



CALIFORNIA
RESILIENCE
CHALLENGE

Frequently Asked Questions

2023 Grant Program Request for Proposals

How is scoring weighted?

Proposals are qualitatively judged on their cumulative alignment with the values, goals, and objectives of the Request for Proposals (RFP). A point system is not used.

Would a letter of support from either city managers or elected officials suffice? Or are city council resolutions necessary?

The California Resilience Challenge is asking that proposals demonstrate community support for the proposal by attaching letters of support from local civic, community, business leaders, etc. A city council resolution is not required, though it would certainly count as an example of local support.

Is there a specific tool being used to identify or define what an under-resourced community is? (Ex: Census Tracker, CalEnviro Screen, State Household-Income, etc.)

See RFP Section 4: Eligibility, page 7.

Is there a grant match requirement?

No.

Are private entities eligible for grant funding?

No.

Are Climate Action and Adaptation Plans eligible for funding?

Yes, provided they meet the other eligibility requirements as well.

Are ongoing projects with discrete, secondary phases able to submit that secondary phase as a separate project for funding?

Yes, provided they meet the eligibility requirements in Section 4 of the RFP.

While the focus is drought, flood, fire, and heat, would a project related to farming, food production, regenerative agriculture be considered if it addressed the main priorities?

Yes, if the project could demonstrate that it would improve community resilience to at least one of the four identified climate stressors and that the project meets all the other eligibility requirements in Section 4 of the RFP.

Are previous award winners eligible to apply?

Yes.

Will Bay Area Council staff (or others) be available for questions via email or phone prior to submission?

Yes. Please contact Julian Lake at jlake@bayareacouncil.org

Once a proposal is submitted, will applicants be contacted if there are follow-up questions, or will a decision be made based on the submitted proposal alone?

Applicants may be contacted if Bay Area Council staff or the Advisory Committee need any clarifications; otherwise, decisions will be made based on the information contained in the proposal emailed by the submission deadline.

If we're considering a collaborative proposal between eligible organizations of different types, e.g. a city and a community-based organization, do you have a recommendation for which would be best to apply through?

So long as the partners are both eligible entities, we have no preference as to which organization sends the proposal or acts as the fiscal agent. All partnerships should be clearly identified in the project summary and description.

Are construction projects to combat sea level rise eligible?

For planning and analysis yes, assuming the project meets all other eligibility requirements listed in Section 6: Evaluation Criteria, page 8.

Are Resource Conservation Districts eligible to submit a proposal?

Yes.

Is funding allowed to be used for sub-grants to community partners?

Yes.

Can a research project/analytic exercise quality, e.g. developing a local resilience scorecard, qualify as eligible? Or does it need to be an actual physical project like a resilience center?

Yes, if submitted by an eligible applicant and especially if the research resulted in new data that would help inform climate adaptation planning for future physical projects.

Are national organizations that do community-based work in CA eligible?

No, unless the national organization has an official California-based chapter.

Are nonprofit organizations that do projects focused on supporting disadvantaged communities, or projects located within such communities, but are not themselves community-based organizations, eligible for this grant?

Yes.

Are stipends/consumables as incentives for participating in community engagement events considered eligible expenses?

Yes.

What is the expected word/page length of each section of the proposal?

Proposals must be submitted via online portal at <https://forms.gle/Avga1ofoem5W79jd9> and include a one sentence project summary and a 500-word max project description. For the remaining requirements we ask the applicants use their best judgment to provide the necessary amount of information for the project.