

Question Number	Question Title	Maximum Point Value	Application Change 2025 vs. 2026	Which application can you import your answers from?
0.0.0	Utility Demographics	0	No major changes.	2023, 2024, 2025
I.A.1	Goals and Objectives	7	No major changes.	2023, 2024, 2025
I.A.2	Research and Development	5	Removed "Yes/No" checkboxes. Added new checkbox for <b>collaboration with national laboratories</b> . Modified language of existing checkboxes.	2026
I.A.3	<b>Customer Financial Assistance</b>	2	Modified question title: "Customer Financial Assistance" Modified question text to emphasize offering financing options to support participation in smart energy programs. Modified question text to include grants and tax credits. Modified sub-question text to ask how a utility promotes, facilitates, or offers financing options.	2023, 2024, 2025
I.A.4	Benchmarking	4	Removed sub-question regarding " <b>who conducts the benchmarking studies</b> " Maximum point value reduced to 4	2026
I.A.5	Equity Programs	2	Modified question text: "Does your utility ensure equitable access for all customers to participate in its smart energy programs (e.g., translation services, AA-compliant resources, tiered income-based rebates, income-based technical assistance)?"	2023, 2024, 2025
II.B.1	Supply-side Programs	3	Removed "Yes/No" checkboxes. Added new checkboxes: "Grid Distributed Energy Resource Management System" and "None". Modified scoring rubric to assign points based on utility size.	2026
II.B.2	Demand Response Programs	4	Modified sub-question checkbox: " <b>Utility notification programs...</b> "	2023, 2024, 2025
II.B.3	Dynamic Pricing/Time Varying Rates	2	No major changes.	2023, 2024, 2025
II.B.4	Demand-side Energy Efficiency Programs	8	Modified question table. Separated into "Energy Audits", "Residential Efficiency Programs", "Commercial Efficiency Programs", and "Other Program Offerings". Modified scoring rubric to assign points based on utility size.	2026
II.B.5	<b>Tailored Energy Solutions for Specific Customer Groups</b>	5	Modified question title: "Tailored Energy Solutions for Specific Customer Groups" Removed "Yes/No" checkboxes.	2026
II.B.6	E-mobility Programs	4	Removed "Yes/No" checkboxes.	2026
II.B.7	Energy Storage Programs	4	Removed "Yes/No" checkboxes. Added checkbox: "Study conducted, not right fit".	2026
II.B.8	Distributed Generation Programs	7	Modified question text: "Does your utility offer distributed renewable generation programs or initiatives (e.g., behind-the-utility or behind-the-retail meter solar, wind or hydropower)? Check all that apply." Modified checkbox: " <b>Multiple-customers (shared) program</b> ". Added checkbox: " <b>Utility power purchase agreement (resources must be located behind the utility meter)</b> ".	2026
III.C.1	Sustainability Programs	7	Removed "Yes/No" checkboxes.	2026
III.C.2	<b>Cross-Organizational Collaboration</b>	4	Modified question title: "Cross-Organizational Collaboration". Modified question text to include " <b>other city or state government departments</b> ".	2023, 2024, 2025
III.C.3	<b>Other Electrification (Non-E-mobility)</b>	4	Modified question title: "Other Electrification (Non-E-mobility)". Removed "Yes/No" checkboxes.	2026
III.C.4	<b>Power Supply Resources and Emissions Tracking</b>	4	Modified question title: "Power Supply Resources and Emissions Tracking" Modified question text: " <b>Does your utility track renewable resources in its power supply portfolio and/or the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions...</b> "	2023, 2024, 2025
III.C.5	<b>Program Savings Tracking</b>	4	Modified question title: "Program Savings Tracking" Modified question text: " <b>Does your utility evaluate energy saved and/or emissions avoided resulting from your "smart energy" programs?</b> ". Modified sub-question text to request the applicant attach/describe the methodology used to determine energy saved/emissions avoided from its smart energy programs.	2023, 2024, 2025
IV.D.1	Stakeholder Involvement	4	No major changes	2023, 2024, 2025
IV.D.2	Communication	4	No major changes	2023, 2024, 2025
IV.D.3	Customer Satisfaction	4	No major changes	2023, 2024, 2025

IV.D.4	CSR Training	5	No major changes	2023, 2024, 2025
IV.D.5	Customer Access to Usage Data	3	Modified question text: "Does your utility help your customers better understand and manage their utility bill by providing easy access to their energy usage data?" Added new checkboxes: "Yes; Provide detailed interval data (15-minute or hourly)", "Yes: Provide daily data", "Yes: Provide monthly usage data, comparing historical usage".	2026
IV.D.6	Non-utility Funded Tax Credits and Incentives	1	Question was removed from the application. Grants and tax credits moved to question I.A.3	N/A