



## COMMUNITY INNOVATION GRANT

### BACKGROUND

East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) is a Community Choice Energy program serving Alameda County. EBCE supplies cleaner electricity at lower rates while reinvesting revenues in our communities to create local green energy jobs, local programs, and clean power projects.

EBCE's vision for Alameda County is found in the Local Development Business Plan (LDBP), a framework developed with community input for accelerating clean energy investments that enhance workforce development, promote stronger local economic activity, and increase community resilience. The LDBP outlines various financial and non-financial resources for non-profit and community organizations to help accomplish these goals.

### GRANT OVERVIEW

The Community Innovation Grant will award up to a total of \$160,000 in funding to non-profit and community-based organizations for projects designed to deliver energy-related social and environmental benefits to residents of Alameda County. Proposed projects will be evaluated based on criteria that assess an application's alignment with EBCE's goals and mission. EBCE's grant resources can be financial and/or non-financial in nature. For example, applicants can request EBCE staff volunteers, consultations, data accessibility, or written support of community-led projects. The grant application (e-form) will be available on EBCE's website on April 15th.

### GRANT ELIGIBILITY

Community-based non-profits, 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(5) are eligible to apply for up to \$40,000. While applicants are not required to have offices located within EBCE's service territory, applications will be evaluated based on total local contributions (see Project Requirements in the table below). Proposed projects can be existing or new. If the proposed project is existing, please provide an explanation on how grant funds will support a new project element or scaling effort.

### GRANT PROJECT OBJECTIVES

EBCE seeks proposals from organizations that meet the following project objectives:

*Must meet the following criteria (primary):*

- Deliver local community benefits
- Advance innovation and collaboration

*And must meet at least two out of the following four (secondary) criteria:*

- Identify or develop local renewable energy projects
- Encourage community health
- Scalable and replicable
- Increase energy literacy



## GRANT EVALUATION

| Criteria   | Definition(s)   | Weight |
|--|---|--------|
| Primary Project Objectives (meets all two)                     |   | 70%    |
| Community Benefits   | Delivers local energy-related benefits to targeted communities (e.g. low-income, disadvantaged, EJ, and/or hard-to-reach groups) in areas such as job creation, workforce development, economic empowerment, and climate and social resilience. | 50%    |
| Innovation and Collaboration                                   | New, community collaborative approaches to eliminating or reducing energy-related environmental or economic community impacts.  | 20%    |
| Secondary Project Objectives (meets two of the following four) |   | 30%    |
| Local, renewable energy projects                               | Proposes plans to identify or develop local renewable electricity in Alameda County that increases community access to or ownership of clean energy.  | 15%    |
| Community Health   | Reduces GHG, local criteria pollutants or energy bills in communities demonstrating an impact on local community health and quality of life.  | 15%    |
| Scalability  | Is able to be expanded across other EBCE communities and beyond.  | 15%    |
| Increase Energy Literacy                                       | Proposes plans to increase participation and public understanding of energy concepts and programs.  | 15%    |
| Project Requirements (meets all two)                           |   |        |
| Project Feasibility  | Project includes staffing capability. Organization showcases applicable skills to carry project. Budget is less than or equal to \$40,000 and reasonable for project scope.   |        |
| Local Impact   | Project includes key performance indicators (KPIs) that are identifiable, measurable, enduring, and local to EBCE's communities.  |        |

## GRANT TIMELINE

- April 16, 2019: Request for Proposals Issued
- April 23, 2019 (11 AM): Community Innovation Grant Webinar hosted by EBCE staff
- May 10, 2019 (5 PM): Online application is due via EBCE website
- May 13, 2019: Community Innovation Grant committee review submissions
- May 24, 2019: Grants are awarded
- June 1, 2020: Grant objectives intended to be completed

Timeline subject to change. Applicants will be notified immediately if changes occur.

## CONTACTS

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