



BUILDING READY UPSTATE PROGRAM

Note to state, regional, and local economic developers: If you intend to use this program as part of an overall incentive offer to a company, you must submit a written request to National Grid's Economic Development Department in advance of the project announcement.

Program Summary

Many Upstate New York communities lack an inventory of quality buildings to attract new businesses. Another hurdle to overcome is the length of the approval process for constructing a new building. Empire State Development has started a program (the Shovelready certification) to address the length of time necessary in permitting sites. The Building Ready Upstate Program would follow the same principles of reducing the upfront time required in gaining the necessary approvals for new building construction.

The **Building Ready Upstate Program** provides grants to fund building drawings, site plans, and design specifications to meet local planning board approval and other costs that are required to reduce the upfront time needed to construct a new facility.

Minimum Program Requirements: *Please review the program requirements and guidelines below prior to completing an application for funding.*

Note: Program assistance is only available to customers in good standing, located within National Grid's Upstate New York franchise territory. Applicants must be current in payments with National Grid or have executed a deferred payment agreement with the Company.

To be eligible for this program, the **applicant** must:

- Be the owner or developer of an appropriate site endorsed by the local IDA; **or**
- Be the local ED organization; **and**
- Be willing to actively market the building to out-of-state prospects.

To be eligible for this program, the **project** must:

- Receive electric or gas service from National Grid;
- Receive the endorsement of an IDA or the principal development agency for the community;
- Be suitable for use by one of the following "economic growth" industries:
 - Manufacturing
 - Distribution Centers
 - Regional warehousing or storage
 - Research and development
 - "Back office" such as data processing or customer service operations;
- Be a minimum of 20,000 square feet; **and**
- At project conclusion, show evidence of project completion and certification by the local planning board.

Funding and Eligibility Guidelines

Program funding and parameters are established annually by National Grid. Grants are available on a continual basis until all funding is expended or until the end of National Grid's current rate agreement. Funding is released to a grant award recipient only after the recipient has met all conditions of the program. In all circumstances, funding should be viewed by the applicant as a reimbursement for work completed following grant approval in the form of an award letter.

The grant award recipient should expect to execute a Funding Agreement with National Grid. The Agreement will outline expectations of the grant program and the conditions for the release of funds.

Grant amounts listed are the maximum allowable award for each program. Each application is evaluated on a variety of factors, resulting in some not receiving the maximum grant award.

If you are applying to more than one program for the same project, you must indicate that clearly on the application.

Under no circumstance will funding be released after the expiration of the Company's current rate agreement or without prior written consent from National Grid.

- Program funds may only be used for up fifty percent (50%) of total costs for building drawings, design work, and marketing.
- Priority will be given to projects that have a sufficient amount of funding committed.
- Priority will be given to applicants who have aggressive marketing plans designed to attract new businesses.
- Grant amounts will be limited to a maximum of \$125,000 and cannot exceed fifty percent (50%) of the total project cost.

How to Apply

To apply for the Building Ready Upstate Program please:

- Complete the program application online; and,
- Upload all required documentation as noted at the end of your online application.

If you need assistance in completing the application, please contact Karen Mousaw via email at Karen.Mousaw@nationalgrid.com.