

## State and Local Energy Grants

In Maryland, state and local governments lead by example in energy efficiency, renewable energy production. To support our communities and incentivize these technologies, the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) offers several energy-focused grants and loans.



**Combined Heat and Power Grant Program:** This program provides grants to encourage the implementation of Combined Heat and Power (CHP) technologies in critical infrastructure, such as healthcare and publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities. In CHP, electricity is generated onsite and the waste heat from this process is used to serve building loads, increasing facility energy efficiency.

**Commercial Clean Energy Grant Program:** To help Maryland non-residential entities in clean energy, MEA provides grants to assist in the installation of solar photovoltaic, solar water heating, geothermal heat pump, and wind turbine systems.

**Jane E. Lawton Conservation Loan Program:** Businesses, local governments, non-profits, state agencies, as well as structures used primarily for religious or fraternal activities can apply for funds to install energy conservation upgrades. Per House Bill 170 (Chapter 135 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2019 State Agency Loan Program (SALP) program has been merged with the Lawton Loan program.

**Offshore Wind Workforce Development Grant Program:** Provides financial assistance to ensure Maryland has a ready and able workforce capable of contributing to the construction, installation, and operations and maintenance of future offshore wind energy projects.

**Maryland Smart Energy Communities (MSEC):** Energy focused grants to incorporated towns, cities, and counties that voluntarily adopt two of the three energy policy goals related to energy efficiency, renewable energy, or clean transportation.

# Maryland's First Net Zero School

Howard County Public Schools received a grant from the MEA for \$2.77M to design and construct the new Wilde Lake Middle School as a Net Zero Energy School, replacing the original Wilde Lake Middle school. To be a Net Zero Energy School, the school was designed so that the amount of energy used by the school annually should be approximately equal to the amount of renewable energy created at the school in a year. The new **Wilde Lake Middle School is the first Net Zero Energy School in the State of Maryland** and is now the largest middle school in Howard County, with capacity for over 700 students.

The new Wilde Lake Middle School was occupied by students in January 2017. Once a full year of operational data is available from the school, MEA intends to complete a case study on the Wilde Lake Middle School project to identify best practices that could possibly be deployed in future public school construction. The Net Zero Energy school construction program was funded through Customer Investment Funds (CIF – PSC Order. No 85187, Case No. 9271).

