



2023 Farm Bill Legislative Side-By-Side

WOOD INNOVATIONS GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Description

The USDA Forest Service's [Wood Innovations Grants Program](#) stimulates, expands, and supports U.S. wood product markets and wood energy markets to support the long-term management of forest lands.

Climate Highlights

The Wood Innovations Grants Program, launched in 2015, includes focus areas such as mass timber, renewable wood energy, and sustainable forest management that mitigates and builds resilience to climate change impacts like [wildfires](#). [Mass timber](#) is a sustainable building material made from wood panels that can replace carbon-intensive steel and concrete in construction. In [fiscal year \(FY\) 2021](#), the program provided \$8.9 million for 44 projects, 21 of which focused on mass timber such as cross-laminated timber.

Funding

There is no specific funding authorization for the Wood Innovations Grants Program in the 2018 Farm Bill ([P.L.115-334](#)). Congress appropriated \$30 million for the program in FY 2023. In addition, the *Inflation Reduction Act* ([P.L.117-169](#)) authorized \$100 million for the Wood Innovations Grants Program, and the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* (IIJA) ([P.L.117-58](#)) allocated [\\$60 million](#) over five years for the Community Wood Grant and Wood Innovations Grants programs.

Key Changes

- This resource will be updated as the House and Senate legislative Farm Bill texts are released.

Legislative Side-By-Side

Current Law	House Version	Senate Version
<p>7 USC §7655d (February 2023)</p> <p>(a) Definitions In this section:</p> <p>(1) Eligible entity The term "eligible entity" means-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) an individual; (B) a public or private entity (including a center of excellence that consists of 1 or more partnerships between forestry, engineering, architecture, or business schools at 1 or more institutions of higher education); or (C) a State, local, or Tribal government. <p>(2) Secretary The term "Secretary" means the Secretary, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service.</p>	<p>This resource will be updated as the House legislative Farm Bill text is released.</p>	<p>This resource will be updated as the Senate legislative Farm Bill text is released.</p>
<p>(b) Grant program</p> <p>(1) In general The Secretary, in carrying out the wood innovation grant program of the Secretary described in the notice of the Secretary entitled "Request for Proposals: 2016 Wood Innovations Funding Opportunity" (80 Fed. Reg. 63498 (October 20, 2015)), may make a wood innovation grant to 1 or more eligible entities each year for the purpose of advancing the use of innovative wood products.</p> <p>(2) Proposals To be eligible to receive a grant under this subsection, an eligible entity shall submit to the Secretary a proposal at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.</p>		
<p>(c) Incentivizing use of existing milling capacity</p>		

<p>In selecting among proposals of eligible entities under subsection (b)(2), the Secretary shall give priority to proposals that include the use or retrofitting (or both) of existing sawmill facilities located in counties in which the average annual unemployment rate exceeded the national average unemployment rate by more than 1 percent in the previous calendar year.</p>		
<p>(d) Matching requirement As a condition of receiving a grant under subsection (b), an eligible entity shall provide funds equal to the amount received by the eligible entity under the grant, to be derived from non-Federal sources.</p>		

Compiled by: Savannah Bertrand

This resource will be updated as the House and Senate legislative Farm Bill texts are released.

This resource is available electronically (with hyperlinks and endnotes) at www.eesi.org/papers.

The Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) is a non-profit organization founded in 1984 on a bipartisan basis by members of Congress to help educate and inform policymakers, their staff, stakeholders, and the American public about the benefits of a low-emissions economy that prioritizes energy efficiency, renewable energy, and new clean energy technologies. In 1988, EESI declared that addressing climate change is a moral imperative, which has since guided our work toward our vision: a sustainable, resilient, and equitable world.

Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) • 1020 19th Street, NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20036 • (202) 628-1400 • eesi@eesi.org • www.eesi.org