**GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY**

**Clean Transportation Program**

**Convenient, High-Visibility, Low-Cost Level 2 Charging (CHiLL-2)**



**Addendum 1**

GFO-22-610

[Solicitation](http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/index.html) Information

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/solicitations>

State of California

California Energy Commission

**May 2023** [~~March 2023~~]

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# I. Introduction

Please note: Added language appears in **bold underline**, and deleted language appears in [~~strikethrough~~] and within square brackets.

## Purpose of Solicitation

This is a competitive grant solicitation. The California Energy Commission’s (CEC’s) Clean Transportation Program announces the availability of up to $24 million in grant funds. The purpose of the Convenient, High-Visibility, Low-Cost Level 2 Charging (CHiLL-2) solicitation is to:

* Demonstrate replicable and scalable business and technology models to deploy Level 2 electric vehicle (EV) chargers.
* Improve public awareness of and confidence in Level 2 charging access through high-density, high-visibility installations.
* Provide Level 2 charging access in disadvantaged and/or low-income communities.
* Provide reliable and readily accessible chargers.

## Background

Assembly Bill (AB) 118 (Nuñez, Chapter 750, Statutes of 2007), created the Clean Transportation Program. The statute authorizes the CEC to develop and deploy alternative and renewable fuels and advanced transportation technologies to help attain the state’s climate change policies. AB 8 (Perea, Chapter 401, Statutes of 2013) re-authorized the Clean Transportation Program through January 1, 2024, and specified that the CEC allocate up to $20 million per year (or up to 20 percent of each fiscal year’s funds) in funding for hydrogen station development until at least 100 stations are operational.

The Clean Transportation Program has an annual budget of approximately $100 million and provides financial support for projects that:

* Reduce California’s use and dependence on petroleum transportation fuels and increase the use of alternative and renewable fuels and advanced vehicle technologies.
* Produce sustainable alternative and renewable low-carbon fuels in California.
* Expand alternative fueling infrastructure and fueling stations.
* Improve the efficiency, performance and market viability of alternative light-, medium-, and heavy-duty vehicle technologies.
* Retrofit medium- and heavy-duty on-road and non-road vehicle fleets to alternative technologies or fuel use.
* Expand the alternative fueling infrastructure available to existing fleets, public transit, and transportation corridors.
* Establish workforce training programs and conduct public outreach on the benefits of alternative transportation fuels and vehicle technologies.

## Commitment to Diversity

The CEC is committed to ensuring that participation in its Clean Transportation Program reflects the rich and diverse characteristics of California and its people. To meet this commitment, CEC staff conducts outreach efforts and activities to:

* Ensure potential new applicants throughout the state are aware of CEC’s Clean Transportation Program and the funding opportunities the program provides.
* Encourage greater participation by underrepresented groups including disabled veteran-, women-, minority-, and LGBT-owned businesses.
* Assist applicants in understanding how to apply for funding from CEC’s Clean Transportation Program.

## Key Activities and Dates

Key activities including dates and times for this solicitation are presented below. An addendum will be released if the dates change for the asterisked (\*) activities. Times listed are Pacific Standard Time or Pacific Daylight Time, whichever is being observed.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **ACTIVITY** | **ACTION DATE** |
| Solicitation Release | March 23, 2023 |
| Pre-Application Workshop\* | April 17, 2023 |
| Deadline for Written Questions\* | April 28, 2023 |
| Anticipated Distribution of Questions/Answers | Week of May 8th 2023 |
| **Deadline to Submit Applications by 11:59 p.m.\*** | **June 16, 2023** |
| Anticipated Notice of Proposed Awards Posting | Week of August 7th 2023 |
| Anticipated CEC Business Meeting | November 2023 |

## How Award Is Determined

Applicants passing administrative and technical screening will compete based on evaluation criteria and will be scored and ranked based on those criteria. Unless CEC exercises any of its other rights regarding this solicitation (e.g., to cancel the solicitation or reduce funding), the highest scoring application obtaining at least the minimum passing score in each Award Category, as defined in Section II.B.2, will be recommended for funding, in order of their overall application score. After one application from each Award Category has been recommended for funding, if funding remains available, applications obtaining a least the minimum passing score will be recommended for funding in ranked order, regardless of Award Category, until all funds available under this solicitation are exhausted.

If the funds available under this solicitation are insufficient to fully fund a grant proposal, CEC reserves the right to recommend partially funding that proposal. In this event, the proposed Applicant/Awardee and Commission Agreement Manager (CAM) shall meet and attempt to reach agreement on a reduced scope of work commensurate with the level of available funding.

## Availability of Funds

A total of $24 million is available for awards under this solicitation. CEC, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to increase or decrease the amount of funds available under this solicitation.

## Minimum and Maximum Award Amounts

Minimum and maximum award amounts depend on the Award Category of the project. For Larger Cities with a population of 200,000 or more, the minimum CEC award amount is $2 million, and the maximum CEC award amount is $10 million or 75 percent of the total project costs, whichever is less.

For Smaller Cities and Tribal Lands, which includes cities with a population between 50,000 and 200,000, as well as Tribal Lands (see section II.B.2) the minimum CEC award amount is $300,000 and the maximum CEC award amount is $4 million or 75 percent of the total project costs, whichever is less.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Award Category** | **Minimum Award Amount** | **Maximum Award Amount** |
| Larger Cities | $2 million | $10 million |
| Smaller Cities and Tribal Lands | $300,000 | $4 million |

## Maximum Number of Applications

Applicants are only eligible to submit one application per Award Category under this solicitation.

## Pre-Application Workshop

There will be one Pre-Application Workshop; participation in this meeting is optional but encouraged. The Pre-Application Workshop will be held remotely through Zoom and conference call at the date, time and location listed below. Please call the Commission Agreement Officer (CAO) listed in paragraph below or refer to the [CEC's solicitation information website](http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts) at https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/solicitations to confirm the date and time.

**April 17, 2023**

10:00am – 12:00pm

California Energy Commission

Remote Access Only

Remote access is available by computer or phone via Zoom

## Participation Through Zoom

Zoom is the CEC's online meeting service. When attending remotely, presentations will appear on your computer/laptop/mobile device screen, and audio may be heard via the device or telephone. Please be aware that the Zoom meeting will be recorded.

**Zoom Instructions:**

To join this workshop, go to Zoom at: <https://energy.zoom.us/j/87415207063?pwd=YVFBeSsvcVJUa0xSOXM0V3kwMks0Zz09> . You may also access the workshop by going to the [Zoom webpage](https://join.zoom.us) at https://join.zoom.us and enter the unique meeting ID and password below:

**Meeting ID:** 874 1520 7063

**Meeting Password:** Chill@10

**Topic:** Pre-Application Workshop for GFO-22-610 (CHiLL-2)

**Telephone Access Only:**

Call (669) 219-2599 or (877) 853-5257 (toll-free). When prompted, enter the unique meeting ID number above. To comment over the telephone, dial \*9 to “raise your hand” and \*6 to mute/unmute your phone line.

**Access by Mobile Device:**

Download the application from the Zoom Download Center, https://energy.zoom.us/download

**Technical Support:**

For assistance with problems or questions about joining or attending the meeting, please call Zoom technical support at (888) 799-9666 ext. 2, or you may contact the CEC’s Public Advisor’s Office at [publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov](mailto:publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov), or (800) 822-6228.

To determine whether your computer is compatible with Zoom, visit:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-System-requirements-for-Windows-macOS-and-Linux>.

## Questions

Applicants may ask questions at the Pre-Application Workshop, and may submit written questions via e-mail to the CAO listed in Part I of this solicitation. However, all technical questions must be received by the deadline listed in the “Key Activities and Dates” table above. Questions received after the deadline may be answered at the CEC's discretion. Non-technical questions (e.g., questions concerning application format requirements or attachment instructions) may be submitted to the CAO at any time prior to 5:00 p.m. of the application deadline date.

The question and answer will be posted on the [CEC’s solicitation information website](https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/solicitations) at https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/solicitations.

Any verbal communication with a CEC employee concerning this solicitation is not binding on the State and shall in no way alter a specification, term, or condition of the solicitation. All communication must be directed in writing to the CAO assigned to the solicitation.

## Contact Information

Eilene Cary, Commission Agreement Officer

California Energy Commission

715 P Street, MS-18

Sacramento, California 95814

E-mail: Eilene.Cary@energy.ca.gov

## Reference Documents

Applicants responding to this solicitation may want to familiarize themselves with the following documents:

1. [2022-2023 Investment Plan Update for the Clean Transportation Program](https://www.energy.ca.gov/publications/2022/2022-2023-investment-plan-update-clean-transportation-program-0) (CEC-600-2022-062) https://www.energy.ca.gov/publications/2022/2022-2023-investment-plan-update-clean-transportation-program-0.
2. [Assembly Bill 2127 Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Assessment](https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/electric-vehicle-charging-infrastructure-assessment-ab-2127)

(CEC-600-2021-001-REV)

https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/electric-vehicle-charging-infrastructure-assessment-ab-2127.

1. [Senate Bill 1000 Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Deployment Assessment](https://www.energy.ca.gov/publications/2020/california-electric-vehicle-infrastructure-deployment-assessment-senate-bill)

(CEC-600-2020-153)

https://www.energy.ca.gov/publications/2020/california-electric-vehicle-infrastructure-deployment-assessment-senate-bill.

1. [CalEnviroScreen.](https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen)

https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen.

1. California Air Resources Board. [Senate Bill 350 Low-Income Barriers Study, Part B: Overcoming Barriers to Clean Transportation Access for Low-Income Residents](https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/carb-barriers-report-final-guidance-document). https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/carb-barriers-report-final-guidance-document.
2. California Air Resources Board. [Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) Standards.](https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/electric-vehicle-supply-equipment-evse-standards)

https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/electric-vehicle-supply-equipment-evse-standards.

1. California Department of Food and Agriculture, Division of Measurement Standards. [Zero-Emission Vehicle Projects.](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/dms/programs/zevfuels/) https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/dms/programs/zevfuels/.

# II. Eligibility Requirements

## Applicant Requirements

1. **Eligibility**

This solicitation is open to all public and private entities.

Project teams that include local government agencies are strongly encouraged. Project teams may include, but are not limited to:

* Local governments (cities, counties, municipalities, etc.)
* Community-based organizations. A community-based organization is an organization that (a) is place-based, with an explicit geographic focus area that includes the proposed project area(s), (b) has staff members, volunteers, or Board members that reside in the community where the project is located or intended to serve, (c) has a demonstrated track record of at least one year providing services in the proposed project area.
* Federally-recognized California Native American Tribes and California Tribal Organizations
* Transportation planning agencies including regional transportation planning agencies
* Utilities
* Non-profit organizations (for example public schools, public charities, volunteer organizations, workforce development entities, places of worship, and some governmental agencies)
* Public housing agencies
* Environmental or environmental justice organizations
* Businesses

1. **Terms and Conditions**

Each grant agreement resulting from this solicitation will include terms and conditions that set forth the grant recipient’s rights and responsibilities. By providing the authorizations and certifications required under this solicitation, each Applicant agrees to enter into an agreement, if awarded, with the CEC to conduct the proposed project according to the terms and conditions that correspond to its organization, without negotiation: (1) University of California and California State University terms and conditions; (2) U.S. Department of Energy terms and conditions; (3) standard terms and conditions; (4) Special Terms and Conditions for Federally-recognized California Native American Tribes and California Tribal Organizations; and (5) any other special terms and conditions required by the CEC. The standard terms and conditions are located at [CEC's funding resources website](http://www.energy.ca.gov/research/contractors.html) at https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/funding-resources.

Failure to agree to the terms and conditions by taking actions such as failing to provide the required authorizations and certifications or indicating that acceptance is based on modification of the terms may result in rejection of the application. Applicants must read the terms and conditions carefully. CEC reserves the right to modify the terms and conditions prior to executing grant agreements.

a. If a Federally-recognized California Native American Tribe (Tribe) or a California Tribal Organization (Tribal Organization) with sovereign immunity is listed as a proposed awardee in the Notice of Proposed Awards (NOPA), CEC staff must receive the following before bringing the proposed award to Business Meeting, (a) resolution(s) or other authorizing document(s) by the governing body of the Tribe or Tribal Organization which:

i. Authorizes the Tribe or Tribal Organization to enter into the proposed agreement, including accepting the Special Terms and Conditions for Federally-recognized California Native American Tribes and California Tribal Organizations with Sovereign Immunity (see Attachment 14); and

ii. Approves a limited waiver of tribal sovereign immunity, to the extent that any such sovereign immunity exists, for any and all claims by the California Energy Commission that may arise relating to this Agreement and any remedies therefore under the laws of the state of California and the laws of the United States of America; and

iii. Consents to personal jurisdiction over the Tribe or Tribal Organization, and consents to venue in any court of the State of California and any federal court sitting in the State of California; and waives any and all claim that the Tribe or Tribal Organization may have, including without limitation that such court is an inconvenient forum, for the purposes of any proceeding related to this Agreement; and, with respect to a proceeding in a court of the State of California or a federal court sitting in the State of California, any requirement that tribal remedies must be exhausted; and

iv. Authorizes the Tribe or Tribal Organization to enter into the proposed agreement, including accepting the Special Terms and Conditions for Federally-recognized California Native American Tribes and California Tribal Organizations, including the Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and Consent to Jurisdiction (See Attachment 11); and

v. Delegates authority to execute the proposed agreement to an appropriate individual.

The above requirements may be provided in one or more documents. The document(s) will be included as an exhibit to the resulting grant agreement.

**Delay in award.** Any delay in the Tribe or California Tribal Organization’s ability to provide the documentation specified in sections (a)(i)-(v) above may result in delayed award of the grant agreement.

**Reservation of right to cancel proposed award.** Funds available under this solicitation have encumbrance deadlines which the CEC must meet in order to avoid expiration of the funds. In addition to any other rights reserved to it under this solicitation or that it otherwise has, the CEC reserves the right to cancel a proposed award if it determines, in its sole and absolute discretion, that the documentation described in sections (a)(i)-(v) above would likely not be provided prior to an encumbrance deadline, and that the CEC’s ability to meet its encumbrance deadline may thereby be jeopardized. In this instance, the CEC may cancel the proposed award and award funds to the next highest scoring applicant.

1. **California Secretary of State Registration**

All corporations, limited liability companies (LLCs), limited partnerships (LPs) and limited liability partnerships (LLPs) that conduct intrastate business in California are required to be registered and in good standing with the California Secretary of State prior to its project being recommended for approval at a CEC Business Meeting. If not currently registered with the California Secretary of State, Applicants are encouraged to contact the Secretary of State’s Office as soon as possible to avoid potential delays in beginning the proposed project(s) (should the application be proposed for funding). For more information, contact the Secretary of State’s Office via [the Secretary of State’s Office website](http://www.sos.ca.gov/) at www.sos.ca.gov. Sole proprietors using a fictitious business name must be registered with the appropriate county and provide evidence of registration to CEC prior to their project being recommended for approval at a CEC Business Meeting.

1. **Executive Order N-6-22 – Russia Sanctions**

On March 4, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-6-22 (the EO) regarding Economic Sanctions against Russia and Russian entities and individuals. “Economic Sanctions” refers to sanctions imposed by the U.S. government in response to Russia’s actions in Ukraine, as well as any sanctions imposed under state law. By submitting a bid or proposal, Applicant represents that it is not a target of Economic Sanctions. Should the State determine Applicant/Recipient is a target of Economic Sanctions or is conducting prohibited transactions with sanctioned individuals or entities, that shall be grounds for rejection of the Applicant’s bid/proposal any time prior to contract execution, or, if determined after contract execution, shall be grounds for termination by the State.

## Project Requirements

* 1. **Eligible Projects**

Eligible projects will demonstrate replicable and scalable business and technology models to deploy Level 2 charging infrastructure and improve public awareness of and confidence in Level 2 charging access through high-density, high-visibility installations within a 1.5-mile radius of the project area central point (see Attachment 01 Application Manual, Proposed Project Location). **Only** **Level 2 chargers may be installed.** Direct Current Fast Chargers (DCFCs) and Level 1 chargers are not allowed. Each charger must be capable of outputting at least 6.2 kW of power. The project area central point for installations must be within the limits of a city or Tribal Lands, but all installations do not necessarily need to occur within the city’s/Tribal Lands’ limits. **Replacement of “paddle chargers” or non-networked chargers is eligible for funding and will count toward the minimum charger requirement. Replacement of broken chargers or old networked J-1772 chargers is not eligible for funding under this solicitation and will not count toward the minimum charger requirement.**

* 1. **Award Categories and Charger Count**

There are two Award Categories under this solicitation: Larger Cities, and Smaller Cities and Tribal Lands. The Award Category of the project is based on the location of the project area central point. For example, if a project’s installation area is split between a Larger and Smaller City (see definitions below), the Award Category classification will be based on the city where the project area central point is located.

**Larger Cities** are defined in this solicitation as cities with a population of 200,000 or more based on 2021 American Community Survey data[[1]](#footnote-2). Projects located in Larger Cities must install a minimum of 300 chargers per project. Additional chargers are encouraged and will result in bonus points as described in the Scoring Guidelines section below.

**Smaller Cities and Tribal Lands** are defined in this solicitation as any of the following:

* + 1. Cities with a population under 200,000 based on 2021 American Community Survey data. A city with a population less than 50,000 is an ineligible area for this solicitation.
    2. Tribal Lands (see section V.A. for definitions). There is no minimum population requirement for Tribal Land eligibility.

Projects located in cities with a population under 200,000 must install a minimum of 15 chargers per every 10,000 people. For example, if a city’s population is 130,000 the project must install a minimum of 195 chargers (13 x 15 = 195).

Projects located on Tribal Lands must install a minimum of 50 chargers.

Additional chargers are encouraged and will result in bonus points, as described in the Scoring Guidelines section below.

* 1. **Project Location**

All project locations must be within California and suitable for high-density installations. Areas that are considered “mixed use” (i.e., have a variety of commercial, residential, and business real estate) are highly encouraged.

**All chargers must be installed within a 1.5-mile radius of the project area central point.** This equates to approximately 7.07 square miles. The Applicant is responsible for demonstrating in its application the area where all installations will occur and the project area central point.

For this solicitation, a site is defined as a specific location identifiable by an address. Each site must have a minimum of five Level 2 chargers. Level 2 chargers currently existing at sites may count toward the site minimum, but do not count toward the minimum number of chargers installed per project.

Projects are encouraged but not required to install chargers at multiple site types. Site types are characterized by the style or structure of parking (e.g. street parking, parking garages, and parking lots are different site types).

All deployments must be at existing structures or facilities and involve negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. Projects are encouraged but not required to install chargers at multiple site types. Site types are characterized by the style or structure of parking (e.g. street parking, parking garages, and parking lots are different site types).

* 1. **Serving Underserved Communities**

A minimum of 50 percent of a project’s EV chargers must be installed within disadvantaged communities and/or low-income communities. Disadvantaged communities are communities disproportionately burdened by multiple sources of pollution and with population characteristics that make them more sensitive to pollution.

Disadvantaged communities are designated by the California Environmental Protection Agency[[2]](#footnote-3) per Senate Bill 535. Low-income communities are defined per Assembly Bill 1550 (Gomez, Chapter 369, Statutes of 2016) as census tracts with median household incomes at or below 80 percent of the statewide median income or with median household incomes at or below the threshold designated as low income by the Department of Housing and Community Development’s list of state income limits adopted under California Health and Safety Code Section 50093.

Applicants should use the California Air Resources Board [California Climate Investments Priority Populations 2022 CES 4.0 map](https://webmaps.arb.ca.gov/PriorityPopulations/) (https://webmaps.arb.ca.gov/PriorityPopulations/) to identify disadvantaged communities and/or low-income communities.

* 1. **Charging Station Accessibility and Safety**

Charging stations shall be publicly accessible and accommodate safety requirements of EV drivers. The following requirements apply:

* Chargers must be publicly available and accessible at least 18 hours per day. **Chargers that are restricted to paying customers (e.g. within a tolled parking garage) are eligible if the site is available to the public at least 18 hours per day.**
* Charging locations and parking areas must be well-lit. The charger user must be able to easily read any instructions on the charger and the area around the vehicle must have adequate lighting to allow the driver to safely move from the charger to the charging port on the vehicle.
* Sites must incorporate signage as required by any applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards.
  1. **Charging Equipment**

All EVSE models shall meet the following minimum technical requirements. EVSE models may exceed the minimums outlined below:

1. EVSE shall be safety certified by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL);
2. EVSE shall be Energy Star certified;
3. EVSE shall be compliant with Division of Measurement Standards (DMS) California Type Evaluation Program (CTEP) requirements and include a credit card reader (this requirement is applicable only for public EVSE with fee for use);
4. EVSE shall be networked and support the following, at a minimum:
   1. Network connectivity such as 4G LTE, IEEE 802.3 for Ethernet, or IEEE 802.11n for high bandwidth wireless networking;
   2. Ability to receive remote software updates, real-time protocol translation, encryption and decryption, Internet Protocol (IP)-based processor capable of supporting multiple protocols, and compliant with Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)/IP and IPv6;
   3. Ability to connect to a network's back-end software.
5. EVSE shall support the SAE J1772 standard;
6. EVSE shall support Open Charge Point Protocol (OCPP) v1.6 or later.
7. EVSE shall be ISO 15118 ready[[3]](#footnote-4).
   1. **Requirements for Charging Equipment Installed After January 1, 2024**

In addition to the other requirements set forth in this application manual and the law, EV chargers and charging stations installed on or after January 1, 2024 must comply with recordkeeping and reporting standards which CEC is currently in the process of developing. As background, AB 2061 (Ting, 2022) and Cal. Pub. Resources Code sect. 25231.5 require the CEC, in consultation with the CPUC, to develop recordkeeping and reporting standards for EV chargers and charging stations. CEC is working to develop regulations in compliance with AB 2061. Other requirements, including but not limited to uptime and operation and maintenance requirements, may also be adopted by regulation. Once these regulations are finalized, chargers which are installed on or after January 1, 2024, including chargers installed under agreements resulting from this solicitation, will need to comply with the new regulations. Applicants to this solicitation must be prepared to comply with any new or updated regulations, even if the regulations are not in existence at the time of application to this solicitation.

* 1. **Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP)**

AB 841 (Ting, 2020) added Public Utilities Code (PUC) section 740.20, which requires Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP) certification to install EV charging infrastructure and equipment for work performed on or after January 1, 2022, subject to certain exceptions.

Therefore, applying PUC 740.20 EVITP requirements to this solicitation means that all EV charging infrastructure and equipment located on the customer side of the electrical meter shall be installed by a contractor with the appropriate license classification, as determined by the Contractors’ State License Board, and at least one electrician on each crew, at any given time, who holds an EVITP certification. Projects that include installation of a charging port supplying 25 kilowatts or more to a vehicle must have at least 25 percent of the total electricians working on the crew for the project, at any given time, who hold EVITP certification. One member of each crew may be both the contractor and an EVITP certified electrician. The requirements stated in this paragraph do not apply to any of the following:

1. EV charging infrastructure installed by employees of an electrical corporation or local publicly owned electric utility.

2. EV charging infrastructure funded by moneys derived from credits generated from the Low Carbon Fuel Standard Program (Subarticle 7 (commencing with Section 95480) of Article 4 of Subchapter 10 of Chapter 1 of Division 3 of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations).

3. Single-family home residential EV chargers that can use an existing 208/240-volt outlet.

* 1. **Operation, Maintenance, and Uptime**

The Recipient will be required to operate, keep records of, maintain, and report on chargers as specified in the Scope of Work (Attachment 2). Chargers installed through this solicitation must be operational for a minimum of six years after initial installation.

* 1. **Payment Options**

Public charging equipment must be capable of supporting multiple point-of-sale methods, such as pay-per-use and subscription methods, including ability to accept a credit or debit card without incurring any additional fees. The charger must be compliant with OCPP 1.6 or later to allow subscribers of other EV charging system networks to access the charging station. The charger must also be ISO 15118 ready.

* 1. **Customer Service**

The project must provide 24/7 customer support via a toll-free telephone number, an email address clearly posted near the charging equipment, and through any online portals that are available to EV drivers accessing the charging equipment. The customer support service must be capable of providing or dispatching services within 10 business days to address customer concerns at the charging station. Customer support must be available in English and Spanish.

**12**. **Data Collection and Analysis Requirements**

The Recipient will be required to collect, analyze, and report data as specified in the Scope of Work (Attachment 2).

**13**. **Eligible Project Costs**

Costs incurred for the following are eligible for CEC reimbursement or as the Applicant’s match share:

* EVSE
* Applicant’s cost-share of utility installation:

• Transformers

* Electric panels

• Conduit

• Wiring

• Meters

• Renewable distributed energy resources or energy storage equipment/systems capable of providing independent or supplemental power to the EV charging ports (separately metered for electric charging)

• Installation costs

• Planning and engineering design costs

• Stub-outs (i.e. exposed conduit for connection of future charging infrastructure)

• Demand management equipment

* + - Equipment warranties for during the term of the agreement
    - Maintenance, or maintenance agreement
    - Lighting and signage
    - Engagement and outreach to property owners, residents and potential users. The following restrictions apply to funds applied towards engagement and outreach:
      * Costs are limited to 10 percent of the total project cost.
      * All engagement and outreach activities must contain information on both EV charging infrastructure (types of charging, how to use, cost to charge, etc.) and Plug-in Electric Vehicles.
      * All engagement and outreach activities must be targeted to the properties, residents and/or users in the project area and within the vicinity of planned charger deployments.

Costs other than those listed as eligible for CEC reimbursement or as match share, are not eligible as reimbursement or match share. This includes but is not limited to:

* Level 1 and DCFC charging equipment
* Vehicle purchases
* A standard outlet (110/120 volt or 220/240 volt)
* Nonrenewable distributed energy resources
* Distribution grid or other equipment costs that are otherwise covered by programs or tariff rules of the electric utilities are excluded

The following project types **ARE NOT** eligible for funding under this solicitation

* Paper studies or research projects (e.g., a study which assess the cost and feasibility of EV charging station installations along certain regions/corridors)
* Projects that are primarily surveys to determine interest in the installation of EV charging stations in a particular region/corridor
* Proposals for vehicle demonstrations or demonstrations of existing technologies

The following are not eligible for CEC reimbursement but may be included as an Applicant’s match share.

* + Processes to comply with otherwise applicable legal requirements (e.g., permits from the local authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA))

## Match Funding Requirements

1. **Total Match Share Requirement**

Applications must include a minimum 25 percent total match share.

“Match funding” or “match share” means cash or in-kind (non-cash) contributions provided by the Applicant/Recipient, subrecipients, or other parties that will be used in performance of the proposed project.Match share percentage is calculated by dividing the total match share contributions by the total allowable project cost. *“*Total allowable project cost” is the sum of the CEC’s reimbursable share and Recipient’s match share of the project costs. Match share expenditures have the following requirements:

1. At a minimum, total match share must conform to the “Cash Match Share Requirement” contained in this solicitation.
2. All match share expenditures must conform to the terms and conditions of this solicitation and the resulting grant agreement (see Attachment 9).
3. Applicants must disclose the source and provide verification and documentation for the match share funding committed to the project. (For any match share committed by a third party (i.e., other than match share committed by the Applicant), Applicants are encouraged to submit a letter from each match share partner identifying the source(s) and availability of match funding.)
4. During the term of the agreement, grant recipients will be required to document and verify all match share expenditures through invoices submitted to CEC.
5. Match share funding may be in the form of cash or in-kind contributions such as donated labor hours, equipment, facilities, and other property.
6. Equipment, facilities, and property may count as match funds as long as the value of the contribution is based on documented market values or book values, prorated for its use in the project, and depreciated or amortized over the term of the project using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).
7. Match share expenditures (cash and/or in-kind) must be documented, reasonable, allowable, and allocable to the project as determined by CEC.
8. Match share expenditures are allowable under an agreement only if they are incurred after CEC notifies the Applicant that its project has been proposed for an award through the release of a Notice of Proposed Awards (NOPA). Match expenditures incurred after the release of the NOPA but prior to the execution of an agreement are made at the Applicant’s own risk. CEC is not liable for Applicant’s match share costs if the grant is not approved, if approval is delayed, or if the match share expenditure is not allowable under the terms and conditions of the grant agreement or this solicitation. Please note that all non-match expenditures incurred prior to agreement execution are not reimbursable from CEC funds.
9. **Cash Match Share Requirement**

Applications must include a minimum 50 percent ***cash*** match share. This means that 50 percent of the total match must be cash match.

Cash match means the net of any funds actually expended by the Applicant for the project. Net means after any sort of discount or rebate is applied. Expenditures for Applicant’s compensated labor hours, including allowable fringe benefit and overhead rates, travel, materials, supplies, equipment, subrecipient costs, and other miscellaneous expenditures may be claimed as cash match if the expenditures are included in the approved agreement budget, paid in full with funding sources other than grant funds, and supported with appropriate documentation, including proof of payment. For indirect overhead, backup documentation, such as a cost allocation plan based on actual expenditures incurred and paid, is required. Cost allocations must be reasonable and allocable to the proposed project.

1. **In-Kind Match Share**

The balance of the total match share requirement beyond the cash match share requirement (if any) may be met through in-kind match share contributions.

In-kind match share contributions are: 1) non-cash contributions provided by the Applicant; 2) cash or non-cash contributions provided by subrecipients; and 3) cash or non-cash contributions provided by other third parties. Applicant in-kind match share can be in the form of volunteer labor, real property, existing equipment, existing supplies, services provided by a third-party or subcontract, and other expendable property. The value of in-kind match is based on the fair market value of the goods and services provided at the time it is claimed as match. In-kind match share must be included in the agreement budget and supported with appropriate documentation. Cost allocations must be reasonable and allocable to the proposed project.

1. **Match Share Restrictions**
2. ***Other Sources of CEC Funding*** – Other sources of CEC funding may not be claimed as match share.
3. ***Property Not Owned by the Applicant*** – Donated property may be claimed as match based on the fair market value of renting or leasing the property. Fair market value is based on rental costs of comparable property (if any), market conditions in the area, alternatives available and the type, life expectancy, condition, and value of the property.
4. ***Existing Property Owned by the Grant Recipient*** – Applicants may use the property’s depreciation expense as a method to allocate the value of the property to the project. Valuation will need to be documented to support the initial acquisition costs as well as the method of depreciation.
5. ***Valuation of Land*** –Land cannot be depreciated. If the value of land is claimed as match, the Applicant must provide documentation to support a fair market value for the use of the land (i.e., rent or lease cost) for the time period it is used. Appraised value of land cannot be used since this represents the full value of the land if it is sold which includes value beyond the term of the proposed project.
6. ***Property Owned by a Related Party*** –Related parties are individuals or other entities that are able to control or substantially influence the actions of the Applicant and includes spouses, board members, family members of principals or employees of the Applicant as well as property owned by principals/employees of the Applicant. Because an agreement between an Applicant and a related party is a “less than arms-length” transaction, Applicants must disclose to CEC the relationship and be able to support the fair market value of property that is claimed as match.

If CEC funds are used to reimburse lease/rental payments for property owned by a related party, the Applicant can only claim the ***lesser*** of fair market value or actual lease payments, regardless of lease agreement terms.

1. ***Prorated Value of Property*** – The allowable claimed value of property must be prorated based on the percentage the property is used for the proposed project. For example, if only half of a building is being used for the proposed project, then only 50% of the monthly fair market value of the entire building can be claimed as match while the building is being used for the project.
2. ***Documentation*** – If selected for an award, all claimed match share expenditures must be adequately documented to CEC during the agreement invoicing process which may include, but is not limited to: the fair market value of existing property, methodology to allocate existing property on a prorated basis, lease agreements, and other appropriate documentation.

## Unallowable Costs (Reimbursable or Match Share)

For an item of cost to be allowable for reimbursement with CEC funds or as match share expenditure, it must be included in the executed agreement budget and allowable per the terms and conditions of the resulting agreement. The following are examples of unallowable costs under an agreement resulting from this solicitation. This list is not comprehensive and additional items of cost may be unallowable in accordance with the agreement terms and conditions.

1. ***Forgone Profit*** – For example, if a company usually charges 10% profit but only charges 4% to CEC the unclaimed difference is not an allowable item of cost.
2. ***Forgone Rent*** – For example, rent that is not paid is not an allowable item of cost.
3. ***Discounted or Refunded Equipment Costs*** – For example, a claim that equipment costs $10,000 but the grant recipient only pays $6,000 due to some “special” discount. The difference of $4,000 is not an allowable match share expense. Another example is if the grant recipient actually pays $10,000 but the vendor refunds $4,000 – only the net $6,000 is an allowable item of cost.
4. ***Forgone Salary, Fringe, Indirect or Other Types of Cost*** – For example, a person normally charges or is paid $100 per hour, but will only charge $50 per hour towards the CEC award. Only actual costs incurred and paid to the employee are allowable. Therefore, if an employee is ***actually*** paid $100 per hour and CEC only reimburses at $40 per hour, then the unreimbursed $60 per hour is an allowable match share cost because this is an actual payment as opposed to a foregone salary amount. Volunteer labor (i.e., labor from a person who does not receive any compensation for their labor) may be an allowable in-kind match share expense if the value of the labor is reasonable and justified.
5. ***Utility provided electrical upgrades and funding*** – For example, expenses that are already or to be paid for through a utility program, tariff, or other ratepayer funding. This includes ratepayer funded enrollment incentives.

# III. Application Format, Required Documents, and Delivery

## Required Format for an Application

This section contains the format requirements and instructions on how to submit an application. The format is prescribed to assist the Applicant in meeting State requirements and to enable CEC to evaluate each application uniformly and fairly. Applicants must follow all application format instructions, answer all questions, and supply all requested information.

All applications submitted under this solicitation must be typed or printed using a standard 11-point font, single-spaced, and a blank line between paragraphs. Pages must be numbered, and sections titled.

## Method for Delivery

The method of delivery for this solicitation is the [CEC’s Grant Solicitation System](https://gss.energy.ca.gov/) (GSS), available at https://gss.energy.ca.gov/. This online tool allows Applicants to submit their electronic documents to CEC prior to the date and time specified in this solicitation. Electronic files must be in Microsoft Word (.doc format) and Excel Office Suite formats unless originally provided in the solicitation in another format. Completed Budget Forms, Attachment 5, must be in Excel format.

The deadline to submit grant applications through the CEC’s GSS is **11:59 p.m**. The GSS system automatically closes at 11:59 pm. If the full submittal process has not been completed before 11:59 p.m., your application will not be considered. NO EXCEPTIONS will be entertained.

The CEC strongly encourages Applicants to upload and submit all applications by 5:00 p.m. because CEC staff will not be available after 5:00 p.m. or on weekends to assist with the upload process. And please note that while we endeavor to assist all would-be applicants, we can’t guarantee staff will be available for in-person consultation on the due date, so please plan accordingly.

Please give yourself ample time to complete all steps of the submission process: do not wait until right before the deadline to begin the process. Due to factors outside the CEC’s control and unrelated to the GSS system, upload times may be much longer than expected. For example, some past applicants experienced unexpected issues on their end, causing long delays that prevented timely submission. They spent significant time and resources on applications the CEC will not consider. Please plan accordingly. For instructions on how to apply using the GSS system, please see the How to Apply document available on the CEC website at: [https://www.energy.ca.gov/media/1654](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.energy.ca.gov%2Fmedia%2F1654&data=04%7C01%7C%7C817e9b823203445df9fb08d99e6003f0%7Cac3a124413f44ef68d1bbaa27148194e%7C0%7C0%7C637714957481962127%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=0kp4Rrki60lwhuOQrx%2F%2BM7B48HdUhQtmDQX1dGbf6Rc%3D&reserved=0).

First time users must register as a new user to access the system. Applicants will receive a confirmation email after all required documents have been successfully uploaded. A tutorial of the system will be provided at the pre-application workshop and you may contact the CAO identified in the Questions section of the solicitation for more assistance.

## Page Limitations

The number of pages for a Project Narrative is limited to 25. The number of pages for the Operations and Maintenance Plan is limited to 6. Resumes are limited to a maximum of 2 pages each.

## Application Organization

All items listed below are required as part of the application package. Failure to provide any items may result in disqualification of the application. Attachment requirements are expanded and explained below in this section and in the attachments themselves. The items that have “N/A” in the “Attachment Number” column are required to be submitted as part of the application package, but do not have an associated attachment provided in this solicitation package.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Attachment Number (if applicable)** |
| Application Form | Attachment 1 |
| Project Narrative | N/A |
| Scope of Work | Attachment 2 |
| Schedule of Products and Due Dates | Attachment 4 |
| Proposal Budget | Attachment 5 |
| Resumes | N/A |
| Contact List | Attachment 6 |
| Letters of Support/Commitment | N/A |
| CEQA Worksheet | Attachment 7 |
| Localized Health Impacts Information Form | Attachment 8 |
| Past Performance Reference Form(s) | Attachment 10 |
| Operations and Maintenance Plan | N/A |

1. **Application Form**

Applicants must include a completed Application Form shown in Attachment 1.

All Applicants must authorize CEC to make any inquiries necessary to verify the information presented in the application. Further, all Applicants must authorize CEC to obtain a credit report on the Applicant’s organization.

All Applicants must certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that:

* All information in the application is correct and complete to the best of the Applicant’s knowledge.
* The Applicant has read and understands the terms and conditions and will accept them without negotiation if awarded.
* The Applicant has received any required licenses (such as copyrights or trademarks) applicable to the submitted application.
* The person electronically submitting the application through the Grant Solicitation System is an authorized representative of the Applicant. For Applicants providing a hard copy submittal, the person signing the application is an authorized representative of the Applicant.

***For Applicants using the electronic submission through the Grant Solicitation System***, checking the “I Agree” box and clicking the “I Agree & Submit” button provides the required authorizations and certifications.

The CEC **may** have waived the requirement for a signature on application materials for this solicitation. If a notice regarding the CEC’s waiver of the signature requirement appears on the [CEC's solicitation information website](https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/solicitations): https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/solicitations, the waiver applies to this solicitation. In the event of a conflict between the notice and any language in this solicitation regarding signatures, the notice will govern.

1. **Project Narrative**

The Project Narrative must include a table of contents (which will not count towards the page limitations) and a detailed description of the proposed project, its operational goals and objectives, and an explanation of how these will be implemented through the tasks described in the Scope of Work.

Applicants must address each of the scoring criteria described in this solicitation by providing sufficient, unambiguous detail so that the evaluation team will be able to evaluate the application against each scoring criterion. The Project Description will not be scored but will help the scoring team understand the goals of the project.

The Project Narrative must respond directly to each criterion with the headings as titled below, and must include the following information:

1. **Project Description** 
   1. Clearly describe the project and include project goals and objectives. State the proposed number of Level 2 chargers to be installed and the proposed number and type of sites.
   2. Identify the project city or targeted area for installations. Include a map showing the area in which installations will occur. Include a map of Disadvantaged and Low-Income Communities for the selected area.
2. **Project Benefits**
   1. Describe how the project will demonstrate replicable and scalable business and technology models to deploy Level 2 EV charging stations. Describe the business and technology models to be tested, including any innovative features. Describe evaluation of the success of the business and technology models, including the criteria that will be used, data to be collected, and data collection and analysis methods.
   2. Describe how costs to users will be minimized.
   3. Describe plans to continue operation of the chargers beyond the six-year period required by this solicitation.
   4. Describe how the project will improve public awareness of and confidence in Level 2 charging access through high-density, high-visibility installations. Describe how public awareness and confidence and the impact of the project will be evaluated.
   5. Describe how Level 2 charging access in disadvantaged and/or low-income communities is maximized. Describe how benefits to disadvantaged and/or low-income communities are maximized. Describe how the benefits to disadvantaged and low-income communities will be evaluated.
   6. Describe the plan for enhancing visibility and increasing driver awareness of Level 2 chargers through signage, mobile or website indicators, or other methods.
   7. Describe how user and vehicle safety will be ensured. Include description of lighting and any other safety or security features.
   8. Describe how proposed charging equipment features will deter or prevent vandalism and minimize downtime.
   9. Estimate the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in terms of grams of CO2 equivalent that will be avoided if the project is implemented. Provide all assumptions. Calculate the benefit-cost score, defined as the ratio of grams of CO2 equivalent reduction per dollar of CEC investment for the proposed project term and six years of operation.
3. **Project Location** 
   1. Describe the characteristics of the project area that will make the location effective for achieving the purposes of the solicitation. Include details on the variety of users and site types (if applicable) and how users will be supported through these Level 2 installations.
   2. Describe past and/or proposed outreach to property owners, residents and potential users. Describe the intended purpose of outreach efforts and how the effectiveness of outreach will be evaluated.
   3. Explain whether and how the proposed installations will support charging by residents of multi-family housing.
   4. Explain how the project area is capable of supporting the infrastructure for the proposed number of chargers. Indicate the estimated upgrades needed for such a project based on the project location.
4. **Project Readiness**
   1. Indicate whether specific sites have been identified for installations and the degree to which the site(s) have been secured (e.g. signed site host agreement, signed leases, etc.).
   2. Explain the process and estimated timeline for securing all sites (through site host agreements) needed to complete the project. Include details on how this process can be expedited.
   3. Describe the estimated timeline for obtaining chargers and other equipment needed for EVSE infrastructure. Include details on how this process can be expedited.
   4. Describe the estimated timeline for installation and beginning of operation of chargers in the project. Include details on how this process can be expedited.
   5. Indicate current progress towards CEQA compliance and timelines for completion.
   6. Describe potential barriers or limitations and how they will be addressed.
5. **Team Qualifications**
   1. Describe the project team. Include and describe the roles of subrecipients and key partners. Indicate whether any local government agencies will have a role in the project, what those roles are, and how they will benefit the project.
   2. Describe the project team’s qualifications (including relevant expertise, experience, and skill sets) and suitability to the tasks described in the proposed scope of work. Include past experience in establishing site control, obtaining equipment and materials, performing community outreach, deploying resources to expedite project completion, and evaluating projects. Specify whether the project team has had experience installing large amounts of Level 2 chargers.
   3. Discuss the team’s ability to meet deadlines and complete milestones associated with large, complex projects.
   4. Describe the collaborations with local planning agencies, community-based organizations, utilities, site hosts, multi-family housing residents, or other stakeholders that the project team will engage in the project to ensure success.
   5. Provide any additional information related to the Past Performance Reference forms, if desired.
6. **Project Budget**
   1. Explain how the proposal budget is justifiable and reasonable relative to the project goals, objectives, and tasks defined in the scope of work.
   2. Describe in detail why CEC funds are needed.
   3. Describe how the project will minimize costs. Calculate and show the reimbursable cost per charger and cost per dispensed kilowatt-hour. Document your assumptions.
   4. Describe match funding sources and commitments, if applicable.
7. **Innovation and Sustainability**
   1. Describe any innovative or advanced charger technology (e.g. ISO 15118 Plug-and-Charge, smart charging, power sharing, real-time availability information, reservation systems, etc.) to be utilized and how it will advance the goals of this solicitation.
   2. Describe how the proposed project will minimize grid upgrades, enhance grid reliability, enable load management, or otherwise promote sustainability and innovation.
   3. Describe any mechanisms for ensuring charger access for EV drivers is maximized (i.e. mechanisms for deterring non-EV drivers from parking in designated charging spaces).
8. **Scope of Work (Attachment 2)**

Applicants must include a completed Scope of Work utilizing the template contained in Attachment 2. Instructions for completing the Scope of Work as well as a sample are included in Attachment 3. The description of activities proposed in the Project Narrative must conform to the Tasks described in the Scope of Work. Electronic files for the Scope of Work must be in MS Word.

Applicants must present a comprehensive and credible Scope of Work which includes (presented in a logical manner) comprehensive and sequential tasks, products resulting from the individual tasks, and how the tasks are related to or are dependent on each other.

1. **Schedule of Products and Due Dates (Attachment 4)**

Applicants must include a completed Schedule of Products and Due Dates. (All work must be scheduled for completion by no later than **January 31, 2028**, to allow timely processing of final invoices before the liquidation date of the funds. Instructions for the Schedule of Products and Due Dates are included in Attachment 4. The Schedule of Products and Due Dates must be in MS Excel.

1. **Budget Forms (Attachment 5)**
2. The Applicant must submit information on ***all*** tabs of the budget forms. The salaries, rates, and other costs entered must reflect the salaries, rates, and other costs the Applicant would include if selected as a grant recipient. A separate set of complete budget forms is required for the Applicant and for each subaward containing $100,000 or more of CEC funds.
3. Detailed instructions for completing these forms are included at the beginning of Attachment 5.
4. Rates and job descriptions shown must reflect rates and job descriptions charged under an agreement resulting from this solicitation. The salaries, rates, and other costs entered on these forms become a part of the final agreement. The entire term of the agreement and projected rate increases must be considered when preparing the budget. Unless a federally approved indirect rate is used, indirect rates proposed are considered capped and shall not change during the term of the agreement. The grant recipient shall only be reimbursed for their ***actual*** rates up to the indirect rate cap. A description of available indirect rate options is available on the ECAMS Resources webpage under [Budget Category Guidance](https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/funding-resources/ecams-resources/budget-category-guidance?auHash=cEItgat6JNbO9BFGeVqe4E5T6koCOgTaqliFX6bmwtg) for indirect rates. Unlike indirect rates, the rates for Direct Labor and Fringe Benefits are treated as estimates; a grant recipient can invoice at higher rates as long as it is only invoicing for ***actual*** expenditures it has made. The hourly or monthly rates provided shall be unloaded (before fringe benefits or indirect costs).
5. The information provided in these forms will ***not*** be kept confidential.
6. All reimbursable expenditures must be expended within the approved term of the grant agreement. Expenditures may be counted as match share only after CEC notifies the Applicant that its project has been proposed for an award through the release of a Notice of Proposed Awards (NOPA). However, match expenditures incurred after release of the NOPA but prior to the execution of a grant agreement are made solely at the Applicant’s own risk.
7. Applicants must budget for the expenses of a Kick-off Meeting, at least one (1) Critical Project Review meeting, and a Final meeting. Meetings may be conducted at the CEC or by conference call, as determined by the CAM.
8. Applicants must budget for permits, insurance, etc. CEC will not reimburse expenditures for permitting or insurance. However, these expenditures can be included as match share expenditure.
9. Applicants must budget for the preparation and submission of quarterly progress reports during the term of the agreement, and a Final Report. Instructions for preparing the Final Report will be provided to Applicants that are proposed for funding.
10. The purchase of equipment (defined as items with a unit cost greater than $5,000 and a useful life of greater than one year) with CEC funds will require disposition of purchased equipment at the end of the project. Typically, grant recipients may continue to utilize equipment purchased with CEC funds as long as the use is consistent with the intent of the original agreement. ***There are no disposition requirements for equipment purchased with match share funding.***
11. The Budget must reflect estimates for ***actual*** costs to be incurred during the approved term of the agreement. CEC can only approve and reimburse for actual costs that are properly documented in accordance with the grant agreement terms and conditions.
12. Applicants shall ***NOT*** budget for, and ***CANNOT*** be reimbursed for, more than their actual allowable expenses (i.e., the budget cannot include profit, fees, or markups) under the agreement. Subrecipients (all tiers) are allowed to include up to a maximum total of 10% profit, fees, or mark-ups on their own actual allowable expenses less any expenses budgeted to sub-subrecipients (i.e., profit, fees and markups are not allowed on lower tier subrecipient expenses). For example, if a subrecipient has $100,000 in actual allowable costs but has budgeted $20,000 to a sub-subrecipient, then the subrecipient can only include up to 10% profit on $80,000 ($100,000 minus $20,000). See terms and conditions for additional restrictions and requirements.
13. ***IMPORTANT - Payment of Prevailing Wage:*** Applicants must read and pay particular attention to the terms and conditions section related to Public Works and payment of Prevailing Wages. Prevailing wage rates can be significantly higher than non-prevailing wage rates. Failure to pay legally required prevailing wage rates can result in substantial damages and financial penalties, termination of the grant agreement, disruption of projects, and other complications.
14. **Resumes**

Applicants must include resumes for key personnel identified in the proposal. Resumes are limited to a maximum of 2 pages each.

1. **Contact List**

Applicants must include a completed Contact List (Attachment 6) by including the appropriate points of contact for the Applicant. CEC will complete the CEC points of contact during agreement development.

1. **Letters of Support/Commitment**

Applicants must include appropriate letters of support/commitment. Letters must include sufficient contact information, so CEC is able to efficiently contact the letter writer, as necessary. Letters must be limited to 2 pages each.

* 1. **Key Project Partners (if applicable):** Key project partners identified in the application, including the local city or municipality of installations, must provide letters demonstrating their commitment or support to the proposed project and their ability to fulfill their identified roles.
  2. **Third-party Match Share Contributors (if applicable):** Any third-party match share contributors must identify the amount of match that will be committed to the project, the funding source(s), and state that the match share contributor will provide the identified match funding. Letters of commitment from third party match share contributors must contain a telephone number and email address to allow CEC to contact the match share partner or authorized representative to confirm their authority to commit matching funds to the proposed project.
  3. **Letters of Support (optional):** Applicants are encouraged to submit letter(s) of support that substantiate the estimated demand and/or the potential benefits of the proposed project. Third-party letters of support can be provided by, but are not limited to: air districts, state or federal agencies, local safety officials, potential users of the proposed project, and any other relevant organizations.

1. **CEQA Worksheet (Attachment 7)**

Applicants must include a completed CEQA Worksheet. CEC requires this information to assist it in making its own determination under the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section §§ 21000 et seq).

Applicants must complete the detailed CEQA Worksheet and submit it with their application. This worksheet will help Applicants and CEC to determine CEQA compliance obligations by identifying which projects may require more extensive CEQA review. Failure to complete the worksheet may lead to disqualification of the application.

Applicants are encouraged to provide documentation of communication with the local lead agency, if one exists (e.g., a county or city). Documentation such as a completed notice of exemption, a letter from the local agency acknowledging its role in the CEQA process, or a permit application to the lead agency that is stamped as received. If no CEQA review would be required by the local lead agency, provide documentation (e.g. a letter or e-mail) from the local agency explaining why CEQA review is not required.

1. **Additional Requirements**

Time is of the essence. To comply with CEQA, the CEC must have CEQA-related information from Applicants and sometimes other entities, such as local governments, in a timely manner. Unfortunately, even with this information, the CEC may not be able to complete its CEQA review prior to the encumbrance deadline for every project. For example, if a project requires an Environmental Impact Report, the process to complete it can take many months. For these reasons, it is critical that Applicants organize project proposals in a manner that minimizes the time required for the CEC to comply with CEQA and provide all CEQA-related information to the CEC in a timely manner such that the CEC is able to complete its review in time for it to meet its encumbrance deadline.

**Reservation of right to cancel proposed award.** In addition to any other right reserved to it under this solicitation or that it otherwise has, if the CEC determines, in its sole and absolute discretion, that the CEQA review associated with a proposed project would not likely be completed prior to the encumbrance deadline referenced above, and that the CEC’s ability to meet its encumbrance deadline may thereby be jeopardized, the CEC may cancel a proposed award and award funds to the next highest scoring Applicant, regardless of the originally proposed Applicant’s diligence in submitting information and materials for CEQA review. Examples of situations that may arise related to CEQA review include but are not limited to:

* Example 1: If another state agency or local jurisdiction, such as a city or county, must take the role of lead agency under CEQA, the CEC’s review may be delayed while waiting for a determination from the lead agency.
* Example 2: If the proposed work is part of a larger project for which a detailed environmental analysis has been or will be prepared by another state agency or local jurisdiction, the CEC’s review may be delayed as a result of waiting for a supplemental or initial analysis, respectively, from the other agency.
* Example 3: If the nature of the proposed work is such that a project is not categorically or otherwise exempt from the requirements of CEQA, and an initial study or other detailed environmental analysis appears to be necessary, the CEC’s review, or the lead agency’s review, may take longer than the time available to encumber the funds. If an initial study or environmental impact report has already been completed by another state agency or a local jurisdiction, serving as the lead agency, the Applicant must ensure that such an analysis covers the work in the proposed project, or must obtain a revised analysis and determination from the lead agency reviewing the proposed project.
* Example 4: If the proposed project clearly falls under a statutory or categorical exemption, or is a project for which another state agency or local jurisdiction has already adopted a CEQA finding that the project will cause no significant effect on the environment, the project will likely have greater success in attaining rapid completion of CEQA requirements.

The above examples are not exhaustive of instances in which the CEC may or may not be able to comply with CEQA within the encumbrance deadline and are only provided as further clarification for potential applicants. Please plan project proposals accordingly.

1. **Localized Health Impacts Information Form (Attachment 8)**

Applicants must complete and submit a Localized Health Impacts Information Form for any sites identified in the application. CEC requires this information to assist in developing and publishing a localized health impact report.

1. **Past Performance Reference Form(s) (Attachment 10)**

Applicants must complete and submit a separate Past Performance Reference Form for each CEC agreement (e.g., contract, grant or loan) received by the Applicant in the last 10 years, including ongoing agreements, and the 5 most recent agreements with other public agencies within the past 10 years.

1. **Operation and Maintenance Plan**

Applicants must submit an Operation and Maintenance Plan detailing operation and maintenance of charging equipment for at least six years after the beginning of operation, to meet the requirements described in the Scope of Work (Attachment 2). The Plan should address, but is not limited to, preventive and corrective maintenance, recordkeeping, and reporting. The Plan should describe plans to maximize uptime, including availability of qualified technicians and replacement parts; remote monitoring, diagnostics, updates, and repairs; minimizing response time when an error is detected; proactive and ongoing efforts to ensure interoperability of chargers and vehicles; customer service, including processes for customers to report that a charger is not operational; and site host training, if applicable.

The Operation and Maintenance Plan must explain how the customer service project requirements will be met (see Scope of Work (Attachment 2)).

The Operation and Maintenance Plan must address maintenance of the charging station pedestals, and all ancillary equipment, including but not limited to any awnings, canopies, shelters, and information display kiosks or signage associated with the charging station. “Maintain,” as used in this solicitation means “to provide all needed repairs or desired and approved alteration, as well as to clean the equipment and keep it safe, clean, and presentable.”

# IV. Evaluation Process and Criteria

## Application Evaluation

This section explains how the applications will be evaluated.

Applications will be evaluated and scored based on the responses to the information requested in this solicitation and on any other information available such as past performance of CEC agreements.[[4]](#footnote-5) The entire evaluation process from receipt of applications to posting of the Notice of Proposed Award is confidential.

To evaluate all applications, CEC will organize an Evaluation Committee that may consist of CEC staff or staff of other California state entities.

* 1. **Screening Criteria**

The Contracts, Grants and Loans Office will screen applications for compliance with the Administrative Screening Criteria. The Evaluation Committee will screen applications for compliance with the Technical Screening criteria. Applications that fail any of the Administrative or Technical Screening Criteria shall be disqualified and eliminated from further evaluation.

* 1. **Administrative Screening Criteria**

| **ADMINISTRATIVE Screening Criteria**  *The Application must pass ALL administrative screening criteria.* | **Pass/Fail** |
| --- | --- |
| 1. The application is received by CEC’s Contracts, Grants, and Loans Office by the due date and time specified in the “Key Activities Schedule” in Section I of this solicitation. | Pass  Fail |
| 1. The Applicant provides the required authorizations and certifications. | Pass  Fail |
| 1. The Applicant has not included a statement that is contrary to the required authorizations and certifications. | Pass  Fail |

* 1. **Technical Screening Criteria**
  2. The Applicant is an eligible applicant.
  3. The project is an eligible project.
  4. The project meets the minimum match share requirement, if any.
  5. The Applicant passes the past performance screening criterion.
  6. The Application is complete.
  7. **Applicant’s Past Performance Screening Criterion (Pass/Fail)**

An Applicant may be disqualified under this solicitation due to severe performance issues under one or more prior or active CEC agreement(s) within the last 10 years. An Applicant is defined as at least one of the following: the business, principal investigator, or lead individual acting on behalf of themselves—received funds from the CEC (e.g., contract, grant, or loan) and entered into an agreement(s) with the CEC. Any Applicant that does not have an active or prior agreement equates to no severe performance issues and therefore would pass this screening criteria.

Severe performance issuesare characterized by significant negative outcomes under an agreement and may include:

* + Agreement was terminated with cause.
  + CEC filed litigation against the Applicant.
  + Severe audit findings are not resolved to CEC’s satisfaction. Severe audit findings may include but are not limited to: incomplete or unsatisfactory deliverables; grant funds used inappropriately (i.e., other than as represented); or questioned costs.
  + Project objectives were not met and were caused by factors that are, or should have been, within the recipient’s control.
  + Significant delays in project completion resulting in delayed benefits for California. Project completion delays of one year or more from the originally proposed project schedule and caused by factors within the recipient’s control may be considered significant.
  + Deliverables were not submitted to the CEC or were of poor quality. For example, Recipient delivered poorly written reports that required significant rework by staff prior to acceptance or publication.
  + Demonstrated and documented poor or delayed communication when significant issues or setbacks were experienced that materially and negatively impacted the project. For example, delays in informing the CEC when the recipient experienced loss of a key project partner or site control may be considered significant.
  1. **Grounds to Reject an Application**

In addition to the Screening Criteria identified within this solicitation, CEC reserves the right to reject an application and/or cancel an award if at any time during the application or agreement process for reasons including, but not limited to the following:

1. The application contains false or intentionally misleading statements or references which do not support an attribute or condition contended by the Applicant.
2. The application is intended to erroneously and fallaciously mislead the State in its evaluation of the application and the attribute, condition, or capability is a requirement of this solicitation.
3. The application does not comply or contains caveats that conflict with the solicitation and the variation or deviation is material or it is otherwise non-responsive.
4. Should the State determine Applicant is a target of Economic Sanctions or is conducting prohibited transactions with sanctioned individuals or entities, that shall be grounds for rejection of the Applicant’s bid/proposal any time prior to contract execution, or, if determined after contract execution, shall be grounds for termination by the State. (See section II.A.4 above.)
   1. **Technical Evaluation**

Applications passing all screening criteria will be submitted to the Evaluation Committee to review and score based on the Evaluation Criteria using the Scoring Scale described below.

The Evaluation Committee reserves the right to schedule a clarification interview with an Applicant that will either be held by telephone or in person at CEC for the purpose of clarification and verification of information provided in the application. However, these interviews may not be used to change or add to the contents of the original application. Applicants will not be reimbursed for time spent answering clarifying questions.

The total score for each application will be the average of the combined scores of all Evaluation Committee members. A minimum score of 70 percent is required for the application to be eligible for funding.

CEC will recommend awards to the highest ranked projects (according to total score) until available funding under this solicitation has been exhausted.

## Notice of Proposed Awards

The results of the evaluation will be posted in a Notice of Proposed Awards (NOPA) and will include (1) the total proposed funding amount; (2) the rank order of Applicants; and (3) the amount of each proposed award. CEC will publish the NOPA on the CEC’s website, and will e-mail the NOPA to all parties that submitted an application.

## Debriefings

Applicants may request a debriefing after the release of the NOPA by emailing the CAO listed in Part I. A request for debriefing should be received no later than 15 days after the NOPA is released.

## Scoring Scale

Using this Scoring Scale, the Evaluation Committee will give a score for each criterion described in the Evaluation Criteria.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **% of Possible Points** | **Interpretation** | **Explanation for Percentage Points** |
| 0% | Not Responsive | Response does not include or fails to address the requirements being scored. The omission(s), flaw(s), or defect(s) are significant and unacceptable. |
| 10-30% | Minimally Responsive | Response minimally addresses the requirements being scored. The omission(s), flaw(s), or defect(s) are significant and unacceptable. |
| 40-60% | Inadequate | Response addresses the requirements being scored, but there are one or more omissions, flaws, or defects or the requirements are addressed in such a limited way that it results in a low degree of confidence in the proposed solution. |
| 70% | Adequate | Response adequately addresses the requirements being scored. Any omission(s), flaw(s), or defect(s) are inconsequential and acceptable. |
| 75% | Between Adequate and Good | Response better than adequately addresses the requirements being scored. Any omission(s), flaw(s), or defect(s) are inconsequential and acceptable. |
| 80% | Good | Response fully addresses the requirements being scored with a good degree of confidence in the Applicant’s response or proposed solution. No identified omission(s), flaw(s), or defect(s). Any identified weaknesses are minimal, inconsequential, and acceptable. |
| 85% | Between Good and Excellent | Response fully addresses the requirements being scored with a better than good degree of confidence in the Applicant’s response or proposed solution. No identified omission(s), flaw(s), or defect(s). Any identified weaknesses are minimal, inconsequential, and acceptable. |
| 90% | Excellent | Response fully addresses the requirements being scored with a high degree of confidence in the applicant’s response or proposed solution. Applicant offers one or more enhancing features, methods or approaches exceeding basic expectations. |
| 95% | Between Excellent and Exceptional | Response fully addresses the requirements being scored with a better than excellent degree of confidence in the Applicant’s response or proposed solution. Applicant offers one or more enhancing features, methods or approaches exceeding basic expectations. |
| 100% | Exceptional | All requirements are addressed with the highest degree of confidence in the Applicant’s response or proposed solution. The response exceeds the requirements in providing multiple enhancing features, a creative approach, or an exceptional solution. |

## Evaluation Criteria

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Criterion** | **Possible Points** |
| **Project Benefits**  Applications will be evaluated on the degree to which:   * The project demonstrates replicable and scalable business and technology models to deploy Level 2 charging stations. * The business and technology models are feasible and innovative. * The evaluation of business and technology models will effectively measure the success of those models. The criteria, data, and methods support effective evaluation. * Costs to users will be minimized. * The project is likely to continue and provide benefits beyond the six-year period required by this solicitation. * The project improves public awareness of and confidence in Level 2 charging access through high-density, high-visibility installations. * The evaluation of public awareness and confidence will effectively measure those variables. The criteria, data, and methods support effective evaluation. * Level 2 charging access in disadvantaged and/or low-income communities is maximized. * Benefits for disadvantaged and low-income communities are maximized and evaluation of benefits is effective. * Visibility and driver awareness of Level 2 charging is enhanced through signage, mobile or website indicators, or other methods. * User and vehicle safety is maximized. * Charging equipment features deter or prevent vandalism and minimize downtime. * Greenhouse gas emissions reductions and benefit-cost score are maximized. | 25 |
| **Project Location**  Applications will be evaluated on the degree to which:   * The characteristics of the project city or targeted area enhances utilization of the installed Level 2 chargers. * Proposed Level 2 charger installations support a variety of user types (i.e. residents, employees, consumers, etc.). * Past and/or proposed outreach supports the goals of this solicitation and is effective. * The proposed installations will support charging by residents of multi-family housing. * The targeted area for installations is capable of supporting the infrastructure for the proposed number of chargers. | 15 |
| **Project Readiness**  Applications will be evaluated on the degree to which:   * Specific sites have been identified and secured. * The process for securing additional sites will be expedited. * The timeline for obtaining chargers and other equipment is minimized. * The timeline for installing chargers and beginning operation is minimized. * Progress towards CEQA compliance is demonstrated and timelines for completion are minimized. * Challenges or barriers to installations are identified and addressed. | 20 |
| **Team Qualifications**  Applications will be evaluated on the degree to which:   * The project team is well qualified for the tasks described in the proposed scope of work. * The project team includes or has identified engagement with a local government agency that will benefit project progress. * The project team has experience with large numbers of Level 2 charger installations. * The project team has the ability to meet deadlines and complete milestones with large, complex projects. * Collaborations with local planning agencies, community-based organizations, utilities, site hosts, multi-family housing residents, or other stakeholders will lead to project success. | 15 |
| **Project Budget**  Applications will be evaluated on the degree to which:   * The project budget is justifiable and reasonable relative to the project. * CEC funds are needed. * Costs, including cost per charger for installation and operation, are minimized. * Match funding sources and commitments are sound and will lead to project success. | 10 |
| **Innovation and Sustainability**  Applications will be evaluated on the degree to which:   * Innovative or advanced charger technology is utilized to enhance user charging experience and maximize access and utilization. * Grid impacts are minimized. | 20 |
| **Operation and Maintenance Plan**  Applications will be evaluated on the degree to which:   * The project will maximize uptime. * Operation and maintenance, as described in the Operation and Maintenance Plan, exceeds the solicitation’s minimum standards. * The Operation and Maintenance Plan demonstrates availability of qualified technicians and replacement parts. Remote monitoring, diagnostics, updates, and repairs will effectively measure and reduce downtime. * The Applicant effectively addresses interoperability of chargers and vehicles. * Customer service and site host training support awareness of and prompt attention to chargers that are not operational. | 15 |
| **Total Possible Points** | 120 |
| **Minimum Passing Score (70%)** | 84 |

## Bonus Points

Bonus Points will be awarded to projects that install additional Level 2 chargers beyond the minimum requirement based on the following formula:

* An additional 1 point will be added to the overall score for each additional 25 Level 2 chargers beyond the minimum requirement.

Example for a Larger City: Applicants proposing to install 350 chargers will receive an additional 2 points to be added to the total score. (Minimum charger count = 300; 50 additional chargers = 2 points)

Example for a Smaller City with a population of 150,000: Applicants proposing to install 300 chargers will receive an additional 3 points (Minimum charger count = 225; 75 additional chargers = 3 points).

The maximum number of bonus points an Applicant can receive is 8.

**Exception:** An application that does not receive a passing score under the evaluation criteria will not receive Bonus Points.

## Tie Breakers

If the score for two or more applications are tied, the application with a higher score in the Project Location criterion will be ranked higher. If still tied, an objective tiebreaker (such as a random drawing) will be utilized.

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# V. Administration

## Definition of Key Words

Important definitions for this solicitation are presented below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Word/Term** | **Definition** |
| Applicant | Respondent to this solicitation |
| Application | Formal written response to this document from Applicant |
| CAM | Commission Agreement Manager |
| Federally-recognized California Native American Tribe | A Native American Tribe that is on the United States Department of Interior’s list of Indian Entities Recognized by and Eligible To Receive Services From the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs, in the federal register, and the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission for the purposes of Chapter 905 of the Statutes of 2004. |
| California Tribal Organization | A corporation, association, or group controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by a Federally-recognized California Native American Tribe that is subject to its laws, the laws of the State of California, or the laws of the United States. |
| CAO | Commission Agreement Officer |
| CEC | California Energy Commission |
| Direct Current (DC) Fast Charger | Equipment that provides charging through a direct-current plug, typically at a rate of 50 kilowatts or higher. |
| Disadvantaged Community | Community disproportionately burdened by multiple sources of pollution and with population characteristics that make them more sensitive to pollution. Disadvantaged communities are census tracts that score within the top 25th percentile of California Environmental Protection Agency CalEnviroScreen 4.0 scores and include areas of high pollution and low population, such as ports. |
| Electric Vehicle Charging Station | A location where one or more EVSEs are installed to charge EVs. |
| Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP) | The Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program provides training and certification for electricians installing electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE). |
| Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE)/Charger | Equipment designed to supply power to EVs. |
| GAAP | Generally Accepted Accounting Principles |
| GFO | Grant Funding Opportunity |
| GHG | Greenhouse gas |
| Level 1 Charging | Electric vehicle charging at 110/120 volts |
| Level 2 Charging | Electric vehicle charging at 208/240 volts |
| Low-income Community | Census tracts with median household incomes at or below 80 percent of the statewide median income or with median household incomes at or below the threshold designated as low income by the Department of Housing and Community Development’s list of state income limits adopted under Section 50093. |
| Multi-Family Housing (MFH) | Residential properties with multiple dwelling units excluding single-family dwellings (detached), duplexes, triplexes, townhomes, and mobile homes |
| Non-Profit Organization | An entity filing as and operating under the Internal Revenue Service’s requirements for a 501(c)(3) corporation |
| NOPA | Notice of proposed award |
| Plug-in Electric Vehicles (PEVs) | Zero-emission vehicles that run at least partially on battery power and are recharged from the electricity grid. There are two types of PEVs: pure battery-electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles. |
| Recipient | An Applicant awarded a grant under this solicitation |
| Solicitation | Grant Funding Opportunity, which refers to this entire solicitation document and all its attachments and exhibits |
| State | State of California |
| Tribal Lands | Lands that constitutes “Indian country,” as defined by 18 U.S.C. § 1151, or that otherwise fall under the ownership or jurisdiction of a Federally-recognized California Native American Tribe. |
| Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) | Vehicles that produce zero emissions from the on-board source of power. |

## Cost of Developing Application

The Applicant is responsible for the cost of developing an application, and this cost cannot be charged to the State.

## Confidential Information

CEC will not accept or retain any applications that have any portion marked confidential.

## Solicitation Cancellation and Amendments

It is CEC’s policy not to solicit applications unless there is a bona fide intention to award an agreement. However, if it is in the State’s best interest, CEC reserves the right, in addition to any other rights it has, to do any of the following:

* Cancel this solicitation;
* Revise the amount of funds available under this solicitation;
* Amend this solicitation as needed; and/or
* Reject any or all applications received in response to this solicitation.

If the solicitation is amended, CEC will post an addendum on the CEC’s solicitation information website at https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/solicitations.

## Errors

If an Applicant discovers any ambiguity, conflict, discrepancy, omission, or other error in the solicitation at any time prior to 5:00 p.m. of the application deadline date, the Applicant shall immediately notify CEC of the error in writing and request modification or clarification of the solicitation. The CEC will provide modifications or clarifications by written notice to all entities that requested the solicitation, without divulging the source of the request for clarification. CEC shall not be responsible for failure to correct errors.

## Modifying or Withdrawal of Application

An Applicant may, by e-mail to the CAO, withdraw or modify a submitted application before the deadline to submit applications. Applications cannot be changed after that date and time. An application cannot be “timed” to expire on a specific date. For example, a statement such as the following is non-responsive to the solicitation: “This application and the cost estimate are valid for 60 days.”

## Immaterial Defect

CEC may waive any immaterial defect or deviation contained in an application. CEC’s waiver shall in no way modify the application or excuse an Applicant proposed for funding from full compliance with solicitation requirements.

## Disposition of Applicant’s Documents

The entire evaluation process from receipt of applications up to the posting of the Notice of Proposed Award is confidential. On the Notice of Proposed Award posting date, or date of solicitation cancellation, all applications and related material submitted in response to this solicitation become a part of the property of the State and public record. Applicants who want any work examples they submitted with their applications returned to them shall make this request and provide either sufficient postage or a Courier Charge Code to fund the cost of returning the examples.

## Applicants’ Admonishment

This solicitation contains the instructions governing the requirements for a firm quotation to be submitted by interested Applicants, the format in which the technical information is to be submitted, the material to be included, the requirements which must be met to be eligible for consideration, and Applicant responsibilities. Applicants must take the responsibility to carefully read the entire solicitation, ask appropriate questions in a timely manner, submit all required responses in a complete manner by the required date and time, and make sure that all procedures and requirements of the solicitation are followed and appropriately addressed.

## Agreement Requirements

The content of this solicitation shall be incorporated by reference into the final agreement. See the sample agreement terms and conditions included in this solicitation.

CEC reserves the right to negotiate with Applicants to modify the project scope, the level of funding, or both. If CEC is unable to successfully negotiate and execute a funding agreement with an Applicant, CEC, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to cancel the pending award and fund the next highest ranked eligible project.

CEC must formally approve all proposed grant awards. Clean Transportation Program agreements for over $75,000 must be scheduled and considered at a CEC Business Meeting for approval by the CEC.

Public agencies proposed for funding under this solicitation must provide an authorizing resolution approved by their governing authority to enter into an agreement with CEC and designating an authorized representative to sign.

CEC will send the approved agreement, including the general Terms and Conditions and any additional terms and conditions, to the grant recipient for review, approval, and signature. Once the grant recipient signs, CEC will fully execute the agreement. Recipients are approved to begin the project only after full execution of the agreement.

## No Agreement Until Signed and Approved

No agreement between CEC and an Applicant is in effect until the agreement is approved at a CEC Business Meeting, and signed by both the grant recipient and the CEC.

CEC reserves the right to modify the award documents prior to executing the agreement.

1. Cubit. [California Cities by Population](https://www.california-demographics.com/cities_by_population). <https://www.california-demographics.com/cities_by_population> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. CalEPA. [Final Designation of Disadvantaged Communities](https://calepa.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2022/05/Updated-Disadvantaged-Communities-Designation-DAC-May-2022-Eng.a.hp_-1.pdf). <https://calepa.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2022/05/Updated-Disadvantaged-Communities-Designation-DAC-May-2022-Eng.a.hp_-1.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. CEC defines “ISO 15118 ready” as any EVSE capable of all the following: 1) Powerline carrier-based (PLC-based) high-level communications as specified in ISO 15118-3; 2) Secure management and storage of keys and certificates; 3) Transport layer security (TLS) version 1.2; additional support for TLS 1.3 or subsequent versions is recommended; 4) Remotely receiving updates to activate or enable ISO 15118 use cases; 5) Ability to connect to a network's back-end software. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. The [Past Performance Evaluation](https://www.energy.ca.gov/media/6595) is available on the CEC website at: https://www.energy.ca.gov/media/6595 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)