

# Technical Assistance 101 – How Can the Joint Office Support You?

The Joint Office of Energy and Transportation (Joint Office), in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), offers free technical assistance (TA) on the planning, deployment, operation, and maintenance of a national network of electric vehicle (EV) chargers, zero-emission fueling infrastructure, and zero-emission transit and school buses. TA is available to states, communities, tribal nations, school districts, and transit agencies.

## What Is Technical Assistance?

TA is problem-solving:

- Are you planning for corridor- or community-based EV charging projects under the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program or Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program?
- Have you deployed a small number of electric transit or school buses, but are running into real-world challenges with their maintenance or operation?
- Are you interested in installing charging stations at a site, but do not know how many you need, what type, or how to work with your utility?

The Joint Office can help get you started and provide support—regardless of whether you are in the planning stages or further along in deploying zero-emission vehicles and infrastructure.

## Why Come to the Joint Office for Technical Assistance?

The Joint Office serves as a catalyst for connecting key stakeholders to aid in real-world problem-solving and support.

- The Joint Office team includes experts from federal agencies, national laboratories, the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center, and contractors with a long history in TA focused on the deployment of zero-emission fuels and vehicles, as well as associated infrastructure.
- The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) national labs have provided TA and problem-solving support to Clean Cities coalitions, fleets, stakeholders, original equipment manufacturers, fuel providers, and others for 30 years through DOE programs like **Tiger Teams** ([cleancities.energy.gov/technical-assistance/tiger-teams](https://cleancities.energy.gov/technical-assistance/tiger-teams)) and the **Technical Support Services** ([nrel.gov/state-local-tribal/technical-support-services.html](https://nrel.gov/state-local-tribal/technical-support-services.html)), as well as the **Alternative Fuels Data Center** ([afdc.energy.gov](https://afdc.energy.gov))—an industry-leading source for data, tools, and resources.
- The analyses and recommendations provided are unbiased. The TA team evaluates technology proactively in real-world environments and provides unique hands-on assistance to states, communities, and fleets.

# What Kind of Technical Assistance Does the Joint Office Offer?

TA support can range from simple topics like addressing questions on funding opportunities, data, tools, and resources to more in-depth, hands-on assistance and analysis to help accelerate the successful deployment of zero-emission vehicles and infrastructure.

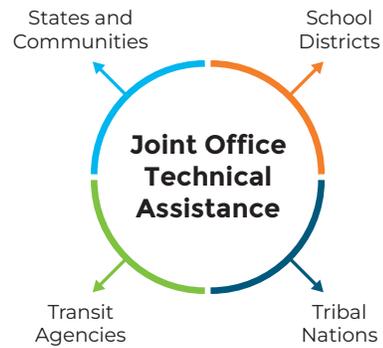
Areas of assistance include:

## **Assistance for States, Communities, and Tribal Nations Pursuing NEVI Formula Program and CFI Funding**

- Planning for deployment of EV chargers and zero-emission fueling infrastructure.
- On-site energy storage and mobile power generation options.
- Power needs analysis and tips for working with your local utility.
- Infrastructure siting needs and support.
- Strategic planning for fleet electrification.

## **Assistance for Transit and School Bus Fleets Pursuing FTA Low or No Emission Vehicle Program (Low-No) and EPA Clean School Bus Funding**

- Infrastructure development and needs assessment for bus depots and charging sites.
- Route analysis and planning.
- Fleet transition planning/strategy.
- Vehicle procurement.
- Impacts on battery performance (e.g., cold temperatures).



- Tips for working with the local utility to analyze energy needs and grid impact.
- Training and workforce development opportunities.
- Solar and battery storage opportunities for electrification to serve as resilient backup power for facilities and other uses (e.g., “vehicle-to-everything” [V2X]).

## **Examples of Technical Assistance Requests**

- A state agency requested assistance with assessment of site-specific questions related to distribution capacity and on-site power storage and generation for potential NEVI-funded charging stations.
- A community planning to apply for CFI funds requested analysis to understand how many public Level 2 and DC fast charging stations will be needed in the community in 10 years.
- A school district interested in applying for EPA Clean School Bus funds asked for assistance with assessing bus and charging options, evaluating specifications, and performing a route analysis.
- A transit agency using FTA Low-No funds requested an analysis of estimated energy needs and grid impacts, priority depot locations for installing solar/storage, and recommendations on controlling thermal issues in bus depots.

## How Do I Sign Up?



Fill out the inquiry form ([driveelectric.gov/contact](https://driveelectric.gov/contact)).



Read for more information on available technical assistance. ([driveelectric.gov/technical-assistance](https://driveelectric.gov/technical-assistance)).



### **About the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation**

The Joint Office provides technical assistance and expertise to a multitude of stakeholders and programs that seek to deploy a network of EV chargers, zero-emission fueling infrastructure, and zero-emission transit and school buses. Contact us at [DriveElectric.gov/contact](https://driveelectric.gov/contact).

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