

California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)



Equity Initiatives and Clean Energy Access Grant Program

Low Income Oversight Board

October 13, 2023



California Public
Utilities Commission

Background

- In 2022, the California Legislature appropriated \$30 million in the Budget Act of 2022 (AB 179) for capacity grants to Tribes and community-based organizations (CBOs) for participation in the CPUC decision-making process and to make clean energy programs more accessible to underserved and underrepresented communities.
- The Equity and Access (E&A) Grant Program was created to implement this legislation.
- Available for grantmaking until June 30, 2025. Must be spent by June 30, 2027

Funding Summary

Funding Account	Maximum Grant Award	Tribal Reserved Funds	General Non-Reserved	Total Available in Account
Public Participation	\$15,000 (org max)	\$300,000	\$2,800,000	\$3,100,000
Equity, Engagement, and Education	\$200,000	\$750,000	\$9,000,000	\$9,750,000
Clean Energy Access	\$500,000	\$1,950,000	\$13,700,000	\$15,650,000

Application Windows

Application Window	Date
Public Participation	September 8, 2023
Equity, Engagement, and Education	Cycle 1: September 8 – October 31, 2023 Cycle 2: Spring 2024
Clean Energy Access	Cycle 1: Late 2023 /Early 2024 Cycle 2: Summer 2024

www.cpuc.ca.gov/capacitygrants

Apply, Ask, and Stay Informed

Application Materials and Sign up for Updates:

www.cpuc.ca.gov/capacitygrants

Questions and Email Applications:

capacitygrants@cpuc.ca.gov

Online Application Portal:

Coming soon.

Sign up for updates!

Subscribe to the Equity and Access Grant Program e-mail list to receive updates.

Email

Full Name

Organization

By submitting this form, you are consenting to receive marketing emails from: California Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA, 94102, US, <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov>. You can revoke your consent to receive emails at any time by using the SafeUnsubscribe® link, found at the bottom of every email.
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Sign up!

Thank you!



California Public Utilities Commission

Questions? Capacitygrants@cpuc.ca.gov

www.cpus.ca.gov/capacitygrants

Eligible Applicants

Applicants eligible to apply for the CPUC's Equity Initiatives and Clean Energy Grant Program include:

- A California community-based organization holding a current tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- A California Native American Tribe. For the purposes of this grant, this includes all Federally Recognized Tribes, and other California Native Americans, as defined by Public Resources Code Section 21073 "California Native American tribe" means a Native American tribe located in California that is on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission for the purposes of Chapter 905 of the Statutes of 2004.
- Tribal entities organizations incorporated under tribal law and wholly owned by the tribe, Tribal Section 17 Corporations, Tribal utilities and authorities operated under tribal law.

Public Participation Grant Program

General Description

- The **Public Participation Grant** program is intended to remove financial and capacity-based barriers to participation while creating a flexible and accessible process to apply for and receive compensation.
- Compensates organizations for their time for participating in day-to-day Commission activities that drives and influences policy decisions.
- This program aligns with the CPUC's Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan's vision to create participation pathways and compensate CBOs and tribes for the time and effort spent contributing critical perspectives that assist the CPUC to make just and equitable decisions reflecting diverse viewpoints.

Equity, Engagement, and Education Grants

General Description

The **Equity, Engagement and Education Grant** program seeks to:

- Ensure the views of underrepresented communities are heard in the decision-making processes of CPUC and other state agencies by enabling the formal participation of tribes and CBO's.
- Increase participation and build the long-term capacity of tribes and CBOs so that they will have the ability to receive payment for ongoing work through the Intervenor Compensation program (IComp) and other funding programs.
- Activities in this category may include hiring consultants or technical experts, community engagement and outreach related to CPUC proceedings, education, training and curriculum development, and partnership and coalition development.

Clean Energy Access Grants

Total proposed funding: \$15,000,000

Per-grant proposed funding: up to \$500,000

Application and funding cycle: Awards in Late 2023 and Summer of 2025

- This program will provide grants for the purpose of developing equity initiatives and clean energy access opportunities for eligible applicants.
- Provides funding to develop plans and bridge gaps in clean energy access programs at the community level.
- Program **does NOT** pay for infrastructure buildout. i.e. hardware or equipment.
- A clean energy Subject Matter Expert will be available to provide technical assistance
- Projects activities include: Microgrid Incentive Program (MIP), Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP), and TECH Initiative