

Creating a More Equitable Future



**Justice
Climate Fund**

Justice Climate Fund's (JCF)

\$940MM in *Clean Communities Investment Accelerator (CCIA)* Funding

Q1, CY2025



**National Bankers
Association Foundation**



Agenda

What is the GGRF Funding Opportunity?

Who is JCF to me?

How can I ensure my bank is eligible?

How can the NBAF Help my bank?

What are the next steps?

The EPA recently awarded \$27B in federal aid through three (3) programs to stimulate nationwide climate finance capacity building.

The 2023 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) aims to achieve the following program objectives:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants.
- Deliver the benefits of greenhouse gas- and air pollution-reducing projects to American communities, particularly low-income and disadvantaged communities.
- Mobilize financing and private capital to stimulate additional deployment of greenhouse gas and air pollution reducing projects.

National Clean Investment Fund (NCIF)	Clean Communities Investment Accelerator (CCIA)	Solar for All (SFA)
<p>Under the \$14 billion National Clean Investment Fund program, EPA has selected three applicants to establish national clean financing institutions that deliver accessible, affordable financing for clean technology projects nationwide, partnering with private-sector investors, developers, community organizations, and others to deploy projects, mobilize private capital at scale, and enable millions of Americans to benefit from the program through energy bill savings, cleaner air, job creation, and more.</p> <p>NBA Bank Strategy: Build partnerships with NCIF Awardee(s) who may not otherwise have access to a network of Community Lenders like the NBA to access Justice40 communities and their projects.</p> <p>Learn more about the National Clean Investment Fund.</p>	<p><u>PRIMARY FUNDING SOURCE FOR NBA BANKS NOW</u></p> <p>Under the \$6 billion Clean Communities Investment Accelerator program, EPA has selected five applicants to establish hubs that provide funding and technical assistance to community lenders working in low-income and disadvantaged communities, providing an immediate pathway to deploy projects in those communities while also building capacity of hundreds of community lenders to finance projects for years.</p> <p>NBA Bank Strategy: quantify track record of climate finance and build a pipeline of demand for more project funding to access up to \$10MM in financing capital and \$1MM in TA per bank. Banks will access funding via JCF and may need to demonstrate strategic plans/intentions to expand climate lending capacity.</p> <p>Learn more about the Clean Communities Investment Accelerator.</p>	<p>Under the \$7 billion Solar for All program, EPA has selected 60 applicants - including states, territories, Tribal governments, municipalities, and eligible nonprofit recipients to expand the number of low-income and disadvantaged communities primed for distributed solar investment—enabling millions of low-income households to access affordable, resilient, and clean solar energy. Grantees will use funds to expand existing low-income solar programs or design and deploy new Solar for All programs nationwide.</p> <p>NBA Bank Strategy: prioritize credits that already leverage SFA capital to minimize LTVs and make more deals bankable to build climate finance portfolio.</p> <p>Learn more about Solar for All.</p>

The EPA selected the three (3) project categories best-aligned with GGRF program objectives and near-term federal climate goals that JCF will prioritize, accordingly.

- **I. Distributed Power Generation and Storage**: Projects, technologies, or activities that generate and/or store zero-emissions power near to the point of use, instead of in centralized plants. Examples include, but are not limited to distributed solar, distributed wind, geothermal, stand-alone energy storage, and community-wide microgrids.
- **II. Decarbonization Retrofits of Existing Buildings**: Projects, technologies or activities that retrofit an existing building to reduce or eliminate greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, with that project, technology, or activity consistent with the targets and strategies of net-zero emissions buildings. Examples include grid-interactive appliance electrification in affordable multifamily housing alongside energy efficiency, indoor air quality improvements, and solar; school building space and water heating grid-interactive electrification and energy efficiency; replacement of backup diesel generators with battery storage, including paired with distributed power generation; and community facility retrofits with on-site solar, storage, and/or charging infrastructure.
- **III. Transportation Pollution Reduction**: Projects, technologies, or activities that support zero-emissions transportation modes, especially in communities that are overburdened by existing diesel pollution, particulate matter concentration, and degraded air quality. Examples include small business fleet electrification as well as public and multi-use charging depots (including for clean school buses and community facilities).



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National Bankers Association is a “sub-awardee” of JCF’s CCIA Award.



JCF BOARD MEMBERS INCLUDE:

African American Alliance of CDFI CEOs
National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders
National Bankers Association/NBA Foundation
Oweesta Corporation
Community Development Bankers Association/Partners for the Common Good
ImpactAssets
Housing Partnership Network
Connecticut Green Bank

JCF COALITION PARTNERS INCLUDE:

Accelerator For America
National Coalition of Asian Pacific American Community
California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank
Nevada Clean Energy Fund
Community Development Venture Capital Alliance
New Ecology
Elemental Impact
NY Green Bank
Elevate Energy
New York City Energy Efficiency Corporation
The Greenlining Institute
Rocky Mountain Institute
Opportunity Finance Network
Solar Energy Load Fund
Inclusiv
Inclusive Prosperity Capital
Institute for Market Transformation
University System of New Hampshire
Michigan Saves
Vermont Energy Investment Corp





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NBA banks with CDFI certification are a top-priority category to receive JCF funding and support, while non-CDFI banks have limited time to obtain certification before funding is exhausted.



Which NBA banks are eligible to apply?

Any NBA bank that is already or is an emerging certified CDFI is eligible to apply to JCF's program, provided they are not a named partner of any other CCIA awardee.

What is the application process?

There will be multiple opportunities for NBA banks to apply to the program through via a competitive application process over the next six (6) years. These application openings are referred to as "Waves." JCF will run marketing and outreach campaigns ahead of each Wave for awareness, in collaboration with NBA/NBAF and other sub-awardees.

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Applying: NBA member banks, especially those who are already or are emerging certified CDFIs, can fill out an online application form to apply to JCF's program through our application process. The application is expected to ask questions about:

1. Organizational information and lending history
2. Green lending history and growth plans
3. Community engagement history and growth plans
4. Other EPA compliance questions and requirements

Who will review and select winning applications?

Due to limited budget and resources, not every community lender that applies to the program will be selected. Evaluation and selection decisions will be made by a dedicated JCF Evaluation Committee (JCFEC) consisting of JCF staff and experts in finance, climate solutions, and community development for low-income and disadvantaged communities (LIDACs).

The JCFEC will also recommend the amount of capitalization that a community lender will have access to in the JCF program (up to \$10M). Any bank not selected in a given application Wave may re-apply in subsequent waves.

All NBA banks can benefit directly or indirectly from JCF/NBA support in spite of this very competitive landscape for resources.



JCF's Coalition of Community Lenders are Diverse

<u>Lender Type</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Eligible to apply for up to \$10M Capitalization Funding & up to \$1M TA Grant?</u>	<u>Market Building and Pipeline Generation Partner?</u>
Loan Fund	121	Yes	Yes
CDFI Bank	115	Yes	Yes
Housing Developer	33	Possible	Yes
Community Education/TA	16	Possible	Yes
Home Loans/Mortgages	14	Possible	Yes
Credit Union	7	Yes	Yes
Equity	2	Yes	Yes
	<u>308</u>		

JCF/NBA Support for Banks

- Request assistance with CDFI-certification applications from the NBA/NBAF and their preferred partners, already familiar with the unique needs of MDIs
- Leverage facilitated peer-learning groups with banks experienced in climate lending
- Explore the co-lending/loan participation platforms under development for newer banks to finance qualified projects and build their knowledge base
- Join NBA/NBAF-led deeper dives into specific clean technologies and their ecosystems (such as the solar installation process and working with vendors/developers, EV charging stations as a business opportunity, etc.)

NBA banks should prioritize their own eligibility and readiness to take advantage of this one-time, catalytic funding opportunity.



Apply early for CDFI certification or re-certification.

The NBA/NBAF can assist with finding affordable, accessible experts who understand the unique requirements of MDIs for CDFI certification activities and your comprehensive CDFI strategy across the Fund's myriad of funding opportunity programs for historically underserved minority populations and low-moderate income communities.

Start building your climate finance track record and capacity:

The NBA is constantly working to curate a portfolio of the safest, most profitable climate finance projects in the marketplace for our members to participate and co-lend into. These opportunities will help build your climate portfolio, while helping your bank safely learn the nuances of this emerging and growing sector of financial services. Banks with the most climate finance capacity and track record will not only be rewarded with the best opportunities in the marketplace, but they will also have opportunities to earn fee income for sharing their best practices with emerging climate lenders in our network.

11

Also, consider using the technical assistance/training that the JCF/NBA will make available to community lenders like your bank.

Start building your climate finance pipeline, today:

The NBA is in the process of securing an agreement with eligible lenders who already have \$ billions of GGFRF-eligible climate finance projects in their respective pipelines to share that with NBA banks. So, be sure to let the NBA/NBAF know that you are interested and ready to underwrite your share of these pipelines.