Contact Us | **Grants Portal**

Who is eligible to apply?

The California Fire Foundation directs support to the following California-based organizations providing services to their communities and throughout the state:

- Fire Departments
- Firefighter Associations
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Tribal Governments and Tribal Nonprofit Organizations

Other groups may apply when doing so in collaboration with one of the above-referenced entities, including fiscal agents.

What is a Firefighter Association?

For the purposes of this funding cycle, a "Firefighter Association" includes a California-based IAFF-affiliated local **-or-** an association or group whose members are personnel of a recognized fire department, including volunteer members or paid on call members, and who are responsible for, or are in a capacity that includes responsibility for, the extinguishment of fires, the directing of the extinguishment of fires, the prevention and detection of fires, and the enforcement of the general fire laws of California.

My organization is in the process of receiving its 501(c)(3) designation -- can we still apply?

Yes, if done so in partnership with a fire department, firefighter association or 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization located in California and that entity serves as lead applicant.

Can my Homeowners' Association apply for funding?

Yes, if your association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in California **-or-** you submit an application in collaboration with a California-based fire department, firefighter association or 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and that entity serves as lead applicant.

What focus areas are supported?

The California Fire Foundation supports projects actively addressing wildfire preparedness and/or prevention needs that protect and enhance the public's safety or the safety of California's firefighters and other first responders, including:

- Vegetation Mitigation & Fuels Reduction
- Education, Planning and/or Community Outreach Campaigns
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Specialized Firefighting Equipment

How do I know if our project serves a high fire-threat area?

Refer to the California Public Utilities Commission-adopted [fire threat map](#), which identifies areas of heightened fire risk. Tier 1 areas have an acceptable level of wildfire risk, Tier 2 areas have an elevated risk, and Tier 3 areas have an extreme risk. Also helpful is [this run-down](#) of California counties by Tier 2 and Tier 3 fire threat.

Does the California Fire Foundation prioritize funding requests?

Yes. In this cycle, funding priority will be given to projects that are grounded in and responsive to under-resourced or disinvested communities or historically marginalized populations, with particular emphasis given to those serving areas of heightened fire risk.

What are under-resourced and historically marginalized communities?

Communities with high poverty rates, high unemployment, low incomes or low-wage workers, and economically disadvantaged populations. Additionally, people of color, women, LGBTQ+, the disabled, senior citizens and older adults, and the uninsured and under-insured often experience greater barriers to resources and, therefore, worse outcomes when disaster strikes.

Do you require matching funds as a condition for receiving a grant?

No

May a grant be used to help satisfy another funder's matching funds requirement?

Yes

Can I submit more than one request?

No. **Only one** grant application per organization, per funding cycle may be submitted for consideration. Fire departments and firefighter associations serving/representing the same community **are eligible** to **individually apply** for funding in this cycle**.**

May I email or mail our application to the California Fire Foundation?

No. The California Fire Foundation accepts grant applications through [our online system](#). If you don't have access to the internet, or you are having technical difficulties with your application, please [contact us](#) directly.

How long can a project period be?

Projects are typically expected to be completed within 12 months of receiving funds, if awarded.

How often can my organization apply for funding?

If your organization was previously awarded funding for a project **and** that project ended more than 45 days ago, you may apply for another grant in this cycle **IF** you have submitted your end-of-project report for that previously-awarded grant.

Prior grantees with outstanding reporting requirements may not be considered for funding. End-of-project reports are completed and submitted online through your dashboard in the [grants portal](#).

How much funding should my organization request?

Requested amount **should not** exceed $25,000. Requests outside of this range will be considered on an as-needed basis.

When will I be contacted about the status of my proposal?

Funding decisions are generally communicated within four to six weeks **after the application window closes**. At any time, applicants may view the status of their submission on their [grants portal dashboard](#). *Due to the volume of grant applications received, your dashboard will be the **quickest** way to check on your proposal's status.*

What happens after my application is submitted?

Applications and related attachments received by the deadline will be reviewed by California Fire Foundation's grants review team. If additional details are needed to evaluate your proposal, a member of our team will reach out to you directly via the email address we have on file to request follow-up information. *Follow-up requests **are time sensitive** and, if not responded to in a timely manner, your application **will not move forward** in the review process.*

If my organization is awarded funding, what are our responsibilities as a grantee?

- Complete the goals and objectives for the project awarded;
- Immediately update California Fire Foundation's [grants management team](#) if any major changes associated with the grant arise (including major changes in project budget, scope of work or timeline);
- Promote funding partnership on your social channel(s) and submit pictures of your grant "in action"; and
- Complete a brief, online end-of-project report

Is the grant reimbursable?

No. If you receive a grant, funding will be remitted by mail via check **after** the California Fire Foundation receives your executed grant agreement. When submitting your end-of-project report online, you will upload a financial summary of grant-related expenditures, as well as copies of invoice(s)/receipt(s).

Should You Apply?

	Yes	No
Your project serves a community located in an elevated or extreme wildfire risk area of California	X	
Fire Department	X	
Firefighter Association	X	
Nonprofit Organization	X	
Tribal Entity	X	
Individual		X
Private Business (Corporation, LLC, sole proprietorship)		X
Political Campaign		X
Lobbying Effort		X
Capital Project		X
Annual Fundraising Appeal		X