



Innovation Pilot Program

Information Session



Innovation Pilot Program
Information Session

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Overview

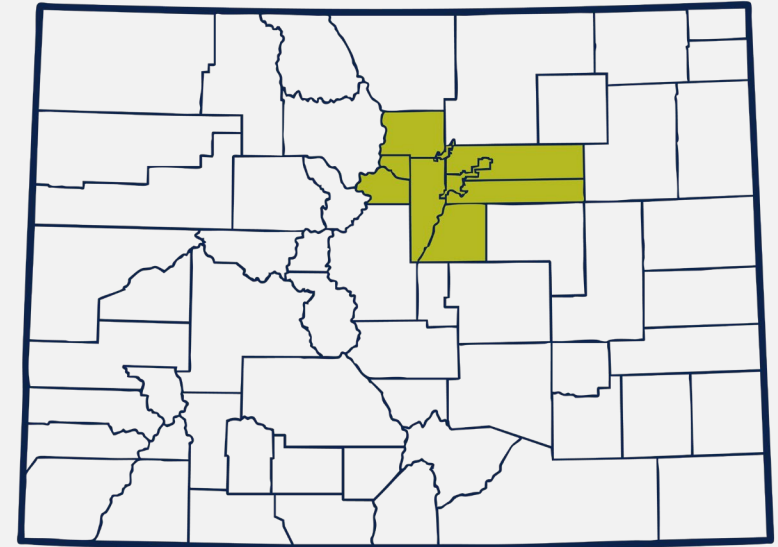
About the initiative



Power Ahead Colorado

\$200 Million EPA Grant (2024-2029)

- A bold, regional initiative to transform how our homes and businesses use energy
- Focus on building efficiency and electrification



Power Ahead Colorado

The Impact

- 1.6M+ people reached
- 1,600 homes retrofitted
- 40,000+ rebates issued
- 59 jurisdictions supported
- 25 innovation grants awarded
- 4,800 workers trained
- 7,000,000 metric tons of CO₂e reduced





Overview



Innovation Pilot Program

Opportunity

Providing grants to design, implement, and evaluate pilots under real-world conditions

Innovation

Testing new or improved ways to make measurable progress in overcoming barriers to efficient electric buildings

Impact

Sharing proven ideas from pilot projects to increase effectiveness across current and future programs

Eligibility

Who this opportunity is for



Award Structure

Funding & Awards

- Up to **\$350K per application**
- Average award: **~\$200K**
- Expecting **5-8 awards** in this first year

Timeline

- Pilots launch: **Fall 2026**
- Project duration: **12-16 months**

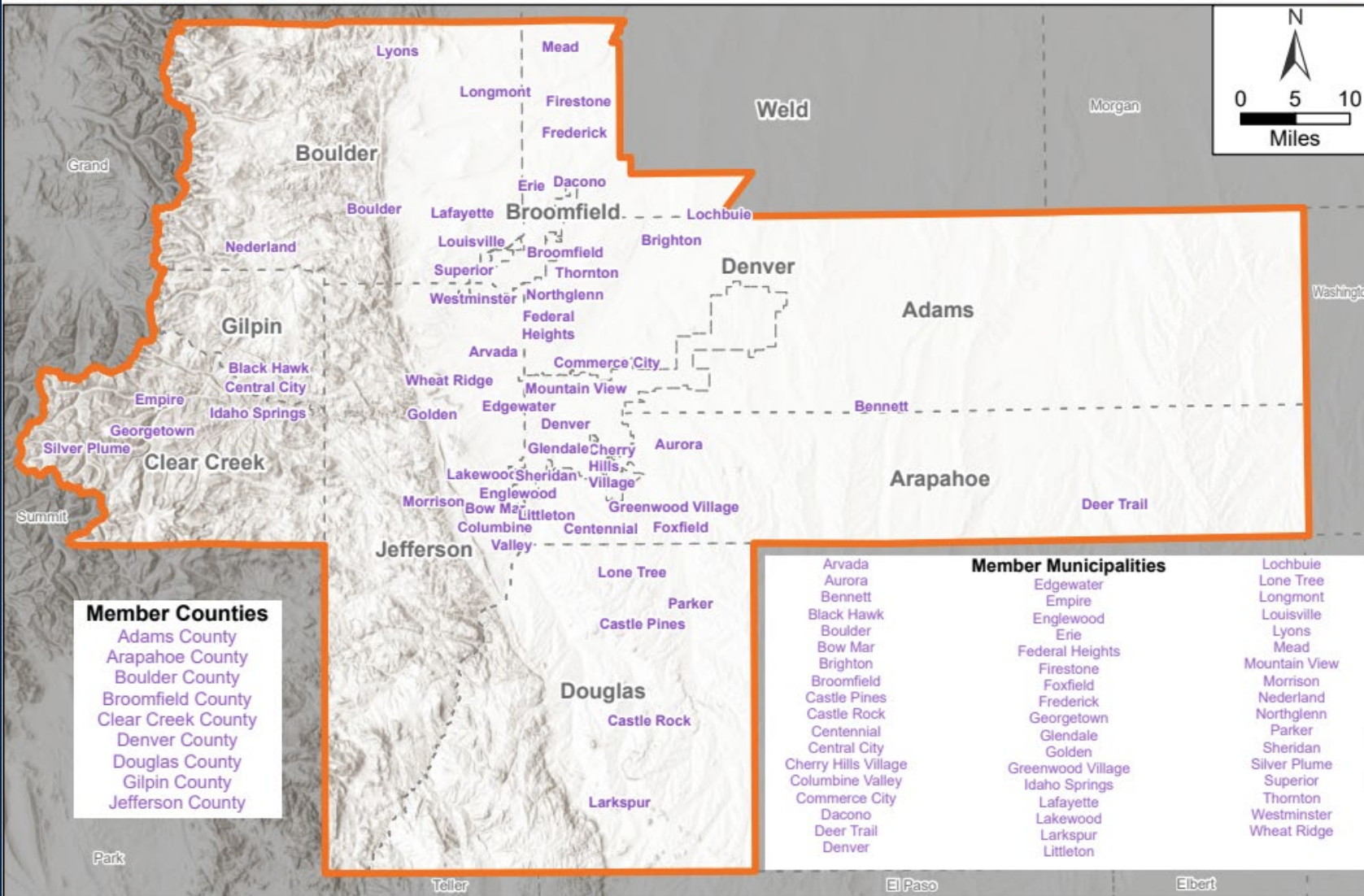
Eligibility

Eligible Organizations

- Businesses,
- Nonprofits,
- Tribal governments and entities,
- Public or quasi-public entities, and
- Educational institutions
- State agencies and city/county governments are not eligible as the lead applicant but may be included as subcontractors or partners

Eligible Costs

- Equipment & materials,
- Staff & labor,
- Communications & translation,
- Case study development, and
- Knowledge sharing



Member Counties
 Adams County
 Arapahoe County
 Boulder County
 Broomfield County
 Clear Creek County
 Denver County
 Douglas County
 Gilpin County
 Jefferson County

Member Municipalities

Arvada	Edgewater	Lochbuie
Aurora	Empire	Lone Tree
Bennett	Englewood	Longmont
Black Hawk	Erie	Louisville
Boulder	Federal Heights	Lyons
Bow Mar	Firestone	Mead
Brighton	Foxfield	Mountain View
Broomfield	Frederick	Morrison
Castle Pines	Georgetown	Nederland
Castle Rock	Glendale	Northglenn
Centennial	Golden	Parker
Central City	Greenwood Village	Sheridan
Cherry Hills Village	Idaho Springs	Silver Plume
Columbine Valley	Lafayette	Superior
Commerce City	Lakewood	Thornton
Dacono	Larkspur	Westminster
Deer Trail	Littleton	Wheat Ridge
Denver		

Eligible Pilot Locations

- All DRCOG member governments territories are eligible
- At least 40% of program funds will be awarded to organizations directly serving or based in Colorado EnviroScreen 2.0 communities

Map disclaimer found at data.drcog.org/about.
 If you have difficulty using this document's content,
 please email access@drcog.org or call 303-455-1000.
 Please expect a response within 72 hours (3 business days).

Source Data: DRCOG,
 Esri Basemap; SR 6428
 Creator: GC, 1/7/26
 Location: cogshare\GIS\RDC

Priority Areas

What we are looking to fund





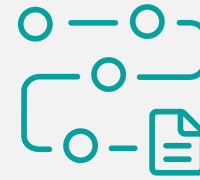
Making electrification easier to deliver

How might we reduce the time, cost, and complexity for a tenant, business, or homeowner?



Demand flexibility and technical performance

How might we support affordable and easy-to-deliver electrification projects in service of customer, contractor, and system benefits?



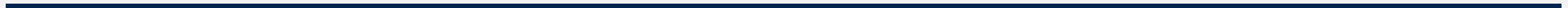
Coordinated deployment and planning strategies

How might we identify the places, properties, or portfolios where electrification can move faster, cost less, or reach more people at once?



Expanding access, health, and trusted delivery

How might we increase access to clean, healthy, and efficient buildings for all households, especially those facing financial or structural barriers?



Application Instructions

How to submit your idea



Instructions to Apply

- Visit the [Innovation Pilot Program](#) webpage to review program details and solicitation
- Prepare your responses to the application questions
- Submit your application through our [online portal](#) by May 15, 2026
- Applications must include:
 - Applicant organization and contact information
 - Project description and selected track (from the four tracks described above), including the barrier addressed, proposed approach, target population, and key activities
 - Expected outcomes and a high-level project timeline
 - Project budget, including any leveraged or matching funds
 - Description of team qualifications and relevant experience
 - Supporting materials and references

Program Website



Timeline



Questions and Discussion

- How many rounds of funding will there be? Will the focus areas always be the same?
- Does my idea need to be fully formed or ready for deployment before applying?
- If my project focuses on a specific community or building type, is that okay?
- What sectors should pilots focus on?
- How flexible is the program once a project is underway?
- Should we assume our proposal and results will be public?

Teaming Form





Thank you!

Contact:

info@innovation.powersaheadcolorado.org



**POWER
AHEAD**
COLORADO