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**Nebraska has still not opened up applications for $30 million in federal electric vehicle charging funds**

**-- While chargers are opening or underway in other states, Nebraska has still not released an application for potential grant recipients --**

Nebraska has still not released an application for electric vehicle charging operators to access millions of dollars in National Electric Vehicle Instructure (NEVI) funding. While other states are celebrating the opening of the first NEVI chargers, the businesses along Nebraska’s interstates still can’t apply to participate in this program, which is part of the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Charge Ahead Partnership, a coalition of businesses working to expand the nation’s EV charging network through free-market competition and private investment, encourages the state to open up applications so that private businesses can expand their investment in EV charging through this grant-matching program.

The NEVI Program authorized the federal government to distribute $5 billion to states to provide grant funding for businesses that want to offer EV charging. Nebraska is set to receive a total of $30.2 million over five years.

Nebraska is one of just 16 states that has still not issued an application for EV charging providers hoping to receive a grant. Much of the media coverage about the NEVI program has highlighted how slowly this program is rolling out, but the federal government has approved Nebraska’s plan and now the state is responsible for getting the grants into the hands of EV charging operators.

“Fuel retailers along Nebraska’s highways are prime candidates to offer EV charging to travelers,” said Charge Ahead Partnership executive director Jay Smith. “While states like Ohio have already distributed the first round of NEVI funds and have chargers operational, Nebraska business owners can’t even apply for a grant yet.”

NEVI is a grant-matching program, designed to spark investment in EV charging infrastructure by offsetting the start-up costs for buying and installing high-speed EV chargers at strategic locations along each state’s major highways. The vast majority of funds deployed by other states have gone to private enterprise, allowing small businesses and national chains to add EV charging to the services they provide to customers.

The sluggish deployment of NEVI in Nebraska slows the growth of the EV charging private marketplace, as businesses hoping to receive a NEVI grant in the future will likely pause their investment until the state issues an application and announces grant recipients.

“The growth of EV adoption is creating business opportunities for entrepreneurs hoping to serve these drivers, and the NEVI funding will help jumpstart this emerging marketplace,” Smith said. “Hopefully, Nebraska state officials will open the door for private businesses to access these grants by releasing an application ASAP.”

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To learn more about **Charge Ahead Partnership (CAP)** and join our efforts to help expand America’s EV charging network please visit [**www.chargeaheadpartnership.com**](http://www.chargeaheadpartnership.com/). In addition to joining CAP you can stay connected with us by following us on social media on Twitter at [**@EV\_ChargeAhead**](https://twitter.com/EV_ChargeAhead), Facebook at [**@ChargeAheadPartnership**](https://www.facebook.com/ChargeAheadPartnership) and on Instagram at [**@EVChargeAhead**](https://www.instagram.com/EVChargeAhead/).