

# Become an Equity Eligible Contractor with Illinois Shines

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The Climate and Equitable Jobs Act established an [Equity Accountability System](#) to expand access to the clean energy economy, including establishing a project category for Equity Eligible Contractors (EECs) in Illinois Shines. The EEC category provides:

- A separate, reserved block of project capacity available only to EEC Approved Vendors (AVs)
- Opportunities to receive an advance of capital for REC incentives



## Simple steps to becoming a certified Equity Eligible Contractor:

- 1 Review the eligibility criteria in the [Qualification for EEC Certification](#) section at the [Program website](#)**  
Note that both Approved Vendors and Designees can become certified as an Equity Eligible Contractor.
- 2 Complete and submit the [AV or Designee registration and attestation form](#)**  
The Program Administrator may also request additional documentation showing proof of eligibility. It's helpful to have these documents ready to make your application process easier. Please note, entities seeking to become registered EEC Subcontractors only need to complete the EEC Application and EEC Attestation.
- 3 Complete the [EEC application](#)**  
Application review typically takes two weeks.
- 4 Submit a request for a secure folder at [eec@illinoisshines.com](mailto:eec@illinoisshines.com)**  
This allows you to safely and securely submit any sensitive data or personal identifiable information.
- 5 Upload your completed and signed EEC attestation and proof of eligibility documentation, if applicable, to your secure folder and email [eec@illinoisshines.com](mailto:eec@illinoisshines.com) to confirm submission.**
- 6 Check your email frequently and respond to any Program Administrator follow up requests**  
Application review typically takes three to six weeks.

Get Started!



**A dedicated EEC Sector Strategist is ready to support prospective & current EECs with:**

- Illinois Shines Approved Vendor and/or Designee enrollment or renewal
- Fulfilling required Program reporting
- Submitting project applications, including accessing technical support
- Supporting prospective EEC mentees
- Directing EECs to the [Energy Workforce Equity Portal](#) to connect with job seekers
- And more!

Illinois Shines and the Illinois Power Agency are committed to the success of Equity Eligible Contractors. For assistance at any time, contact the EEC Sector Strategist Conner Rettig at [eec@illinoisshines.com](mailto:eec@illinoisshines.com) or the Program Administration team at [admin@illinoisshines.com](mailto:admin@illinoisshines.com).