



2025-2026 California Climate Investments Wildfire Prevention (WP) Grants Frequently Asked Questions

Grant Request Limits:

- The recommended funding amount is \$950,000 or less for both Prop 4 and CCI Funds.
- Project equipment not to exceed a cumulative total of \$750,000.

Are School Districts Eligible?

Yes, School districts fall under the Special Districts for eligibility.

Are Universities Eligible?

Yes, for both CCI and Prop 4 funding.

Can we use the funding to perform work on private land?

Yes, but you must secure written permission from the owner prior to conducting work on that property.

Is planting allowed?

Planting is not an allowable activity under WP Grants.

Is maintenance allowed on previously created Hazardous Fuel Breaks?

Yes. Projects that demonstrate that they are providing maintenance of existing fuels reduction projects paid for by CAL FIRE or any other funding sources (i.e., other state funds, federal funds, or private funds).

Can we upload our own maps to the Project Mapping Program?

You cannot upload your own shapefile maps through the Project Mapping Program. You will need to draw Geopoints and Polygon's in the Project Mapping Program. You will also upload PDF maps within the Grants Portal.

How will projects be mapped?

- Applicants will be required to map proposed project locations in the Project Mapping Program and on pdf maps submitted through Grants Portal.
- Awarded grantees must provide project data reporting to CAL FIRE, including but not limited to, treated acres. CAL FIRE will provide grantees with the specific metrics and the reporting process.

Are Fiscal Sponsor Fees allowed to be included in the grant total along with other costs and expenses?

Yes, if these costs are directly related to the grant project. The fees will be evaluated as part of the overall grant budget.

Can a project do fuel reduction initially and have a maintenance component to the end of the agreement?

Yes. For example, you can write in your application that for the first year you're doing fuel reduction and the last several years you're doing maintenance

What is an in-kind contribution or matching?

Matching or in-kind contributions are any contribution to the project (financial, volunteer time, employee time [paid by another funding source], services funded by another source, etc.) that contributes to the achievement of the deliverables spelled out in the project application. CAL FIRE resources may not be used as match (i.e., crew day value).

Would applying for two grants from different sources at the same time negate our application through the Wildfire Prevention Grant Program?

Applying for multiple grant programs at the same time would not negate the application. However, it is expected that you would not enter an additional grant contract award for the same activities of the same project. If portions of the project were split, grants could be obtained from different sources for the split portions, not to exceed 100% of the project value. Attempts to bill two grants for the same work within a project would likely result in legal action by the State against the grantee.

Commercialization of forest products may occur as a part of work conducted during the grant. Since forest products income fluctuates, how can a potential grantee account for this during the application and grant phases of the project?

If commercializing occurs as a part of the process, any revenue from timber products will have to offset operating expenses. It is recommended that you use the price of forest products at the time of application to generate an estimate for budgeting purposes and not to speculate on the future price of any forest products expected to be generated by project implementation. The income must be accounted for as a net zero gain in the project budget by the end of the project.

Will the grant pay for State Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) application fees or costs to have CEQA work completed?

Yes. These items should be included in the budget worksheet for your project. Standard DFW fees for CEQA can be found at <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/CEQA/Fees>.

As a grantee, do we ever take possession of any funds?

If your project is selected for funding, there will be a mechanism for periodic reimbursement of the completed project work. Additionally, advanced payment of funds is allowed per the Advance Payment of Grant Funds section in the Wildfire Prevention Grants Program Procedural Guide.

May an applicant submit additional documents with their application (i.e., cover letter, letters of support from fire safe councils, county representatives, etc.)?

Yes. We are interested in letters of support, but they should be submitted in your application by the grant application due date to be considered. They will help illustrate community support, and meaningful benefits for the project. Please reference the project tracking number within the document and utilize the appropriate document naming convention for the electronic files when possible.

Can the grantee purchase Fire Engines or Water Tenders?

No. The Grantee can only purchase equipment utilized for wildfire prevention activities not for fire suppression activities. **Will this program pay for structural improvements to habitable structures?**

No. The Wildfire Prevention Grants program is not intended to pay for structural improvements such as but not limited to ember changing vents, roof replacements and fire resistive fencing.