



## **Notice of Funding Availability Regional Resilience Planning and Implementation Grant Program FY 2022 – 2023**

DATE: June 13, 2023

TO: All Potential Applicants

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

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY – TOTAL OF \$9,400,000 FOR PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION GRANT AWARDS FOR ROUND 1 OF THE REGIONAL RESILIENCE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROGRAM

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The [Governor's Office of Planning and Research \(OPR\)](#) is pleased to announce the availability of funding for Round 1 of the [Regional Resilience Planning and Implementation Grant Program \(RRGP\)](#) through this Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). OPR anticipates that \$3 million in planning grants and \$6.4 million, a total of \$9.4 million, will be available for awards in Round 1.

OPR, through the [Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program \(ICARP\)](#), administers the RRGP and received funds through the California Budget Act of 2021 to implement the RRGP through the provision of grants and staff support. RRGP has \$25 million to support the program, with \$18.8 million available in grant funding over two rounds. The 2023-2024 May Revision to the Governor's budget shifted \$100 million of RRGP funding from the General Fund to a future climate bond proposal. The RRGP will help address local, regional, and tribal climate resilience needs by supporting climate-resilient planning and implementation projects at the regional scale. The RRGP will help regions advance resilience through three major activities: planning, project implementation, and

capacity building. The RRGP aims to award funds to projects that encourage diverse regional-scale partnerships and collaboration.

The RRGP Guidelines include relevant information for potential applicants, including the components and criteria that applicants should submit in an application. Project terms may span from 12 to 30 months.

## Available Funding

To ensure the RRGP distributes funds equitably, the program will administer grants competitively and by funding set-asides. For more information about set-asides and funding goals, including how applications qualify and set-aside scoring methods, see Section 1.5, “Funding Availability” of the RRGP Guidelines.

- **Total available:** \$9.4 million
- **Total Available for Planning Grants:** \$3 million
  - Funding range for individual planning grants requests: \$150,000 - \$650,000
- **Total Available for Implementation Grants:** \$6.4 million
  - Funding range for individual implementation grants requests: \$650,000 - \$3 million

## Program Summary

### Before Applying

#### Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants for planning and implementation grants may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Public Entities
- California Native American Tribes
- Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)
- Academic Institutions

For more information on how the RRGP defines these eligible applicants, see Section 2.1, “Applicant Eligibility” of the RRGP Guidelines.

#### APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

Eligible applicants should form a regional partnership that involves two or more jurisdictions to apply for RRGP funding. The proposed project should have a geographic impact that extends beyond the boundaries of a single government’s or agency’s jurisdiction. Applicants have the flexibility to self-identify their region defined by shared natural and built environment systems and shared priority climate risks. Partnership requirements vary by applicant type. See Section 2.1, “Applicant Eligibility” of the RRGP Guidelines for more information and the required co-applicant structures.



## Grant Types

The RRGP will award funds based on project type (planning and implementation) and consider respective capacity-building efforts within each project type. Applicants should submit no more than one application per grant type. Eligible activities and costs vary by grant type. See the RRGP Guidelines for more information.

### PLANNING GRANTS

Planning grants are intended for applicants who wish to investigate, research, and conduct community engagement to determine what solution is appropriate to the climate risk(s) their region is facing. A planning product may accomplish one or more of the following: initiate the regional resilience planning process, assess regional climate vulnerability, define a regional resilience framework and strategies, or prepare an implementation plan to apply resilience planning strategies.

### IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

Implementation grants are intended for applicants who know the steps to implement the solution to the greatest climate risk(s) in their region, have a detailed and accurate budget, are ready to share the community engagement work they conducted and will continue to perform throughout the project, and can showcase an action plan and strategy. An implementation project may address and mitigate the region's greatest climate risk(s) through physical interventions (i.e., capital projects) and/or non-physical interventions (i.e., programs or processes).

## Preparing and Submitting an Application

### Phase 1: Request for Full Application – RRGP Intent Survey

All Grant Applicants must submit a [Round 1 Regional Resilience Program Intent to Apply Survey](#), which constitutes the first phase of the application process. Prospective applicants, comprised of a Lead Applicant and Co-Applicant(s), are required to complete the Survey to indicate their intent to apply and gain access to an individualized SharePoint folder that has all Application Materials. Completed Surveys will be accepted on a rolling basis through August 29, 2023. Completing the Survey also allows prospective Applicants to provide a broad overview of their proposed project, contact information, and estimated budget. RRGP staff strongly encourage Applicants to fill out the survey as soon as they are able.

### Phase 2: Full Application

Submitting the full application constitutes the second phase of the application process. Grant Applicants must submit the “[Round 1 Regional Resilience Grant Program Intent to Apply Survey](#)” to receive instructions on where and how to apply. RRGP staff will release the full application and application materials to all prospective Applicants who completed the “[Round 1 Regional Resilience Program Intent to Apply Survey](#)” via individualized SharePoint folders. All application materials are due by **5 p.m. PST on August 29, 2023**. Completed Applications will consist of the following application materials:



- Narrative Questions
- Application Workbook template to provide Applicant(s) Summary, Work Plan, and Budget
- Letters of Support (Optional)

All of these Application materials and associated templates are available in the individualized RRGP SharePoint folders. Application resources, including how to access and submit an application via the Microsoft SharePoint folder, are available on [OPR's website](#).

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

## Grant Application Support

Staff will hold eight Application Workshops that will provide additional information and help to prospective Applicants. ICARP staff will ensure that the workshops are accessible virtually and via phone.

During the application process, direct questions to ICARP staff through the contact information in the "[RRGP Contact Information](#)" Section. Applicants may also ask questions during application webinars. RRGP staff will offer drop-in application support 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 questions at a high level on the [RRGP Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) webpage](#) and announce the release of the FAQ document through ICARP e-blasts.

## MICROSOFT SHAREPOINT FOLDER

RRGP staff will provide instructions on using the RRGP Application Microsoft SharePoint folder during the application webinar. Those unable to attend the webinar may request application information from RRGP staff directly. Applicants who are unable to access an online application via the RRGP SharePoint folder or who experience any ADA accessibility issues with application materials may contact OPR for help through the contact information in the "[RRGP Contact Information](#)" Section.

## Disclosure Application of Information

Information provided in the Planning and Implementation Grant applications will become a public record available for review according 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 publicly disclosing all submitted material. RRGP staff will post the awarded applications on the OPR website.

## After Applying

After the application deadline, RRGP staff may request clarifying information or ask where the application-specific information is located if that information does not affect the application's competitive rating. 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

RRGP staff will first evaluate applications to ensure that they are both eligible and complete. The staff and an interagency review panel will evaluate applications using the scoring criteria outlined in Section 3.2, "Scoring Criteria" and in Section 4.5, "Application Review Process and Scoring" of the RRGP Guidelines. Applicants will receive a single score out of 100 points and RRGP staff will recommend awards based on these scores. The expected announcement date for the selection of Planning and Implementation Grant recommendations is November 2023.

## Unselected Applicants

### Basis of Appeals

1. Upon receipt of a notice that an application has been determined to be ineligible, incomplete, or not awarded based on final scores, RRGP Applicants under this NOFA may appeal such decision(s) to OPR according 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 an 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 concerning any previously issued NOFAs or decisions to be made through future program NOFAs.

### APPEAL PROCESS AND DEADLINES

1. Process: To file an appeal, 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 or materials will be accepted or considered thereafter.

Appeals must be submitted to OPR via email (see the "[RRGP Contact Information](#)" Section).

2. Filing deadline: Appeals must be received by OPR no later than five business days from the date of OPR's completeness 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 a Grant application shall be reviewed for consistency with the RRGF Guidelines, its goals, and this NOFA. All decisions rendered are final, binding, and conclusive, and constitute OPR's final action.

## **Other Terms and Conditions**

### **State Prevailing Wages**

Program funds awarded under this NOFA are subject to State prevailing wage law, as outlined 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 section 1720, subdivision (c), as determined by the Department of Industrial Relations. Applicants are urged to seek professional advice on how to comply with State prevailing wage law.

### **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, RRGF staff will notify all interested parties via email and will post the changes to the [RRGF 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.

## **RRGF Contact Information**

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. Direct any written communication, including any questions, to assigned ICARP staff using the contact information below.



Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program  
Governor's Office of Planning and Research  
Telephone: [\(916\) 720-4439](tel:(916)720-4439)  
E-mail: [icarp.grants@opr.ca.gov](mailto:icarp.grants@opr.ca.gov)

## Resources

The [OPR website](#) has more information about the RRGP, including the Program Guidelines, application resources, application support, and other resources.

