MEA Incentive Programs

Activating Policy Goals with Programs

November 18, 2026

Maryland Energy Administration

Our Mission

The Mission of MEA is to promote **clean, affordable, reliable energy** and energy-related greenhouse gas emission reductions to benefit Marylanders in a just and equitable manner.

Our Priorities

01 Create a positive impact for Marylanders

02 Drive toward our mission through policies and programmatic work

03 Achieve operational excellence

04 Actively engage in clear, impactful communications

FY27 Programs

bolt Grid Sector

- Megawatts for Maryland
- Community Solar
- SolarApp+
- Residential & Commercial Energy Storage **(Rebate)**

directions_car Transportation

- Residential EVSE Program **(Rebate)**
- Commercial & Community EVSE
- Medium-Heavy Duty Vehicle ZEV (MDHD)

domain Buildings Sector

- Commercial & Community Buildings
- Residential Energy Equity
- Maryland Solar Access **(Rebate)**
- Heat Pump Rebates *(Under Dev.)*

lightbulb Innovation

- Energy Prize Challenge

FY27 Residential Clean Energy Rebate Programs Overview

Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE)

Purpose: Incentivize home EV chargers

Target: Residential households

Rebate: **50% of cost (up to $700)**

Budget: $1.5M

Key Highlights:

- **Impact:** 2,000+ residents
- **App:** Post-install via MyMEA
- **Scope:** Residential only

Res. & Comm. Energy Storage (RCES)

Purpose: Offset storage & install costs

Target: Homes, businesses & non-profits

Type: 2-Step Reservation & Rebate

Rebate: **Up to $5k (Res) / $150k (Comm)**

Key Highlights:

- **Step 1:** Reservation approval
- **Step 2:** Payment request upon PTO
- **Options:** Direct, contractor, or discount

Maryland Solar Access Program (MSAP)

Purpose: Solar access for LMI households

Target: LMI homeowners

Type: Rebate / POS Discount

Benefit: **1,500 homes served (FY27)**

Key Highlights:

- **Savings:** ~$660/yr bill savings
- **Structure:** Rebate or POS discount
- **Impact:** Lowers LMI energy burden

Megawatts for Maryland — Program Overview

$200 Million

Total Funding ($100M in FY27 & FY28)

Established under **Utility RELIEF Act of 2026** (§9–20E–01) to scale clean energy & storage, lower ratepayer costs, and bridge funding gaps.

Target Capacity & Scope

Tier 1 clean energy or storage to support ~150,000 homes

Eligible Project Types

- **Tier 1 RE: Grid-scale solar, wind, geothermal (≥5 MW AC)**
- **Storage: Stand-alone battery (≥20 MWh / 4-hr)**
- **Hybrid: Tier 1 RE + Storage**

Auction & Award Structure

- **Criteria: Bids ranked lowest to highest $/MWh request**
- **Min Award: $1 Million per grant**
- **Requirements: 10% financial guarantee; 7-yr window to COD**
- **Payout: Single payment upon commercial operation**

Two-Stage Application Process

- **Stage 1 (Eligibility): Prelim app & 8 uploads**
  Deadline: Nov 30 at 3 PM
- **Stage 2 (Binding Bids): Binding bid & financial models**
  Deadline: Jan 22 at 3 PM

FY27 Community EVSE Grant Program — Program Summary

Program Overview & Key Details

Purpose: Expand EV charging & cut GHG emissions statewide.

Type: Competitive Grant

Timeline: Open Sept 9, 2026 | **Deadline Dec 9, 2026 (3 PM ET)**

Eligibility: Businesses, non-profits, local govts, LEAs & higher ed.

Eligible Project Types & Chargers

Chargers: Level 2 & 3 (Owner-Operated or 3rd Party)

- **Multi-family Housing:** 5+ unit buildings
- **Curbside:** Public roadside street parking
- **Hubs & Workplaces:** Dedicated lots & garages
- **Fleets:** Commercial, industrial & bus fleets (3+ vehicles)

Grant Formulas & Community Impact

Grant Structure:

- Tailored formulas for MFH, Curbside, Hubs & Fleets
- Grant caps structured by entity type

Equity & Sustainability:

Prioritizes overburdened communities to expand clean energy access.

FY27 Energy Challenge Prize — Program Summary

Challenge Overview & Objectives

Purpose: Address DER coordination, grid reliability & interoperability across MD.

Program Type: Statewide Two-Stage Competitive Challenge

Deadlines: Stage 1: Dec 2, 2026 | **Stage 2: Feb 10, 2027**

Target Applicants: Businesses, non-profits, local govts, higher ed & innovators.

Focus Sectors & Key Problems

Key Technical Barriers:

- **Interoperability & Telemetry:** Device-level metering & protocols
- **Grid Resilience:** Virtual Power Plants & DER communication

Ineligible Activities:

- Standalone Planning, Outreach, Workforce Dev, & Fossil Fuels

$2,000,000

Anticipated Program Allocation (SEIF)

Expected Outcomes & Impact

Strategic Value & Scalability:

- **Grid Stability:** Flatten peak demand & defer upgrades
- **Scalable Blueprints:** Models for local govts & fleets

Statewide Alignment:

Net-Zero Impact: Accelerates MD climate goals & equitable clean energy access.

Maryland Clean Buildings Hub — Program Summary

Hub Overview & Mandate

Basis: Climate Solutions Now Act (CSNA) clearinghouse.

Mission: Accelerate building GHG reductions and compliance.

Statutory Scope:

- **BEPS:** Building Performance Standards (MDE)
- **Codes:** MD Performance Standards & Local Amendments
- **State Buildings:** High Performance Requirements

Core Programs & Initiatives

BEPS TA Pilot:

1:1 technical support for covered owners (2026–2028).

Outreach & Channels:

- **Newsletter:** The Blueprint (2,500+ subscribers)
- **Digital:** Hub Website, YouTube & Inquiries Inbox
- **Events:** Virtual/in-person sessions & cross-promotion

Collaboration & Stakeholder Network

Key Partner Agencies:

- MDE, DHCD, MCEC, DGS
- Dept. of Commerce & State Utilities

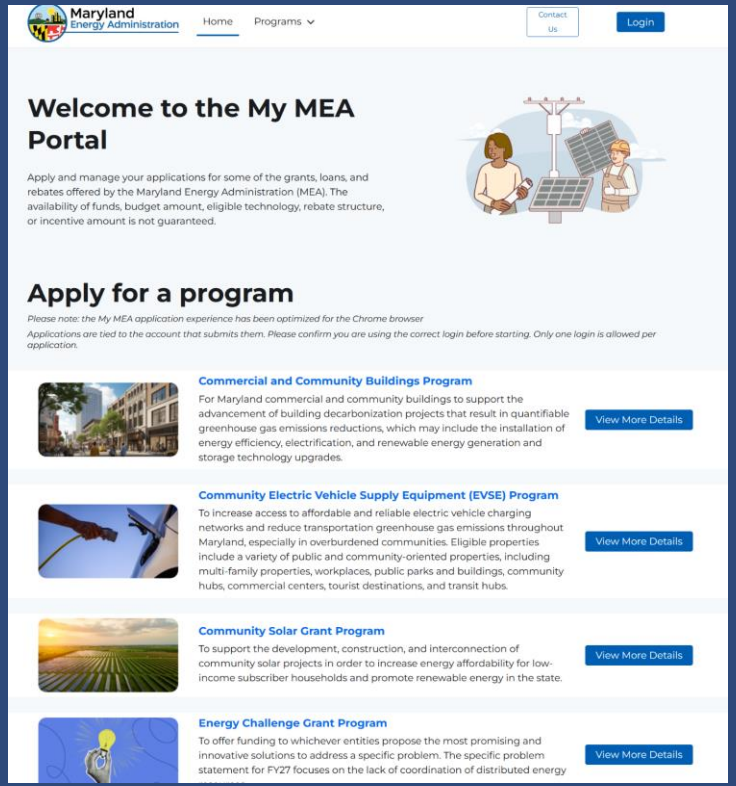
Target Ecosystem:

Commercial & residential owners, local govts, non-profits, and implementers (ICF, CLEAResult).

Metrics of Success & Testimonials

Key Tracking Metrics:

- **TA Enrollment:** Buildings taking post-program action
- **Grant Tracking:** Hub-attributed applications
- **Reach:** Subscribers, page views & event registrations



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