



Press Release

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Cal/EPA Makes \$250,000 Available to Environmental Justice Communities for Environmental Projects

Cal/EPA Accepting Applications for Community Small Grants

SACRAMENTO – Cal/EPA is now accepting applications for funding under the Environmental Justice Small Grants Program. \$250,000 will be available during this grant cycle, with each project qualifying for a maximum of \$20,000.

Cal/EPA's Environmental Justice Program seeks to connect all Californians, including low-income and minority populations, to public health and environmental protection programs in a manner that promotes equity and affords fair treatment and protection, irrespective of race, age, culture, income or geographic location.

"Everyone deserves to be treated fairly and have access to a safe, healthy and productive environment," said Matt Rodriguez, Secretary for Environmental Protection. "An effective way to work towards this goal is to support community-based programs and the development of innovative local plans and approaches."

The Cal/EPA Environmental Justice Small Grants are available to help eligible non-profit community organizations and federally recognized Tribal governments address environmental justice issues in areas adversely affected by environmental pollution and hazards.

Projects that will be considered are those that improve access to safe and clean water; reduce the potential for exposure to pesticides and toxic chemicals; enhance meaningful public participation; promote the development of community-based research to document data related to public health and environment; and, address cumulative impacts through community-based organizations.

Grants under this program will be awarded on a competitive basis. Applications to the program must be submitted and received by 3:00 pm on December 5, 2012. Cal/EPA plans to announce the grant awards in March 2013.

To obtain an application package, please visit the Cal/EPA Environmental Justice website at www.calepa.ca.gov/EnvJustice/funding/smallgrants/default.htm. Applications can also be requested in writing to: California Environmental Protection Agency, Office of the Secretary, Attn: Malinda Dumisani, EJ Small Grants Program, P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento, CA 95812-2815 or via email at Malinda.Dumisani@calepa.ca.gov or at (916) 445-9480.

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