

Georgia Environmental Finance Authority

2026 Energy Resilience Grant Program

gefa.georgia.gov

Welcome to the Energy Resilience Grant Online Application

Background and Instructions

This program will provide financial assistance and technical support for eligible applicants to initiate and accelerate projects focused on energy resilience in facilities that have equipment or operations that are deemed critical to operate during a power interruption. Applicable facilities can vary from community to community. Requests can be up to \$200,000, with a 15 percent cost match required. Additional leveraging of funds is encouraged to maximize the energy-related benefits of a project, such as philanthropy or in-kind. Please note that, due to limited funding, the grants are highly competitive and only a small number of projects may receive a grant award.

For the application to qualify for review, all applicants must have or be in the process of completing a feasibility study, energy assessment, energy audit, or a comparable study. Only one application can be submitted per applicant, and all projects awarded funding must be completed by March 1, 2028. Fully completed applications will be reviewed by GEFA and an advisory board against the general criteria below. Grantee's funds will be on a reimbursement schedule based on invoices submitted for completed work and purchases.

General Criteria/Scoring Method:

- Community benefits and demographic factors - 10 pts max
- Lack of generators or generators in poor shape (If applicable) - 5 pts max
- Applicant's facility used during hurricane and winter weather events in the past five years- 5 pts max
- Feasibility and critical facility justification - 15 pts max
- Project readiness - 5 pts max
 - o Maximum total pts - 40

Applicant Information

Application Type: Local governments

Organization Name: Hall County, Georgia

Type of Project: Transfer Switches

Combination Project: N/A

Primary Point of Contact First Name: Sommer

Primary Point of Contact Last Name: Green

Primary Point of Contact Number: 770-297-5503

Primary Point of Contact Email Address: sgreen@hallcounty.org

UEI: 58-6000836

Mailing Address

Street address 1: 2875 Browns Bridge Road City: Gainesville

ZIP code: 30504

State: Georgia

Facility Information

1. Facility address:

Street address 1: 1855 Calvary Church Road

City: Gainesville

ZIP code: 30506 State: Georgia

2. Main Purpose of the facility:

The main purpose of the Chicopee Woods Agricultural Center in Hall County, Georgia is to serve as a multi-use public facility that supports both the agricultural events and community needs. It hosts equestrian and livestock events, agricultural exhibitions, and other community programs, and serves as a voting precinct. In emergencies, it can be used as a disaster relief shelter and a warming center, making it an important hub for both everyday activities and public safety in Hall County.

3. Who is your electric utility provider? Georgia Power

4. Do you have at least one year of utility bills for the facility? Yes

5. Do you have a list of critical loads for the facility? Yes

6. **Does the facility currently have an operable backup generator? If so, please describe its condition, age, and fuel type.** Currently Chicopee Woods Agricultural Center in Hall County, Georgia does not have an operable backup generator.
7. **Do you have architectural, engineering drawings, or site plans for the facility?** No
8. **Does the facility have supported documentation or a feasibility study, energy plan, energy audit, energy assessment, or another official comparable document to support this project? Please state what supporting document you have.** None
9. **Please describe how your critical facility has been impacted by disasters in the past, including how long it's been without power.** The Chicopee Woods Agricultural Center has been repeatedly affected by severe weather, including tropical storms, ice storms, and tornadoes that have caused power outages lasting more than three days. During these events, its role as a disaster relief shelter, and warming center is especially important for residents to have an operable backup generator.
10. **Describe any energy efficiency measures that have been implemented recently, if any, at this facility?** In 2022, the Chicopee Woods Agricultural Center Implemented key energy efficiency improvements focused on lighting, with Hall County approving the replacement of existing fixtures with high efficiency LED lighting. These upgrades reduce energy use, lower operating costs, and improve lighting quality throughout the facility.

Project Information

1. **Provide a detailed description of your proposed project. Include the scope, location, building age, and usage, and other details on how this project will support energy efficiency and resiliency. Additionally, please justify why these buildings are classified as critical facilities in your community.** The proposed project at the Chicopee Woods Agriculture Center will add a transfer switch to a 45-year-old building to safely connect a backup generator. This heavily used community facility hosts agricultural and community events, serves as a voting precinct, and operates as a disaster relief shelter and warming center. The transfer switch will improve energy efficiency by directing generator power to essential systems and preventing unsafe connections. By keeping critical functions operating during extended power outages this greatly increases resilience at this community hub by making it safer and more reliable.

2. **What is the proposed size of the solar PV system and/or battery for the facility? Do you have an estimated cost for installing this system? (Please note that PV systems exceeding 60kW will require a NEPA review from DOE).** N/A
3. **If applicable, where will the solar PV be physically located? Roof-mount, ground-mount, car parking lot canopy, etc? (Please note if the building is older than 45-years and is subject to a historical preservation review by DOE).** N/A
4. **Explain and provide supporting documents to justify implementing this resiliency project. Acceptable documents can be a feasibility study, energy plan, energy audit, energy assessment, or another official comparable document. Please attach documentation at the end of this application to the uploaded spaces provided.** Hall County has added manual transfer switches to many county buildings, and they have proven to be a significant reliable asset by allowing mobile generators to be hooked up quickly and safely. This improvement has reduced downtime during power outages and ensured that essential operations can continue with minimal disruption. By enabling a rapid and secure connection to backup power, these switches help critical facilities return to service in a timely manner, supporting community needs and strengthening our overall emergency preparedness.
5. **Describe your overall resiliency goals for this facility and the community you serve? Does this facility serve another function during major outages or weather events?** Hall County's overall resiliency goals for the Chicopee Woods Agriculture Center and the surrounding community focus on keeping this critical facility safe, powered, and operational during emergencies so it can function as a voting precinct, disaster relief shelter, and warming center. By adding backup power infrastructure and improving reliability, the county aims to protect vulnerable residents during severe weather, continue progress of government and election operations, and preserve a community hub that supports both emergency response and everyday public use.
6. **Please state your project start and end date. All projects MUST be completed by March 1, 2028. By checking this box, you agree to have your project completed by the specified date.**

Proposed Start Date: 01/01/2027

Proposed End Date: 06/30/2027

Budget

- 1. Please enter the requested amount from GEFA.: \$39,312**
- 2. Total cost match (15 percent requirement): \$6,938**
- 3. Total project cost (GEFA amount plus cost match): \$46,250**
- 4. Please provide any additional budget details below, Source of cost match:**

Hall County, GA Local General Fund

Supporting Documents Required:

Feasibility Study, Energy Plan, Energy Audit, Energy Assessment, or another official comparable documents.

Hall County-Hazard Mitigation Plan – FEMA Approved Plan 2022 – 2027 – Full Document.pdf

Other Supporting Documents:

Dehart Chicopee Ag Center (transfer switch install) Proposal_26_0393.pdf

Proposal

August 24, 2026

Hall County

Attention: Lamar Jones
Office: 678-617-4518
Email: ljones@hallcounty.org

PROJECT: Chicopee Agricultural Center-Activity Hall
1855 Calvary Church Road
Gainesville, GA 30507

QUOTE: 26-0393

SCOPE: Transfer Switch Installation

SPECIFICALLY INCLUDED:

- 1 Remove all existing wiring (building will be without power for a week).
- 2 Intercept the conduit going to the existing main breaker panel.
- 3 Supply and install a new 400-amp transfer switch.
- 4 Supply and install a new 400-amp outdoor rated, fused disconnect.
- 5 Reroute the existing conduit from the transformer to the new outdoor disconnect.
- 6 Pipe from the disconnect to the new transfer switch.
- 7 Pipe from the new transfer switch to the existing panel.
- 8 Install all new wiring from the transfer switch to the new disconnect, to the new transfer switch to the existing panel.
- 9 Relocate ground to the new exterior disconnect.
- 10 Supply and install new surge protection as required by the inspector.
- 11 Provide new stamped drawings to obtain permit (if required).
- 12 Permit and inspection.

SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED:

1. Any patching or painting
2. Any existing code violations
3. Anything cut while digging.
4. Replacing conduit from the transformer to the building.

NOTES FOR CLARIFICATION:

- Paid Upon Completion
- One-Year Warranty

DeHart and Hill Electric Propose to install the items listed above for the sum of \$46,250.00

- Additional work not listed above and requested by an Authorized representative of the customer will be handled by DeHart and Hill Electric change order policy.



- Payment Terms and Conditions:** Payments are due within 30 Days from the invoicing date. Payment to Seller shall not be contingent on third party payments to Purchaser.

Acceptance of Proposal

Signature: _____ Signature: _____
Date: _____ Date: _____
PO #: _____