



CEJA ILLINOIS

Climate and Equitable Jobs Act
Workforce Programs

Climate and Equitable Jobs Act Overview for Council of State Governments-Midwest Presented by Larry Dawson



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity

JB Pritzker, Governor

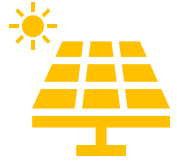
Effects of climate change have had a more devastating effect on low-income and minorities

- **Flood:** low income and minority families are most likely to live in flood prone areas
- **Insurance:** low income families are likely to have no insurance or insufficient amounts leading to catastrophic losses in casualty events
- **Outdoor work:** According to an NPR article more than 40% of outdoor workers identify as African American, Black, Hispanic or Latino
- **Asthma:** According to the CDC, groups with income below 200% of poverty have a 50% higher prevalence of asthma than those with higher incomes
- **Food cost:** A DHS study states that Illinois counties currently range from 4.8-24% of residents with food insecurity
- **Water quality:** Flint, MI and Jackson, MS and several South Suburban Chicago cities

CLEAN ENERGY

GREEN JOBS

What is a clean energy business?



- Solar energy
- Solar thermal



- Wind energy



- Electric vehicle
- Green hydrogen



- Energy efficiency
- Healthy building materials



- Energy storage
- Industries achieving emission reductions

Clean energy businesses **manufacture, develop, build, install, maintain, or provide ancillary services** in these industries. They provide administrative, sales, and other support functions in these industries.

Opportunity Gap in Clean Energy

Clean Energy Job Pluses

- Employs 3x fossil fuel sector
- Sector has significant growth
- Energy Efficiency sector pays 28% over national median wage
- Wind turbine techs earn nearly \$40/hr
- Solar PV installers earn \$45k/yr

Clean Energy Job Minuses

- Fewer than 30% women overall, 26% in solar, 5% in wind
- Roughly 8% are Black overall, 8% in solar, 5% in wind
- 17% Hispanic overall, 20% in solar and wind, concentrated in entry-level positions

Why are certain populations left out?

Women

- Perception that women can't handle physical labor requirements
- Uncomfortable work environments/few people who look like them in workplace
- Hiring discrimination
- Programs don't actively recruit or accept them

Minorities

- Lack of cultural competency at workplace
- Hiring discrimination
- Programs don't actively recruit or accept them
- Few people who look like them in workplace

Young people, underemployed

- Lack of awareness of opportunities
- No strong networks to bring people into careers
- Competition from other careers

Formerly incarcerated

- Background checks
- Hiring discrimination
- Lack of supports

Something
Has to
Change



CEJA: Grassroots legislation

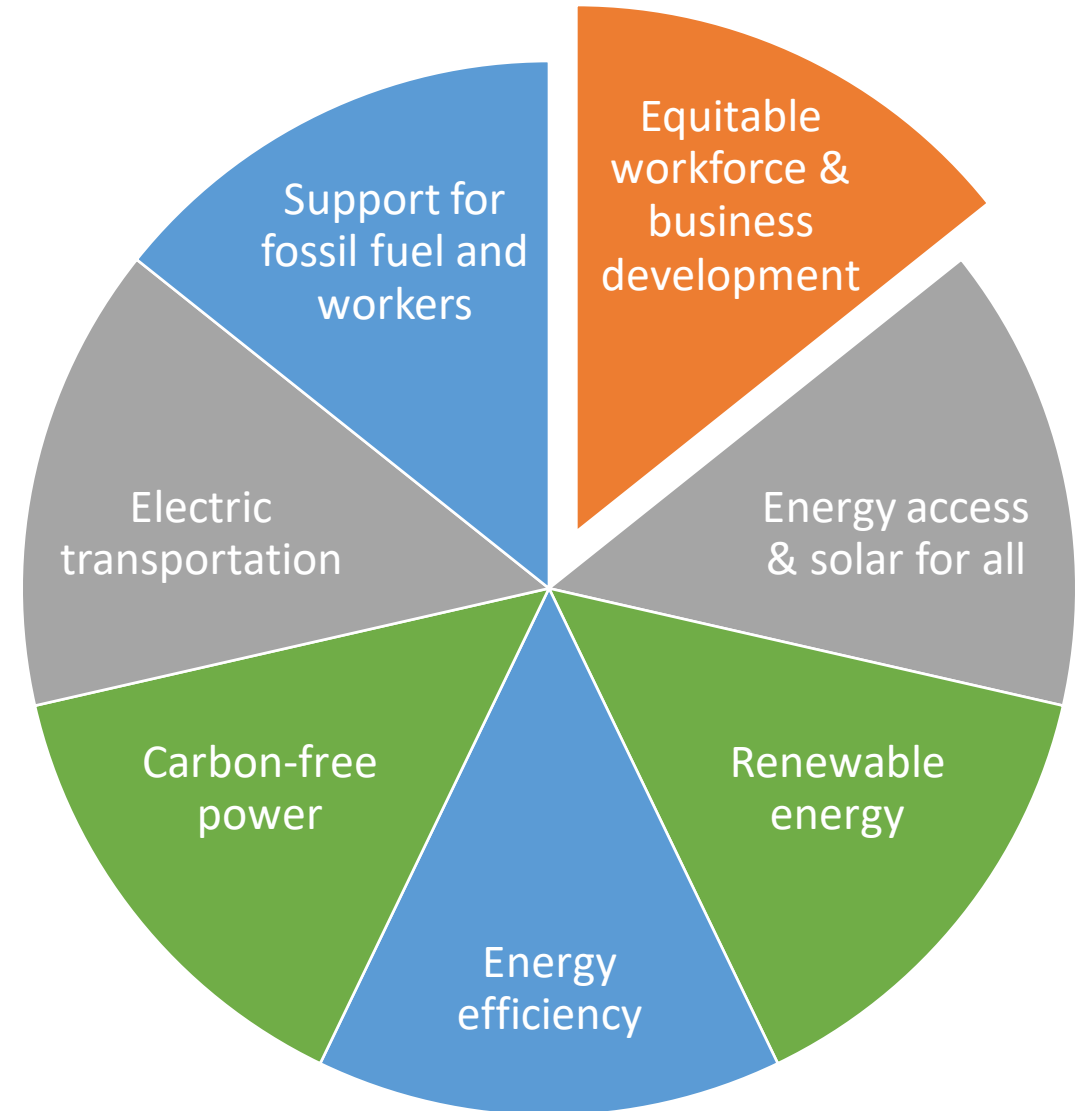
- Developed through multi-year statewide stakeholder engagement process:
 - Feedback solicited throughout the State
 - Collaborative efforts to set priorities
 - Community-driven ideas
 - Stakeholders truly had a stake in developing the legislation

Equity focused program culture: More than just numeric participant targets



What is the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act, or CEJA?

Comprehensive energy legislation that centers equity and puts Illinois on track to achieve 100 percent renewable energy by 2050.



CEJA Funding

- \$380M/yr investment in new renewable energy
- \$78M/yr in equitable workforce development
- \$41M/yr investment in former fossil fuel communities and workers
- \$4,000/electric vehicle rebate
- \$41M/yr to support beneficial electrification
- \$37M/yr for coal to solar and energy storage

CEJA Strengthens Labor and Equity Standards on Renewables Projects

Labor Standards

- Requires project labor agreements on all utility-scale wind and solar projects and
- Requires payment of prevailing wages on nearly all non-residential wind and solar projects

Equity Standards

- Establishes an Equity Accountability System as a part of contract awards
 - Minimum Equity Standards on competitive renewable energy procurements
 - Establishes category for Equity Eligible Persons
 - Involvement in foster care system, justice system, primary residence in an Equity Eligible Investment Community or participation in FEJA or CEJA programs.

Equity Accountability System

- Establishes the Equity Eligible Contractor category with Illinois Shines
 - majority (50% or more) of a company's ownership must qualify as an Equity Eligible Person
- Requirements for competitive procurement processes that advance the equity goals of the Act
 - Track # of Equity Eligible Contractors certified by the agency
 - Waive process for rare occasions when minimum equity standards cannot be met
 - Train and support all vendors, contractors and stakeholders on meeting the minimum equity standards

Matchmaking Employers with Job-Seekers

Energy Workforce Equity Portal

- Information on qualifications and requirements for job seekers to become Equity Eligible Persons and a form to apply.
- A listing of Equity Eligible Persons who have volunteered to identify themselves to potential clean energy companies.
- Information on job postings from clean energy companies for which they are recruiting Equity Eligible Persons.
- Information on workforce training programs administered by DCEO.
- [Equity Investment Eligible \(EIE\) Community Map](#) that can be utilized by anyone to determine if they or someone else reside in an identified equity investment eligible community.
- Information on Equity Eligible Contractors in the Illinois Shines Program.
- [FAQs](#) and a [user guide](#) for navigating the portal

CEJA Workforce and Contractor Programs

Contractor support programs



Contractor Incubator
\$21M/yr.



Contractor Primes Accelerator
\$9M/yr.

Workforce training programs



Clean Jobs Workforce Network
\$21M/yr.



Climate Works Pre-apprenticeship
\$9M/yr

Workforce support programs



Energy Transition Navigators
\$6M/yr.



Energy Transition Barrier Reduction
\$15M/yr



Returning Resident Clean Jobs
\$6M/yr

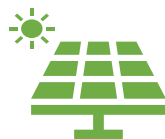
Economic Development Jobs & Environmental Justice



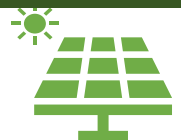
Equitable Energy Future Grant
Up to \$34M/yr



Energy Transition Community Grant
\$40M/yr



Coal to Solar
\$280.5M

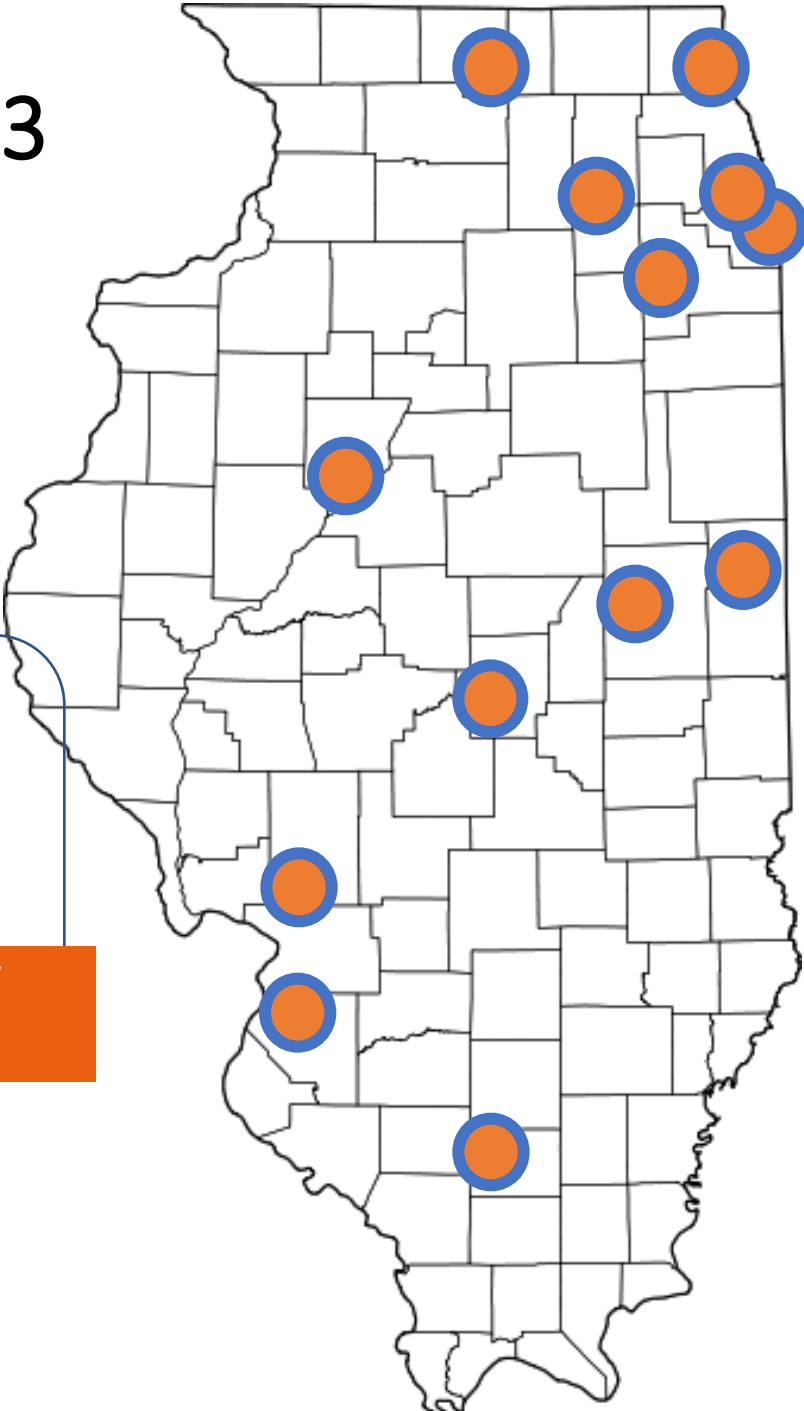


Solar Energy Sovereignty Grant
Up to \$8.5M/yr

Commissions and Councils

- Energy Transition Workforce Commission
- Energy Workforce Advisory Council

13 Regional Workforce / Contractor Hubs + 3 Regional Climate Works Pre-apprenticeship Centers/Prime Accelerator Hubs



- Chicago West Side
 - Chicago Southwest Side
 - Joliet
 - Waukegan
 - Aurora
- Climate Works / Accelerator 1

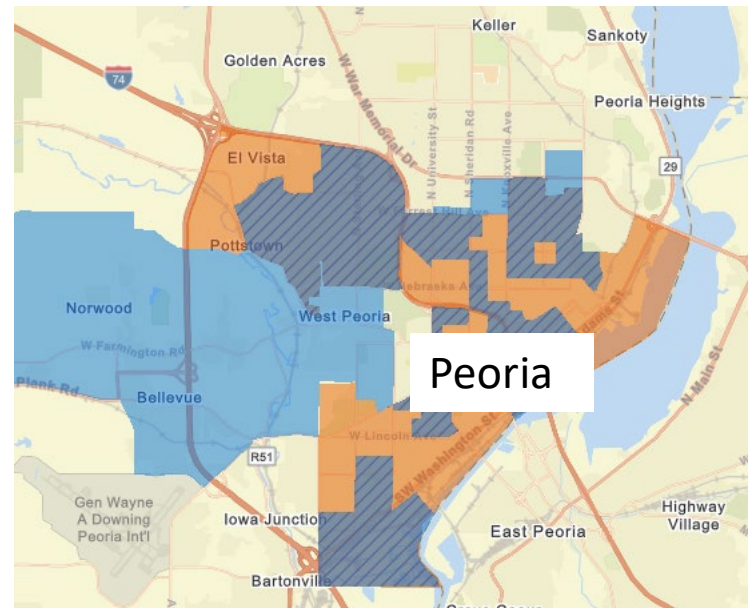
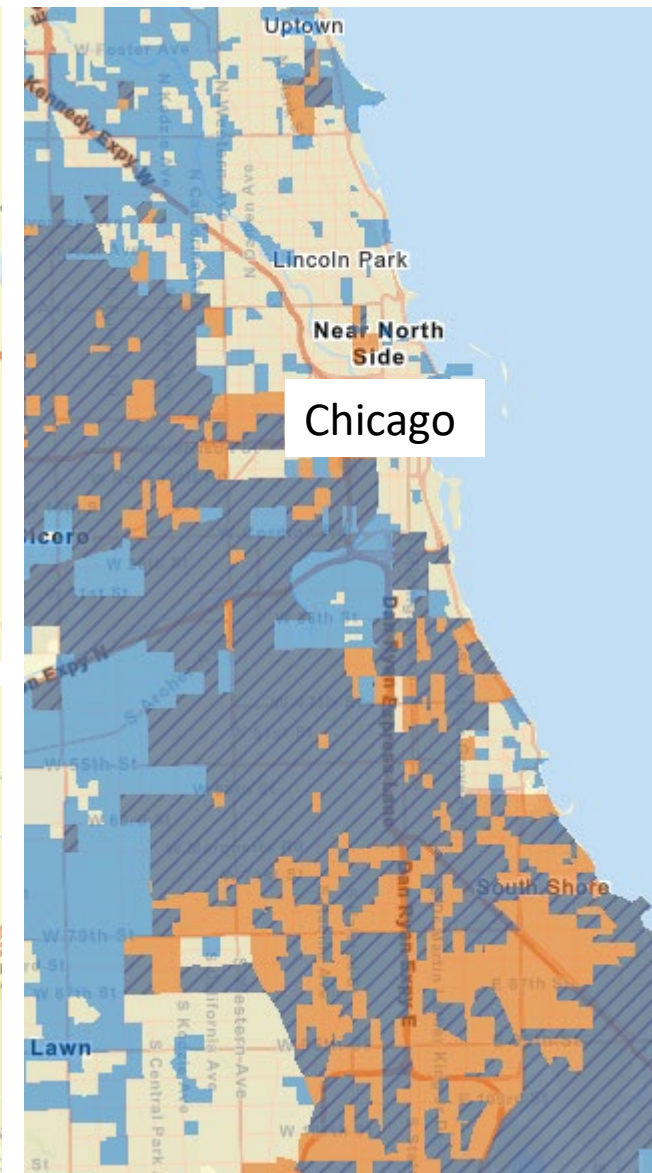
- Decatur
 - Carbondale
 - East St. Louis
 - Alton
- Climate Works / Accelerator 3

- Rockford
 - Champaign
 - Peoria
 - Danville
- Climate Works / Accelerator 2

Department of Corrections facilities: Decatur, Kewanee, Western Illinois and Vienna

Inclusive Recruitment

- Business owners residing in equity investment eligible communities (environmental justice or R3 communities)
- Displaced energy workers and their dependents
- Formerly convicted persons
- Current/former members of foster care
- Low-income persons
- Women
- LGBTQ+
- People with disabilities



<https://arcg.is/1Wv4X>



*Clean Energy
Jobs & Justice
Fund (\$1M)*

Jobs and Justice Fund (Section 20-1)

- **Program Criteria:**

- **Prioritize the provision of public and private capital for clean energy investment** to MBE's and other contractors of color, and business serving low-income, environmental justice, and BIPOC communities.
- Accelerate the flow of private capital into clean energy markets
- **Increase access to no-cost and low-cost loans** for MBE and other contractors of color;
- Develop financing products designed to compensate for historical and structural barriers preventing low-income, environmental justice, and BIPOC communities from accessing traditional financing;
- Leverage private investment in clean energy projects and in projects developed by MBEs and other contractors of color; and
- **Pursue financial self-sustainability through innovative financing products.**

- **Participant criteria:**

- MBE/Nonprofit Board: 51% Ownership/Directors are BIPOC person
- **Business serving low-income, environmental justice, and BIPOC communities.**

- **Fund Structure:**

- Non-profit board,
- It shall not be an agency or instrumentality of the State Government



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity
JB Pritzker, Governor

Community Solar Energy Sovereignty Grant

Section 5-60 pg 51

Program Criteria:

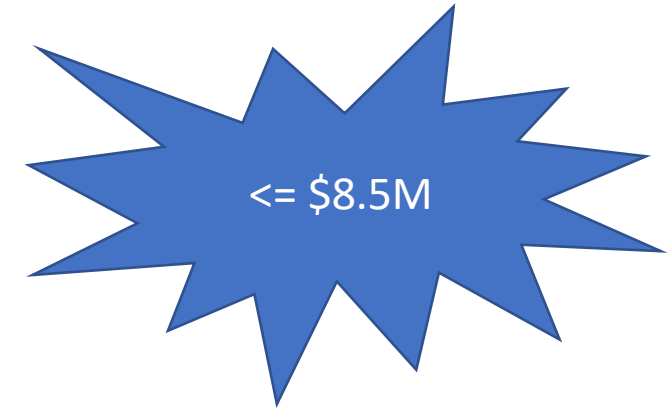
- Support pre-development and development of community solar projects that promote community ownership and energy sovereignty
- ability and intent to create community ownership and other local community benefits, including local community wealth building via community renewable generation projects.

Project Activities:

- Pre-development work
- Development of programs and entities to assist in the long-term governance, management, and maintenance of community solar projects: such as community solar cooperatives.
- Early-stage project planning
- Project team organization
- Site identification;
- Organizing a project business model and securing financing
- Procurement and contracting;
- Customer outreach and enrollment; (vii) preliminary site assessments;
- Development of cooperative or community ownership model;
- Development of project models that allocate benefits to equity investment eligible communities.

Applicant Criteria:

- Include community-based organizations,
- Technical service providers working in direct partnership with community-based organizations



Fossil Fuel Worker/Family Supports

Displaced Energy Worker Bill of Rights

- DCEO to engage employer and energy workers within 30 days of closure or deactivation notice being filed, and ensure displaced workers are educated on various programs and services available through DCEO, including but not limited to the Dislocated Worker and Rapid Response programs.
- DCEO will provide skills matching, reemployment services, training, work-based learning and financial and retirement planning to displaced workers, among other services, in-line with our existing offerings.
- Companies will be required to provide written deactivation notice to DCEO within 48hrs of being filed, provide closure reports to DCEO about expected closure date, number of employees and salaries, and transition support services offered by the company. Companies must also provide a final closure report to DCEO 90 days prior to closure date.
- The company must also provide job descriptions and any training the employee received on the job to help with skills matching and transition services. This information will also be made available to the chief elected official of each municipality or county impacted.

Displaced Energy Worker Dependent Transition Scholarship Program

- Provides support for children of eligible displaced energy workers
 - If parent was laid off from retiring or closing power plant or coal mine that occurred after September 15, 2016
 - If the layoff deterred the student from attending or completing an educational program at an Illinois institution
 - Tuition and fees at public colleges or community colleges are covered for a period equal to one calendar year, including a summer term, for undergraduate or graduate study

Energy Transition Community Grant Program

- Energy Transition Community Grant Program will provide:
- Grants to communities that have experienced or will experience a fossil fuel or nuclear plant or mine closure.
- Eligible communities will be those that contain a facility that retired or significantly reduced services in the past six years, or that will retire or significantly reduce services within the next six years.
- Grants can be used to address the economic and social impact on the community of the plant retirement or transition.
- The objective of the grant program is to support communities experiencing an economic loss and associated hardship due to the closure of an energy facility.

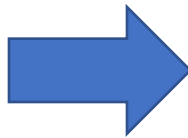
Coal to Solar Energy Storage Grant Program

- This program provides incentives to install energy storage facilities at the sites of five former coal plants that are either closed or in the process of closing. A total of \$280.5 million in funding over 10 years is allocated for this program.

Want to learn more: Check out available resources

<https://dceo.illinois.gov/ceja.html>

- Pages for each CEJA workforce program
- FAQs
- Clean Jobs Curriculum
- Reports and research



The screenshot shows the website for the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity. The header includes the department's logo, the text "Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity", and navigation links for "Stay Connected" and "Select Language". A search bar is also present. The main navigation menu lists "COVID-19 Resources", "Assistance for Businesses", "Assistance for Individuals", "Assistance for Communities", and "About Us". The breadcrumb trail reads "DCEO > Climate and Equitable J...". The main content area features a list of links: "Climate and Equitable Jobs Act", "CEJA Updates & Program Status", "CEJA Workforce Training", "CEJA Contractor Programs", "Other CEJA Programs", "CEJA Commissions and Councils", and "CEJA Reports and Resources". To the right of the links is a row of five images: a worker in a hard hat and safety vest, wind turbines, two workers in hard hats talking, an EV charging station, and a worker in a hard hat working on a wall. Below the images is the heading "Climate and Equitable Jobs Act" and the "CEJA ILLINOIS" logo, which includes icons for a house, wind turbines, a car, and a factory, with the text "Climate & Equitable Jobs Act Workforce Programs" below it.



CEJA ILLINOIS

Climate and Equitable Jobs Act
Workforce Programs

Questions? Email larry.dawson@illinois.gov