

## **Building Jobs & Sustainable Public Energy In Local Communities - Toolkit for Organizers**

*For the first time ever, the federal government will directly pay tax-exempt entities - like local governments, non-profits, hospitals, houses of worship, public electric utilities, Tribal governments, and schools - to build renewable energy projects like rooftop solar, installing EV chargers, purchasing EV school buses or converting a coal plant to geothermal energy. This toolkit will give you more information about the program and includes assets to help you spread the word in your community about this opportunity to build clean, publicly owned energy.*

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## What is Direct Pay?

- For the first time ever, the federal government will give direct funding to tax-exempt entities like local governments, schools, hospitals, public utilities, churches, and non-profit organizations to build renewable energy projects like solar or wind systems.
- Renewable energy projects like solar arrays, wind turbines, and storage resources like batteries all save money by making energy cost less, clean up the air we breathe, and can create good-paying, union jobs.
- By owning and operating a renewable energy system, our community gets resilient power and the chance to take direct action on the climate crisis. It also saves us money that we can use to fund the things our community needs.
- It works by giving eligible tax-exempt entities like local governments, schools, hospitals, public utilities, houses of worship, and non-profit organizations access to tax credits that were only available to corporations.
- Since these entities are tax-exempt, the tax credits will mean direct funding from the federal government to support these projects. The funding will cover [30% to 70%](#) of the project costs, depending on whether we buy American-made materials and if the projects are located in the communities who need them most.
- These tax credits last until 2032, and every project that completes the pre-filing process and meets the IRS requirements (more details on the process coming soon) will receive the tax credits. That means our community doesn't have to compete - everyone who completes a qualifying project gets the funds! And we can keep getting funding for each new project that an eligible entity completes in our community. The possibilities are endless, and our imaginations should carry the day.

## Flyer on Direct Pay

Check out our [printable flyers here!](#)

## FAQs on Direct Pay

Check out our FAQs on Direct Pay and how it can help you win publicly owned green energy in your community, create good-paying, green, union jobs and take action on the climate crisis [HERE](#).

## Spread the Word

We want to make sure every community knows about this historic opportunity. Help spread the word!

### Share our video

- Click [HERE](#) to RT our video on direct pay for your community.
- Click [HERE](#) to share or stitch our TikTok on direct pay and why it matters for your community.

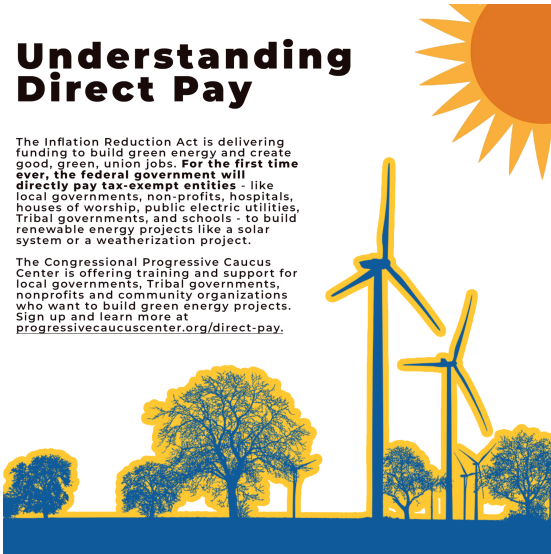
### Sample Graphics

Click [HERE](#) to download these graphics

## Understanding Direct Pay

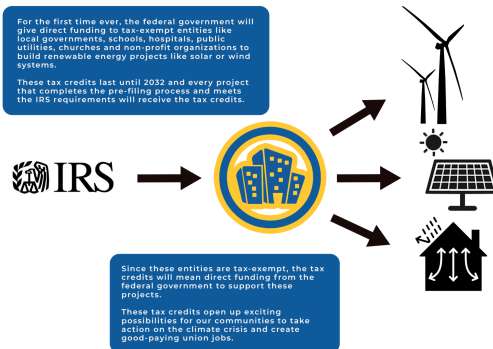
The Inflation Reduction Act is delivering funding to build green energy and create good, green, union jobs. **For the first time ever, the federal government will directly pay tax-exempt entities** - like local governments, non-profits, hospitals, houses of worship, public electric utilities, Tribal governments, and schools - to build renewable energy projects like a solar system or a weatherization project.

The Congressional Progressive Caucus Center is offering training and support for local governments, Tribal governments, nonprofits and community organizations who want to build green energy projects. Sign up and learn more at [progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay](https://progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay).



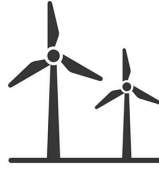
## Direct Pay could supercharge the clean energy revolution.

### Here's how.



Sign up and learn more at [progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay](https://progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay).

**We passed the biggest climate bill in history. Now it's time to implement it.**



**CPC Center is breaking down the direct pay program in the Inflation Reduction Act to deploy renewable energy projects nationwide.**

### **Sample Tweets**

Want green energy for your school, local city and county, hospital, public utility, or non-profit organizations? Want good, green, union jobs for your community? You're in luck. The Inflation Reduction Act makes all of that possible. Find out how to bring it to YOUR community here.

[www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay](http://www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay)

For the first time ever, tax-exempt entities - like schools, community organizations, local governments, and churches - can get direct funding to help pay for green energy and create good, green, union jobs in their neighborhoods. Find out more here!

[www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay](http://www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay)

The Inflation Reduction Act delivers funding to build green energy and create good union jobs in YOUR community. Want to find out how?

[www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay](http://www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay)

**HOT OFF THE PRESS:** The Biden administration just released guidance for how tax-exempt entities - like schools, local governments, houses of worship, and nonprofit organizations - can get direct help to build green energy projects and create good, green, union jobs. Click here to find out more.

[www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay](http://www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay)

### **Sample Posts (Facebook/IG etc.)**

For the first time ever, tax exempt entities - like schools, community organizations, local governments and churches - can get direct funding to help pay for green energy and create good, green, union jobs in their neighborhoods.

That's everything from putting solar panels on school roofs to installing EV chargers at your post office to building publicly owned, clean, affordable energy for your whole town. Want to find out who qualifies and how to help bring these projects to your community? Click here to find out more!

[www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay](http://www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay)

## Talking Points About Direct Pay

Use these talking points to tell people about the Direct Pays program in the Inflation Reduction Act. We encourage you to spread the word and encourage eligible entities like your local government, community organizations, schools, and churches to know about this opportunity!

### *General Talking Points*

- No matter who we are or where we live, most of us want to build thriving communities with good jobs, clean air to breathe, and a livable climate where our kids can have a healthy future.
- For too long, wealthy corporations have profited off of polluting our communities, kept energy prices high and spread lies to hide the damage they've caused.
- But now, for the first time ever, the federal government will give direct funding to tax-exempt entities like local governments, schools, hospitals, public utilities, churches, and non-profit organizations to build renewable energy projects like solar or wind systems.
- **From schools to community centers to hospitals, we can come together and build a different kind of energy that lowers our monthly bills, cleans up the air we breathe, and builds good green jobs for our friends and neighbors.**
- Renewable energy projects like solar arrays, wind turbines, and storage resources like batteries all save money by making energy cost less, clean up the air we breathe, and can create good-paying, union jobs.
- By owning and operating a renewable energy system, our community gets resilient power and the chance to take direct action on the climate crisis. It also saves us money that we can use to fund the things our community needs.

- It works by giving eligible tax-exempt entities like local governments, schools, hospitals, public utilities, houses of worship, and non-profit organizations access to tax credits that were only available to corporations.
- Since these entities are tax-exempt, the tax credits will mean direct funding from the federal government to support these projects. The funding will cover [30% to 70%](#) of the project costs, depending on whether we buy American-made materials and if the projects are located in the communities who need them most.
- These tax credits last until 2032, and every project that completes the pre-filing process and meets the IRS requirements (more details on the process coming soon) will receive the tax credits. That means our community doesn't have to compete - everyone who completes a qualifying project gets the funds! And we can keep getting funding for each new project that an eligible entity completes in our community.
- The possibilities are endless, and our imaginations should carry the day.
- Direct pay means projects that generate clean energy like solar panels and wind turbines and geothermal energy. It means funding infrastructure for electric vehicles and reducing the pollution that drives asthma in our cities.
- Just this year we've seen deadly heatwaves and ice storms, people trapped inside when smoke made the air too dirty to breathe, and devastating wildfires and floods destroying whole communities. It's time to come together again, just like we have in the past when our nation faced a national emergency. We can seize this chance and build a green energy future that lowers our bills, creates good green jobs and makes sure our kids have clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, and a healthy future.

### ***Good, Green, Union Jobs Talking Points***

- Transitioning to clean and renewable energy isn't just critical to addressing the climate crisis; it can also mean big things for our community because it can create good, green, union jobs that will sustain our families and help our community thrive.
- But that can only happen if we ensure that the new energy projects we are building use contractors who pay prevailing wages and support their workers' right to join a union.

- Union work sites are safer; they have highly trained and professional workforces and are ready to take on new green projects. By working with unions, we can make sure renewable energy gets built right and built to last.
- There are also extra tax credits and incentives for projects that strengthen high-road labor standards and create good jobs, so doing the right thing actually saves us money!
- We want the jobs we are creating to help our communities thrive. That means utilizing training and apprenticeship programs for our neighbors so they can get their foot in the door.
- It also means paying good family-sustaining wages so families can stay in our community and build a good life. By creating good union jobs that last, our community can benefit from green energy.
- Through agreements with employers and the community, we can ensure these sustainable projects hire from the local community and establish equitable labor practices.

**Example Ask: For a Community Member**

- Will you join our community campaign and encourage our local government and local community organizations to seize this opportunity?
- *\*Add in information about how to connect with your local organization and organizing efforts here\**

**Example Ask: For Your Local Town, City, or County Government**

- Will you commit to using the Direct Pay provisions to build green, publicly-owned energy in our community? We want green energy that WE own, not Wall Street or for-profit corporations?
- Will you commit that the jobs created to build and run these new projects truly benefit our neighbors and help grow our local economy? We want only projects that are a gold standard for workers and create good, union jobs with prevailing wages.
- *\*Add any local asks for your representatives like the first place your community would want to build a direct pay project here. Please make these talking points your own!\**

- The Congressional Progressive Caucus Center offers training and support for local governments who want to build green energy projects. You can find resources at <https://www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay> or by contacting them at [katie@progressivecaucuscenter.org](mailto:katie@progressivecaucuscenter.org).

### ***Example Ask: For a School Board***

- Our kids deserve clean air and water and a liveable climate. And our schools deserve affordable energy and comfortable buildings.
- Will you commit to using the direct pays provisions to build green energy for our schools and invest the money we save back into our kids?
- And we want to make sure that the jobs created to build and run this new energy are ones that really benefit our neighbors and help grow our local economy. We want you to support projects that are a gold standard for workers and create good union jobs with prevailing wages.
- The Congressional Progressive Caucus Center is offering training and support for local governments who want to build green energy projects. You can find resources at <https://www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay> or by contacting Katie Thomas at [katie@progressivecaucuscenter.org](mailto:katie@progressivecaucuscenter.org).

### ***Example Ask: For another eligible entity***

- Our community deserves clean air and water and a liveable climate. And investing in green energy can save your organization money that you can invest back into our community.
- Will you commit to using the direct pays provisions to build green energy projects?
- And we want to make sure that the jobs created to build and run this new energy are ones that really benefit our neighbors and help grow our local economy. We want you to support projects that are a gold standard for workers and create good union jobs with prevailing wages.
- The Congressional Progressive Caucus Center is offering training and support for local governments who want to build green energy projects. You can find resources at [www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay](https://www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay) or by contacting them at [katie@progressivecaucuscenter.org](mailto:katie@progressivecaucuscenter.org).



## Further Resources

The Congressional Progressive Caucus Center is offering training and support for local governments, Tribal governments, nonprofits and community organizations who want to build green energy projects. You can find resources at <https://www.progressivecaucuscenter.org/direct-pay> or sign up to get more information [HERE](#).

Check out these other great resources on the Inflation Reduction Act:

- [Inflation Reduction Act Guidebook](#), The White House
- [About Direct/Elective Pay](#), The White House
- [Elective Pay \(Direct Pay\) Overview](#), The Internal Revenue Service
- [Inflation Reduction Act Prevailing Wage and Apprenticeship Requirements](#), Department of Labor
- [Analysis of the Climate and Energy Provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act](#), The Congressional Progressive Caucus Center