



**Updated: 5 April 2024**

## **Notice of Funding Availability**

### **Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program**

**FY 2023 - 2024**

TO: All Potential Applicants

FROM: EHCRP Staff, Governor's Office of Planning and Research

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY – TOTAL OF \$20 MILLION FOR PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION GRANT AWARDS FOR ROUND 1 OF THE EXTREME HEAT AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PROGRAM

The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) is pleased to announce the availability of funding for Round 1 of the Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program (EHCRP) through this Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). OPR anticipates that \$20 Million will be available for competitive awards in Round 1. Funding for the EHCRP is provided by the General Fund. All applicants must submit the "Pre-Application Interest Form" to access the Full Application Form via the online platform Submittable.

## PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program will fund planning and implementation projects to reduce the impacts of extreme heat and build community resilience. The Program will build frameworks for change and invest in local, regional, and tribal projects that strengthen communities that are vulnerable to heat.

OPR through ICARP administers the EHCRP and received funds to implement the program through the provision of grants and staff support. The EHCRP Grant Guidelines include relevant information for potential applicants, including the components and criteria that should be submitted in an application. Depending on the grant type, applications can request between \$100,000 and \$4 Million in total state funding for planning and implementation projects spanning up to thirty months.

### **Applicant Eligibility**

Eligible applicants may include but are not limited to: Local and Regional Public Entities, California Native American Tribes, a Native American Tribe that is on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for the purposes of Chapter 905 of the Statutes of 2004 (Pub. Resources Code, § 21073), Community-Based Organizations, Academic Institutions, and Coalitions, collaboratives, or associations of nonprofit organizations that are fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3) non-profit or academic institution.

### **Grant Types**

OPR EHCRP reserves the right to reallocate funds between EHCRP Round 1 Grant types in the event of undersubscription and/or awardee or applicant ineligibility.

#### **Planning Grants**

**Small Planning Grants:** A total of \$3 million will be available for Small Planning Grants, with each award ranging from \$100,000 to \$250,000.

**Large Planning Grants:** A total of \$5 million will be available for Large Planning Grants with each award ranging from \$300,000 and \$750,000.

Planning grants are intended to support extreme heat relief and resilience efforts in communities across the state. Small Planning Grants are available to communities that want to build capacity, conduct pre-development activities, develop partnership, and conduct small scale planning to advance response efforts and/or build long-term resilience to extreme heat. Large planning grants are designed to plan community-wide programs and/or infrastructure that can transform how communities address extreme heat. Large planning grants should mature partnerships and build support for more resilient communities through deep community engagement.

## Implementation Grants

**Small Implementation Grants:** A total of \$3 million will be available for Small Implementation Grants with each award ranging from \$100,000 and \$450,000.

**Large Implementation Grants:** A total of \$9 million will be available for Large Implementation Grants with each award ranging from \$500,000 and \$4 million.

Implementation Grants fund new or existing projects that include programs to increase awareness and provide resources and/or infrastructure that addresses extreme heat and community resilience. Small Implementation Grants are projects that lead to extreme heat relief and demonstration of action. Large Implementation Grants are more comprehensive projects with multiple types of combined solutions.

## Partnership Requirements

### Small Grant Types: Co-Applicant Requirements

Applicants for Small Planning Grants and Small Implementation Grants are not required to apply with a Co-Applicant at the time of application. If applying without a Co-Applicant, Applicants are required include partnership development in project workplan and budget.

### Large Grant Types: Co-Applicant Requirements

**Applicants for Large Planning Grants and Large Implementation Grants should apply with Co-Applicant.** Community-based organization and Coalition Lead Applicants should apply with a local or regional public entity and/or Tribal co-applicant. Local and Regional public entity and academic institution Lead Applicants should apply with a community-based organization or Coalition Co-Applicant. Applicants who apply without a Co-Applicant and do not provide necessary justification and meet the requirements set forth in the grant guidelines will be deemed ineligible for grant consideration.

Please note that **tribal Lead-Applicants do not need to apply with a Co-Applicant** for any grant type, including Large Planning Grants or Large Implementation Grants. If applying without a Co-Applicant, Applicants are required include partnership development in project workplan and budget.

## Application Process

### Phase 1: EHCRP Pre-Application Interest Form

On January 29, 2024, staff released the EHCRP Pre-Application Interest Form on the EHCRP website which constitutes the first phase of the application process. Prospective Applicants are required to complete the Pre-Application Interest Form to indicate their intent to apply and gain access to the Full Application. Completing the Pre-Application Interest Form also allows prospective Applicants to provide a broad overview of their proposed project, contact information, and estimated budget. EHCRP staff strongly encourage Applicants to fill out the form as soon as they are able.

Applicants should also complete the Pre-Application Interest Form to indicate interest in application Technical Assistance (TA). Applicants interested in being considered for Application TA should submit the Pre-Application Interest Form as soon as possible and no later than **March 5, 2024, at 5 p.m. PST.**

Completed Pre-Application Interest Forms will be accepted on a rolling basis from **January 29, 2024 – May 7, 2024, 11:59 p.m. PST.**

### **Phase 2: Full Application Form**

On January 29, 2024, staff released the EHCRP Full Application Form which constitutes the second phase of the application process. The Full Application Form will be provided via email to all prospective Applicants who completed the EHCRP Pre-Application Interest Form.

Completed Full Application Forms will be accepted on a rolling basis from **January 29, 2024 – May 7, 2024, 11:59 p.m. PST.**

Below is a summary of the components included in the Full Application Form:

- Narrative Questions
- Application Workbook
- If Applicable, required documentation
- Letter of Support

All these Application materials and associated templates are available within the online Submittable application.

Application resources are available on [OPR's website](#) including how to access and submit an application via Submittable. The anticipated date of announcement for the selection of grant recommendations is Summer 2024.

Applications must meet all eligibility requirements upon submission. Applications with material inconsistencies will not be rated and ranked. Modification of the application by the applicant after submission is prohibited. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the application is clear, complete, and accurate.

After the application deadline, EHCRP staff may request clarifying information or inquire as to where the application-specific information is located provided that such information does not affect the competitive rating of the application. No information, whether written or oral, will be solicited or accepted if this information would result in a competitive advantage to an applicant or a competitive disadvantage to other applicants.

## **Application Scoring**

OPR EHCRP staff will first evaluate applications to ensure that they are both eligible and complete. Next, an interagency review panel will evaluate applications using the “Scoring Criteria” included in the EHCRP R1 Final Guidelines.

**Small Planning/Implementation Grants:** Applicants for Small Planning Grants and Small Implementation Grants will receive a single score out of 100 points. EHCRP staff will recommend awards based on these scores. Thereafter, OPR will make final awards.

**Large Planning/Implementation Grants:** Applicants for Large Planning Grants and Large Implementation grants will receive a single score out of 90 points. Top scoring applicants will be invited to a final interview or site visit scored out of 10 points. EHCRP staff will recommend awards based on these scores. Thereafter, OPR will make final awards.

## **Basis of Appeals**

1. Upon receipt of a notice that an application has been determined to be ineligible, fail threshold review, or not awarded based on final scores, EHCRP Applicants under this NOFA may appeal such decision(s) to OPR pursuant to this section.
2. Appeals submitted by an applicant appealing a decision of OPR relating to another Applicant’s eligibility, point score, award, denial of award, or any other matter related thereto, will not be considered.
3. The appeal process provided herein applies solely to the decision of OPR made in this program NOFA and does not apply to any decisions made with respect to any previously issued NOFAs or decisions to be made pursuant to future program NOFAs.

## **Appeal Process and Deadlines**

1. Process: To file an appeal, EHCRP Grant Applicants should submit to OPR, by the deadline set forth below, a written appeal, which states all relevant facts, arguments, and evidence upon which the appeal is based. Furthermore, the Applicant should provide a detailed reference to the area or areas of the application that provide clarification and substantiation for the basis of the appeal. No new or additional information known to the Applicant at the time they submitted their original application, and which could have been provided in the original application to provide a competitive advantage to the Applicant, will be considered. Once the written appeal is submitted to OPR, no information of materials will be accepted or considered thereafter. Appeals must be submitted to OPR at [icarp.grants@opr.ca.gov](mailto:icarp.grants@opr.ca.gov).
2. Filing deadline: Appeals must be received by OPR no later than five business days from the date of OPR’s threshold review or score letters, representing OPR’s decision made in response to the application.

## Appeal Decision

Any request to appeal to OPR's decision regarding an EHCRP Grant application shall be reviewed for consistency with the EHCRP Guidelines, its goals, and this NOFA. All decisions rendered are final, binding, and conclusive, and constitute the final action of OPR.

## Grant Application Support

ICARP staff will provide various forms of technical assistance during the application window.

### Technical Assistance (TA)

To aid the development of competitive Proposals, EHCRP will provide application TA to eligible Applicants through a third-party provider ([Civix](#)). Depending on the volume of interest received, OPR will prioritize Applicants from Funding Target communities (including California Native American Tribes and Disadvantaged Communities) and applicant capacity. Applicants should complete the Pre-Application Interest Form as soon as possible and no later than **March 5, 2024, at 5 p.m. PST** to indicate interest in application Technical Assistance (TA).

### Application Workshops

Staff will hold multiple optional webinars. Application webinars will be available via the internet (Zoom) and phone call. Dates, times, and locations listed on the EHCRP webpage. ICARP staff will ensure that the workshops are accessible virtually and via phone.

EHCRP staff and technical assistance (TA) will also provide support to individual applicants through office hours and email.

During the application process, direct questions to ICARP staff through the address or contact information listed below:

Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP)

Governor's Office of Planning and Research

1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, California 95814

Telephone: (916) 758-0597

E-mail: [icarp.grants@opr.ca.gov](mailto:icarp.grants@opr.ca.gov)

Applicants may ask questions during application webinars or submit written questions via mail or electronic mail. EHCRP staff will offer drop-in technical assistance office hours and the opportunity to meet 1:1 with OPR staff to discuss application questions throughout the entire application period. ICARP will respond to all questions with a high-level question-and-answer (Q&A) document that will be posted on the EHCRP webpage and announce the release of this document through ICARP e-blasts. Any verbal communication with ICARP

staff concerning this solicitation is not binding to the State and will in no way alter a specification, term, or condition of the solicitation. Therefore, all communication should be directed in writing to assigned ICARP staff using the contact information above.

## **OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **State Prevailing Wages**

Program funds awarded under this NOFA are subject to State prevailing wage law, as set forth in Labor Code Section 1720 et seq., and require the payment of prevailing wages unless the project meets one of the exceptions of Labor Code 1720 (c) as determined by the Department of Industrial Relations. Applicants are urged to seek professional advice as to how to comply with State prevailing wage law.

### **Disclosure Application of Information**

Information provided in the EHCRP Grant applications will become a public record available for review pursuant to the Public Records Act. As such, any materials provided will be disclosable to any person making a public records request. Applicants should use discretion in providing information that is not specifically requested, including, but not limited to bank account numbers, personal phone numbers and home addresses. By providing this information in an application, the applicant waives any claim of confidentiality and consents to the public disclosure of all submitted material. Awarded applications will be posted on the OPR website.

### **Right to Modify or Suspend**

OPR reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to suspend, amend, or modify the provisions of this NOFA at any time, including without limitation, the amount of funds available hereunder. If such an action occurs, EHCRP staff will notify all interested parties via email and will post the revisions to the EHCRP website.

### **Conflicts**

In the event of any conflict between the terms of this NOFA and either applicable state or federal law or regulation, the terms of the applicable state or federal law or regulation shall control.

## **RESOURCES AND QUESTIONS**

Information about the EHCRP, including the Program Guidelines, application resources, technical assistance, and other resources can be found at the following website:  
<https://opr.ca.gov/climate/icarp/grants/extreme-heat-community-resilience.html>.

Questions may be directed to the EHCRP by email at [icarp@opr.ca.gov](mailto:icarp@opr.ca.gov).