



## 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

JP Ross, Director of Local Development

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## EBCE Community Innovation Grant - APPLICATION

Community-based non-profit organizations, 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5) are eligible to apply for the Community Innovation Grant. Please fill out the application by Friday, May 10, 5:00 PM.

For any questions, please visit [ebce.org/communitygrants](http://ebce.org/communitygrants).

Contact Name

Contact Email

Contact Phone Number

Name of Organization

Address of Organization

Please provide 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), or 501(c)(5) status.

501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), or 501(c)(5) are not required to apply for this grant.

Project Name

Project Summary

Please provide a brief summary of the project and its expected outcome. (50 words)

What are the project's main objectives?

Please provide no more than three objectives. (200 words)

Preferred Grant Award

Grants will be awarded to fund projects up to \$40,000.

Who benefits from the proposed project?

Please include information such as geographic area, demographics, specific needs of this community. (200 words)

## **EBCE RESOURCES**

Please attach a budget of the proposed project including budget allocation of grant funds.

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Attach file

How can EBCE support your project's objectives non-financially?

Non-financial resources will be separate from the \$40K award. Some examples of non-financial support are consultations, data accessibility, written support of community-led projects and staff volunteers. (200 words)

## **PRIMARY PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

Which community benefits does the proposed project address?

Please select all that apply (check boxes)

- 1) Job Creation
- 2) Workforce Development
- 3) Economic Empowerment
- 4) Climate Resiliency
- 5) Social Resiliency

How does the project meet the community benefits you've checked above?

(300 words)

Please describe how your project approach is innovative and collaborative.

If proposed project is existing, please provide explanation how grant funds can bring new project element or scale. (300 words)

Does your project encourage other community-based organizations to be involved?

If yes, which organizations or type of organizations can be included?

(100 words)

## **SECONDARY PROJECT REQUIREMENTS**

Please provide response to a minimum of two secondary project requirements.

[1] If the proposed project's objective is to identify or develop local, renewable energy projects in the County, please provide specific plans including kw installed, timeline, and which side of the meter? (300 words)

[2] If the proposed project's objective is to increase community health, please describe how overall community health and quality of life will increase in targeted communities.

(300 words)

[3] If the proposed project is scalable, please list other EBCE territories or demographics that could benefit from a project like this and what would be needed to expand this project?

(300 words)

[4] If the proposed project focuses on energy literacy, please describe the project's approach to engage with the public to increase awareness.

(300 words)

#### **PROJECT REQUIREMENTS: Feasibility**

What is your staffing capacity to carry out the proposed project?

Please be sure to include staffing in the budget if the organization intends to use funds to support staff. (300 words)

Why is your organization best suited to carry out the proposed project?

(200 words)

#### **PROJECT REQUIREMENTS: Local Impact**

How will you measure the success of the project?

Please include key project indicators (KPIs) such as estimated number of people engaged, number of households impacted, number of expected jobs created, etc. (200 words)

