



# Environmental Justice for California's Environment and Communities Fund

This funding opportunity is borne out of a partnership with the California Department of Toxic Substances Control to receive Supplemental Environmental Project money associated with the agency's enforcement actions. The Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment is administering these funds to support organizations working on hazardous waste related issues throughout the area affected by the facility's violations.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The applicant must meet all the following criteria:

- **Applicant requirements:** The applicant must demonstrate the capacity to complete the proposed project, including experience in successfully conducting similar or related work in the past, or otherwise relevant skills and experience.
- **Environmental Justice and Geography:** The location for funding is subject to change each cycle as funding is wholly dependent on the location of DTSC enforcement actions. **Please check EJ-CEC fund page for geographic information specific to each grant round.** Regardless of specific location, projects should aim to benefit underserved, Environmental Justice communities or Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) as designated by a [CalEnviroScreen 4.0](#) score of 75 and above and should demonstrate a high degree of community support and community involvement. While the applicant's offices may be located outside of the DAC, they must explain how the proposed work will benefit a particular DAC.
- **Grant amount:** Established non-profit organizations are encouraged to seek grants in the \$20,000 to \$50,000 range. The Rose Foundation also welcomes proposals from small grassroots conservation and environmental justice groups, but the requested amount should be in the \$5,000 to \$10,000 range.
- **Duration of Support:** Most grants are for a one-year period; however, you may request a shorter or longer grant period if that is what you need.
- **Non-profit Status:** Applicants must be a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, fiscally-sponsored by a 501(c)(3), a local governmental entity, or tribal entity.

## SCOPE OF ALLOWABLE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Projects must be designed to prevent or mitigate hazardous waste contamination or provide education about the proper disposal of hazardous wastes and include and further DTSC's purpose of cleaning up the environment benefitting communities with a Cal EnviroScreen 4.0 score of 75 or higher in the vicinity of the facility. Project categories include:

1. **Public Health** projects provide diagnostic, preventative, and/or remedial components of human health care related to the actual or potential damage to human health caused by hazardous waste, hazardous constituents, hazardous materials, or hazardous substances. This may include epidemiological data collection and analysis, medical examinations of potentially affected persons, collection and analysis of blood, fluid, or tissues samples, medical treatment, health fairs,

rehabilitation therapy, and improvements to the physical and mental health of impacted communities related to hazardous waste, materials, or substances. Public health SEPs will primarily benefit the population harmed or put at risk by the violations, though Rose Foundation will also consider community needs as assessed by DTSC's Office of Environmental Equity.

2. **Pollution Prevention/Reduction** projects that reduce the generation of any hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant entering any waste stream or otherwise being released into the environment prior to recycling, treatment, or disposal. For a project to meet the definition of pollution prevention, there must be an overall decrease in the amount and/or toxicity of pollution released to the environment, not merely a transfer of pollution among media. Examples include:
  - Working with communities and the public to inform on non-hazardous substitutes and proper disposal of waste.
  - Education for the public on changing practices and behaviors that result in pollution prevention.
  - Working with industry on changing practices and behaviors that result in pollution prevention such as modification to equipment, technology, processes, or procedures; reformulation or redesign of products; substitution of raw materials; and improvements in housekeeping, maintenance, training, inventory control, or other operation and maintenance procedures.
  - Projects that protect natural resources through conservation or increased efficiency in using energy, water, or other materials.
3. **Environmental Restoration and Protection** projects that enhance the condition of the ecosystem or immediate geographic area adversely affected. These projects may restore or protect natural environments (such as ecosystems) and fabricated environments (such as facilities and buildings). This category also includes any project that protects the ecosystem from actual or potential damage resulting from the violation; improves the overall condition of the ecosystem; protects endangered species; or remediates facilities and buildings by removing or mitigating contaminated materials, provided such activities are not otherwise legally required
4. **Environmental Compliance Promotion and Education** projects may include training or technical support to members of the regulated community or the public to identify, achieve, or maintain compliance with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements; to reduce the generation, release, or disposal of pollutants; or educate the public on the natural resources and impacts of hazardous waste, hazardous waste constituents, hazardous materials or hazardous substances on their communities and environment. Examples include but are not limited to:
  - Producing a seminar, or online training, directly related to correcting widespread or prevalent violations within the Violator's industry or other related hazardous waste, hazardous waste constituents, hazardous materials or hazardous substances industries.
  - Supporting community-based environmental compliance projects, which may include support of community-based violation reporting networks (e.g., Identifying Violations Affecting Neighborhoods or IVAN), community task forces, fence-line monitoring projects, trainings, forums, or projects that promote community-based monitoring and reduction of adverse environmental impacts.
5. **Emergency Planning and Preparedness** projects that support community-based emergency preparedness. Emergencies can happen during production, storage, transportation, use or disposal

of hazardous wastes. Examples of emergency planning and preparedness projects include but are not limited to:

- Supporting community-based emergency preparedness and response in communities that may be impacted by hazardous wastes during emergencies such as earthquake, fire, flood, or any incident that results in a hazardous substance release.
- Projects that inform and educate communities how to stay safe in emergency situations involving hazardous wastes or substances releases, how to receive emergency alerts, how to shelter in place, or how to prepare their homes and neighborhoods for emergency situations.
- Collecting and publicizing information about chemicals and hazardous wastes, materials, or substances that can impact or harm the community or environment from neighboring facilities.
- Supporting local schools, businesses, and communities through purchasing and storing emergency supplies and shelter in place materials, making and practicing a plan for emergencies, and identifying the safest location for sheltering during an emergency involving hazardous wastes, materials, or substances.

#### **EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS THAT ARE NOT ALLOWABLE**

The following project activities may not be conducted with any SEP funds:

- Lobbying
- Litigation
- *Advocacy-based projects that contradict an established agency or position of the State of California are not acceptable.*

#### **HOW TO APPLY**

Please check all eligibility requirements before starting the online application. Please note that our website will have the geographic scope applicable to each round. To apply, submit an application through our online grants portal <https://rosefdn.org/granting/online-instructions/>