



Frequently Asked Questions

FALL 2026 SOUTHERN, CENTRAL & COASTAL CALIFORNIA
GRANT OPPORTUNITY

**FUNDING PRIORITIES &
GUIDELINES**

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Who is eligible to apply?

The California Fire Foundation directs support to the following California-based organizations located in Southern California Edison's service area:

- Fire Departments
- Firefighter Associations
- Nonprofit Organizations (501(c)(3) or via fiscal sponsor)
- Tribal Governments and Tribal Nonprofit Organizations

Other groups may apply when doing so in collaboration with one of the above entities, including through fiscal agency.

What is a Firefighter Association?

For this grant 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 or paid on-call members) responsible for extinguishing fires, preventing and detecting fires, and enforcing the fire laws of California.

What focus areas are supported?

Projects must align with strategies identified in CFF's Wildfire Mitigation & Resiliency Symposium, including:

- Cross-Cutting Strategies: flexible funding, equity-focused metrics, wildfire planning (CWPPs, RWMPs, RPPs).
- Built Environment: evacuation planning, road improvements, water access/storage, climate adaptation planning.
- Landscape: agricultural buffers, prescribed burning, herbivory programs, green space fuel breaks, Indigenous stewardship.
- Community: Firewise USA and Fire Safe Council expansion, multilingual outreach, education/organizing, home hardening/retrofit micro-grants.

How much funding can my organization request?

Requests should generally not exceed \$75,000. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by case basis.





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Do you require matching funds?

No. Matching funds are not required for this cycle.

Does CFF prioritize funding requests?

Yes. Priority will be given to:

- Projects serving under-resourced communities in Southern, Coastal, and Central California located within Southern California Edison's service area.
- Applicants who participated in the Wildfire Mitigation & Resiliency Symposium.

Can I submit more than one request?

No. Only one grant application per organization, per funding cycle may be submitted. Fire departments and firefighter associations serving the same community may apply separately.

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

Refer to the [California Public Utilities Commission's fire threat map](#), which identifies Tier 2 (elevated risk) and Tier 3 (extreme risk) areas.

How long can the project period be?

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

When will I hear back about my application?

Funding decisions are typically communicated within 4–6 weeks after the application window closes. Applicants can track their submission status via the [online grants portal](#).

Is the grant reimbursable?

No. If awarded, funding is issued via check after execution of the grant agreement. Grantees must complete a final project report, including financial documentation and impact summary.

Should you apply?

Eligible:

- ✓ Fire Departments
- ✓ Firefighter Associations
- ✓ 501(c)(3) Nonprofits (or via fiscal sponsor)
- ✓ Tribal Entities

Not Eligible:

- ✗ Individuals
- ✗ Private Businesses
- ✗ Political Campaigns or Lobbying Efforts
- ✗ Capital Projects
- ✗ Annual Fundraising Appeals