year 2 as an advance as well.
- Are energy audits and inspections subject to Davis Bacon wage rates?
 - No, energy audits and inspections are not subject to Davis Bacon wage rates.
- Will Davis Bacon wage rates apply to the savings investment ratio (SIR) for a project?
 - No, for the purpose of calculating the SIR on Davis Bacon applicable projects subgrantees are able to use standard weatherization wage rates.
- Are regular WAP funds and ARPA funds able to be combined with BIL?

- ARPA funds can be coupled with BIL funds. A subgrantee's ARPA pipeline is an excellent source for identifying a BIL pipeline to achieve full or partial electrification.
- WAP funds cannot be combined with BIL.