

# Welcome

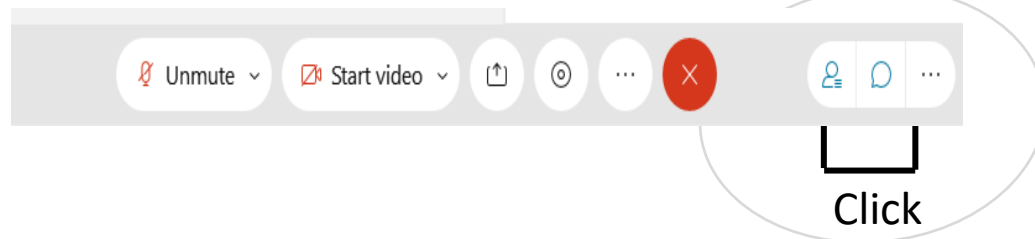


You will be automatically be muted and questions will be taken at the end via voice and chat.

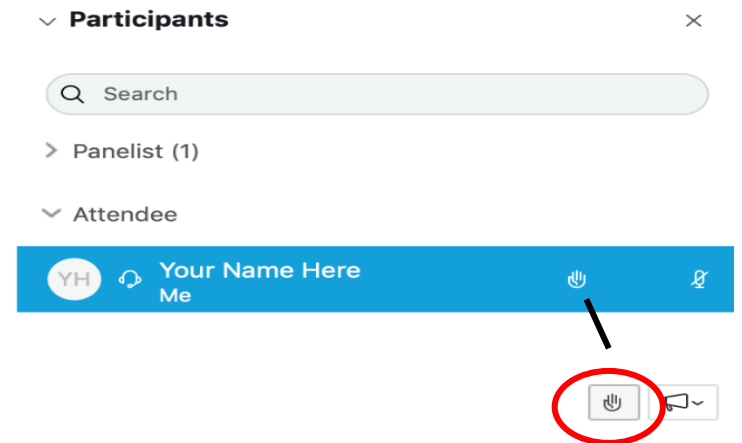
This meeting will be **recorded**.

## Prepare your WebEx Event space:

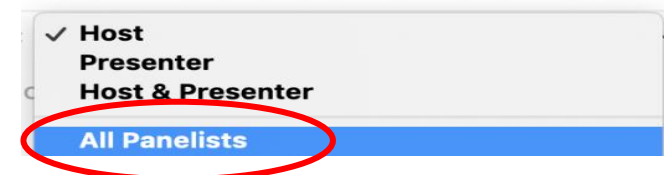
- 1 **Locate this toolbar** at the bottom of your WebEx window.  
**Click Participants and Chat icons** to open those panels.



- 2 **Raise your hand**  
By clicking the hand icon. Lower it by clicking again.



- 3 **For technical assistance**  
select TO: **ALL PANELISTS**  
**When asking a question:**  
select TO: **ALL PARTICIPANTS**



# Equity & Access Grant Program Application Webinar

August 9, 2023

News and Outreach Division



California Public  
Utilities Commission

# Agenda

Schedule	Topic	Presenter
10:00 – 10:02 a.m.	Welcome	Stephanie Green
10:02 – 10:05 a.m.	Introductions, WebEx, Agenda	Hope Christman
10:05 – 10:15 a.m.	Equity and Access Grant Program Overview	Hope Christman
10:15 – 10:30 a.m.	Public Participation Grant Account	Jesus Torres
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	Q & A	Hector Corral
10:45 – 11:05 a.m.	Equity, Engagement, and Education Grant Account & Clean Energy Access Grant Account Overview	Chris Moore
11:05 – 11:25 a.m.	Q & A	Hector Corral
11:25 – 11:30 a.m.	Closing	Chris Moore

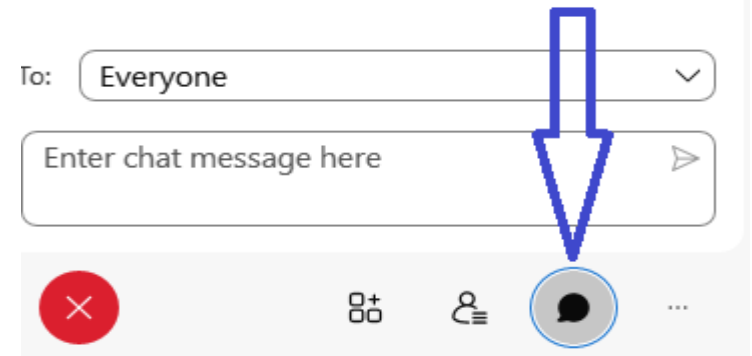
# Questions?

Please type your questions in the chat box at any time during the presentation.



Please only submit questions that are relevant to the presentation and topics being presented.

Chat



# Background

- In 2022, the California Legislature appropriated \$30 million in the Budget Act of 2022 (AB 179) for capacity grants to Tribes and community-based organizations (CBOs) for participation in the CPUC decision-making process and to make clean energy programs more accessible to underserved and underrepresented communities.
- The Equity and Access (E&A) Grant Program was created to implement this legislation.
- Available for grantmaking until June 30, 2025. Must be spent by June 30, 2027

# Grant Accounts

- **Public Participation (PP) Grant Account:** \$150 per hour for participation in a CPUC activity, such as a working group, panel, or focus group.
- **Equity, Engagement, and Education (EEE) Grant Account:** Up to \$200,000 for work that will educate and/or perform outreach within an underserved community on a CPUC matter.
- **Clean Energy Access (CEA) Grant Account:** Up to \$500,000 for work that will address access to or education on CPUC clean energy programs.

# Eligible Applicants

- **TYPE 1:** California tax-exempt organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- **TYPE 2:** Federally and non-Federally recognized Tribes, as defined in Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21073. PRC Section 21073 defines a California Native American Tribe as a Native American Tribe located in California that is on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission for the purposes of Chapter 905 of the Statutes of 2004.
- **TYPE 3:** Tribal entities, including organizations incorporated under Tribal law and wholly owned by the Tribe, Tribal Section 17 Corporations, and Tribal utilities and authorities operated under Tribal law.

# Funding Summary

Funding Account	Maximum Grant Award	Tribal Reserved Funds	General Non-Reserved	Total Available in Account
Public Participation	\$15,000 (org max)	\$300,000	\$2,800,000	\$3,100,000
Equity, Engagement, and Education	\$200,000	\$750,000	\$9,000,000	\$9,750,000
Clean Energy Access	\$500,000	\$1,950,000	\$13,700,000	\$15,650,000



# Application Windows

Application Window	Date
Public Participation	September 8, 2023
Equity, Engagement, and Education	Cycle 1: September 8 – October 31, 2023 Cycle 2: Spring 2024
Clean Energy Access	Cycle 1: Late 2023 /Early 2024 Cycle 2: Summer 2024

[www.cpuc.ca.gov/capacitygrants](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/capacitygrants)

# Application Submission

- The program guidelines, application forms, and more information are available at: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/capacitygrants>
- **Applications by Email:** Email completed forms and required documents to: [capacitygrants@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:capacitygrants@cpuc.ca.gov). Include the name of the grant account in the subject line.
- **Applications by U.S. Mail:** Mail completed forms and required documents to:  
Business and Community Outreach  
Attn: Equity & Access Grant Program  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Ave.  
San Francisco, CA 94102

# Application Submission

**COMING SOON:**  
Online Grant  
Application  
Portal

## **APPLY**

Apply and upload documents online.

## **TRACK**

Track status of application, make changes, and awards.

## **REPORT**

Submit required reports and receive reminders.

# Public Participation Grant Account

# Grant Account Overview

**Total Available Funds:** \$3,100,000

**Tribal Reserve Funds:** \$300,000

**Maximum Award per Org:** Up to \$15,000

**Application and funding cycle:** Rolling, beginning September 8, 2023

- Small grants totaling up to \$15,000 for an eligible entity to participate in defined and discrete activities. e.g., speaking on a workshop panel, service on working group or participation in other decision-making processes.
- Tribal applicants are eligible for both Tribal-reserved and general non-reserved funds
- Applications accepted on a rolling basis. Payments dispersed after completion of activities identified in approved application.
- Cannot receive other funding or compensation for the same activities funded under this grant.

# Eligibility Rules

- Not eligible if organization received or plans to receive funding from another source for the same activity.
- Not eligible if organization previously applied to Intervenor Compensation and was denied due to lack of financial hardship.\*
- Organizations who are granted Intervenor Compensation for work that was performed as part of an E&A Grant Program award may have their E&A award reduced by the amount of funding granted through the Intervenor Compensation program up to the full amount of the E&A award at the CPUC's discretion.

\*Financial Hardship as defined by CA Public Utilities Code § 1802(h)

# Eligible Activities

Activities below will be compensated at \$150/hr. | Includes meeting prep, meeting, and post-meeting follow-up.

Activity	Description
Working Group Meeting	Working Groups are given a specific scope of work to discuss topics ranging from broad policy goals to details on program implementation. Usually part of a proceeding.
Focus Group	Focus Groups are used by CPUC staff to test proposed program implementation concepts, ideas, and rules.
Workshop/Event Panelist	CPUC staff form a panel on specific topics to receive feedback and educate other stakeholders on certain policies, programs, or service already in place.
Workshop/Event Featured Speaker	Featured speaker may be invited to speak to discuss their unique experience or offer best practices on programs/services.
Advisory Board/Committee Member	Appointed roles that advise on program development, implementation or administration.
En Banc Meeting Panelist	CPUC staff form a panel on specific topics to receive feedback and educate other stakeholders on certain policies, programs, or service already in place.

# Proof of Participation

Include at least one of the below forms of proof in your application

Attendance Log & Activity Invitation

Program or Meeting Agenda

Activity/Meeting Invitation

Program or Meeting Minutes

Link to Meeting Recording

Virtual Activity Screenshot & Activity Invitation

Photo & Activity Invitation

Written verification from meeting facilitator



# Calculating Grant Amount

STEP 1



## Take part in a CPUC activity

Include meeting time and any prep or after-meeting follow-up.

STEP 2



## Use Time Sheet to add up total number of hours

If applicant participated in multiple activities, include those hours as well. Use included timesheet to tabulate hours.

STEP 3



## Add total amount of travel expenses, if applicable

Use Travel Expense Claim Form STD 262A to add up your travel expenses (include form in your application). Include total amount in Time Sheet.

STEP 4



## Insert total amount in Question 2 of Application Coversheet

Refer to Application Guidelines for more information.

# Application Checklist

## 1) Public Participation Grant Account Application Coversheet

## 2) Proof of Eligibility

- a) Type 1 Applicants: IRS Letter confirming status as a 501 (c)(3) entity. The IRS letter must also include the applicant's Tax Identification Number.
- b) Type 2 & 3 Applicants: Support letter from the Tribal administrator, chair, or council.

## 3) Proof of Participation

- a) Attendance log, link to recording, meeting agenda with name, screenshot of meeting (see full list in Guidelines)

## 4) Time Sheet – Log your hours (prep time, meeting time, follow-up interactions)

## 5) [Travel Expense Claim Form STD262A](#) (if applicable, up to \$450 per activity)

# Grant Account Timeline

How long will the approval and payment process take?

Generally, **45 days** for payment disbursement.



**Questions?**

**Public Participation Grant Account**

# **Equity, Engagement, and Education Grant Account**

# Grant Account Overview

**Total Funding:** \$9,750,000

**Tribal Reserve\*:** \$750,000

**Per Application Maximum Award:** \$200,000

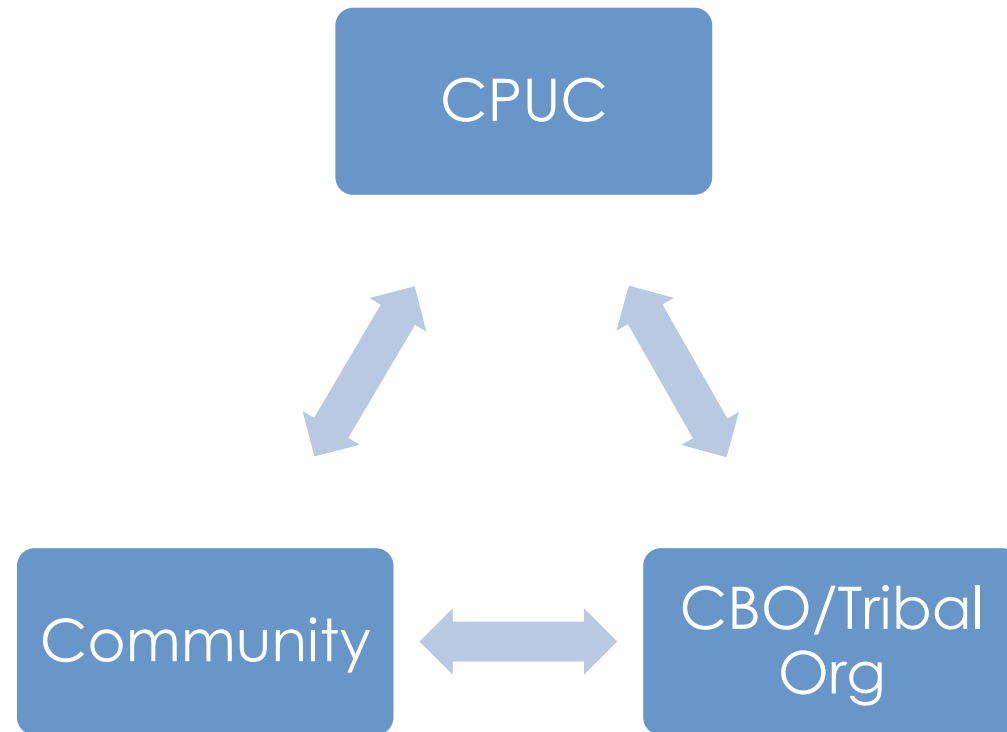
**Maximum Award for Ministerial Review:** \$150,000

## **Application and Funding Cycle:**

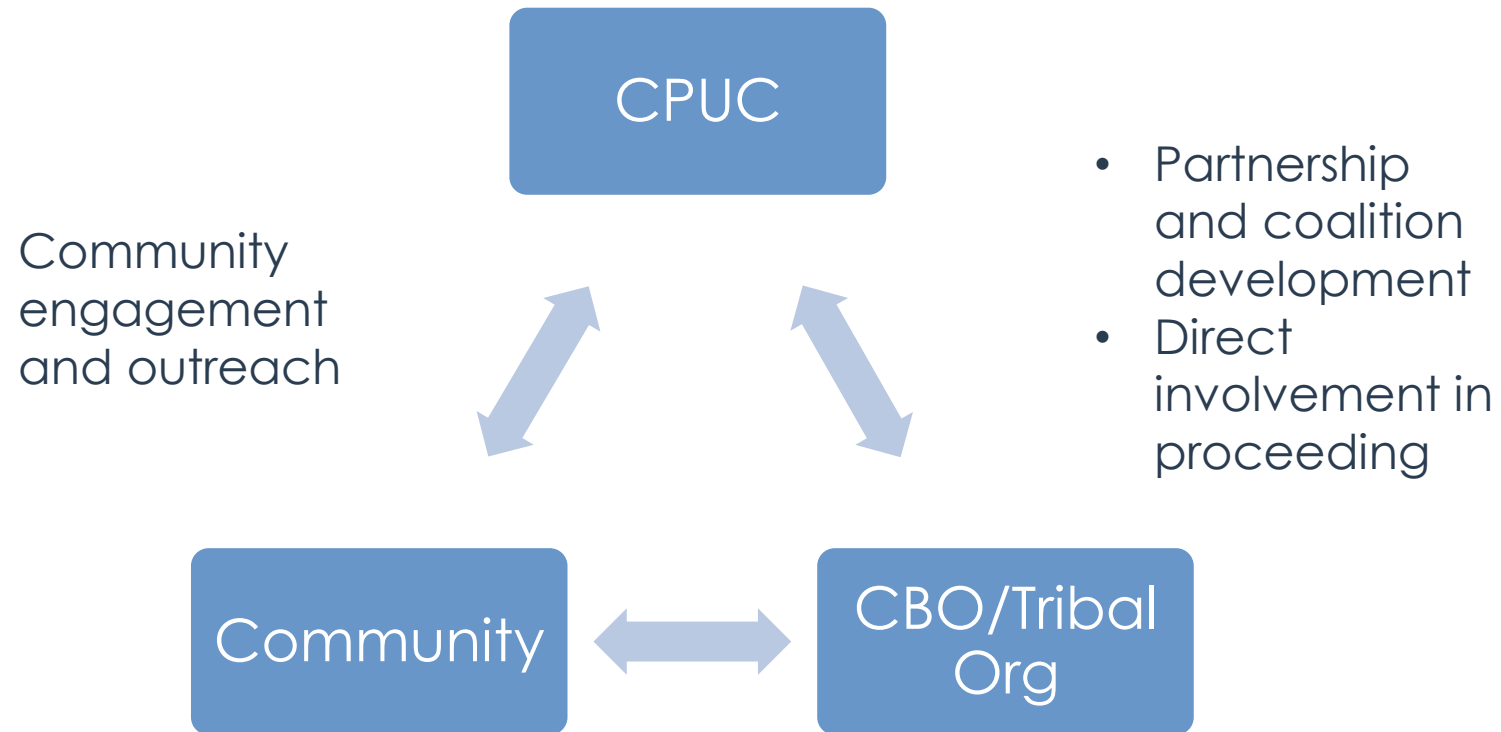
- Cycle 1: September 8, 2023 – October 31, 2023
  - Cycle 2: Spring 2024
- Build CBO, Tribal, and community capacity to become familiar and engage with CPUC decision-making processes including attaining party status and participating in CPUC proceedings.
  - Activities may include hiring staff, engaging consultants or technical experts, community engagement and outreach related to CPUC proceedings, education, training and curriculum development, and partnership and coalition development.

\*Tribal applicants are eligible for both Tribal-reserved and general non-reserved funds.

# Grant Account Overview

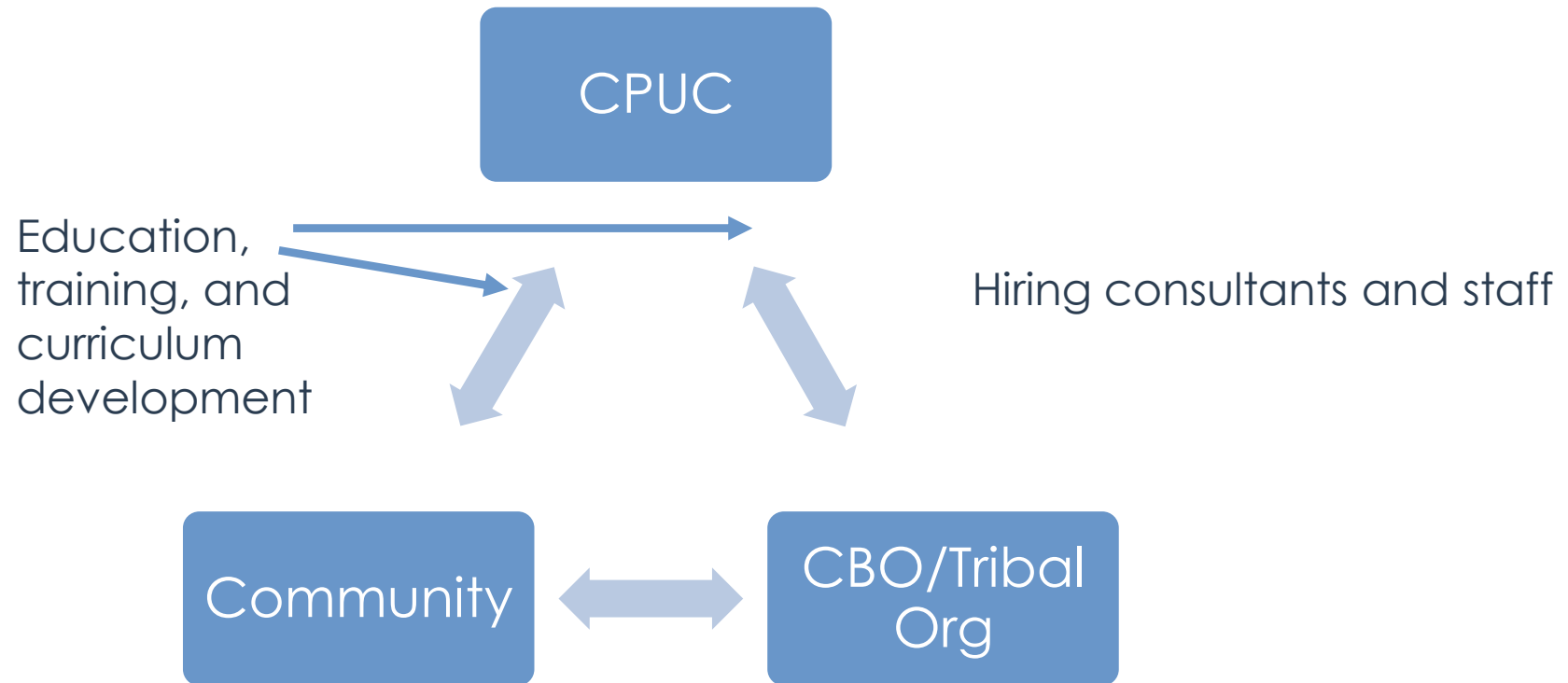


# Example Eligible Activities

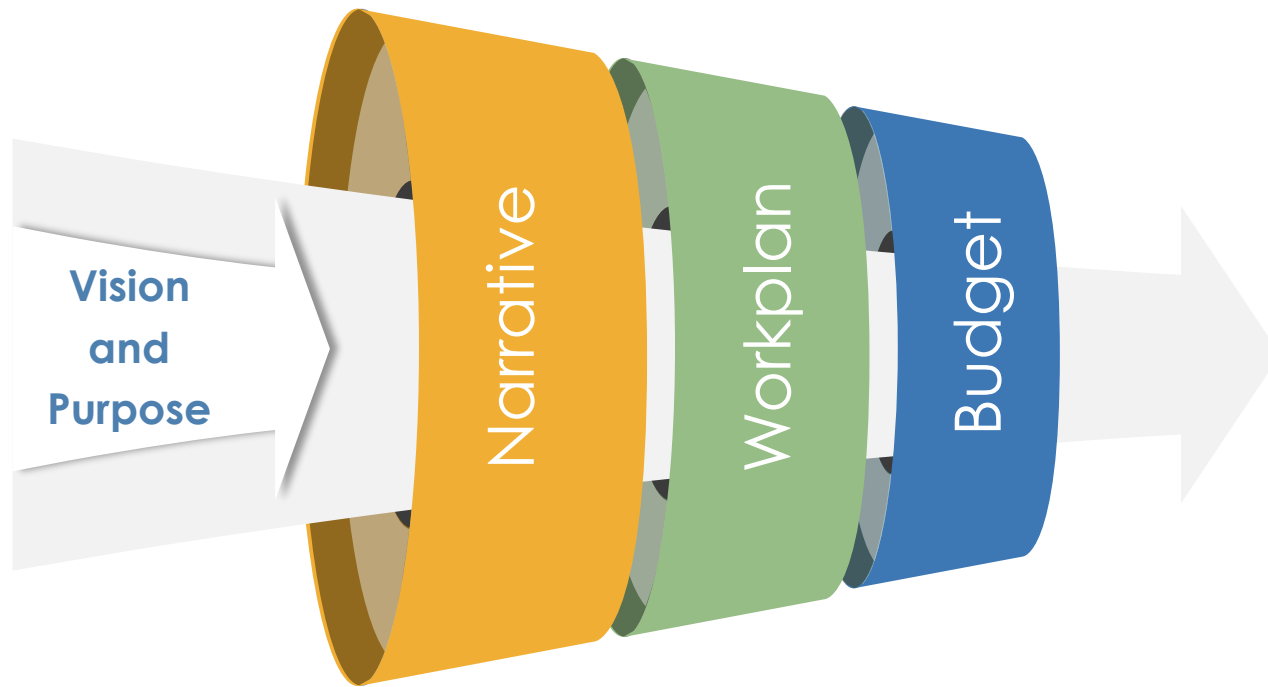




# Example Eligible Activities



# Application Consistency



## Narrative

Narrative describes your vision and purpose and uses data to provide context.

## Workplan

Workplan lays out your plan to execute your vision and purpose.

## Budget

Your budget states how you will fund the various elements in your Workplan.

# Scoring Criteria

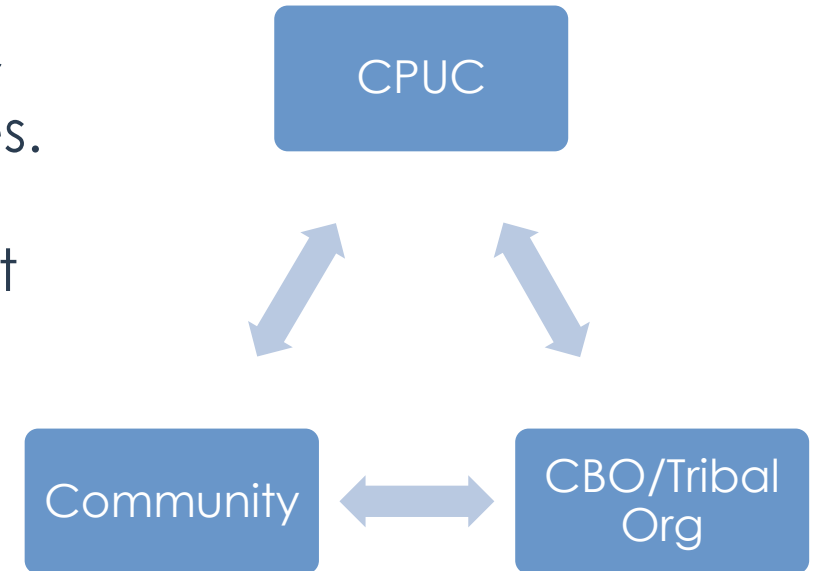
Supporting Documents – 35 Points	Project Narrative* – 65 Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Application Coversheet (not scored)</li><li>• Proof of Eligibility (not scored)</li><li>• Workplan Table (15 Points)</li><li>• Budget Table (15 Points)</li><li>• Two Letters of Support (5 Points)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vision Statement (5 Points)</li><li>• CPUC Participation (20 Points)</li><li>• Ability to Represent Community (20 Points)</li><li>• Community Benefit (20 Points)</li></ul>
<b>Formatting Requirements</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No page limit</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 10-page limit for Project Narrative</li><li>• No less than 10-point font</li><li>• 8 ½" X 11" paper with consecutively numbered pages</li></ul>

\* Details on Project Narrative questions can be found in the Application Guidelines.

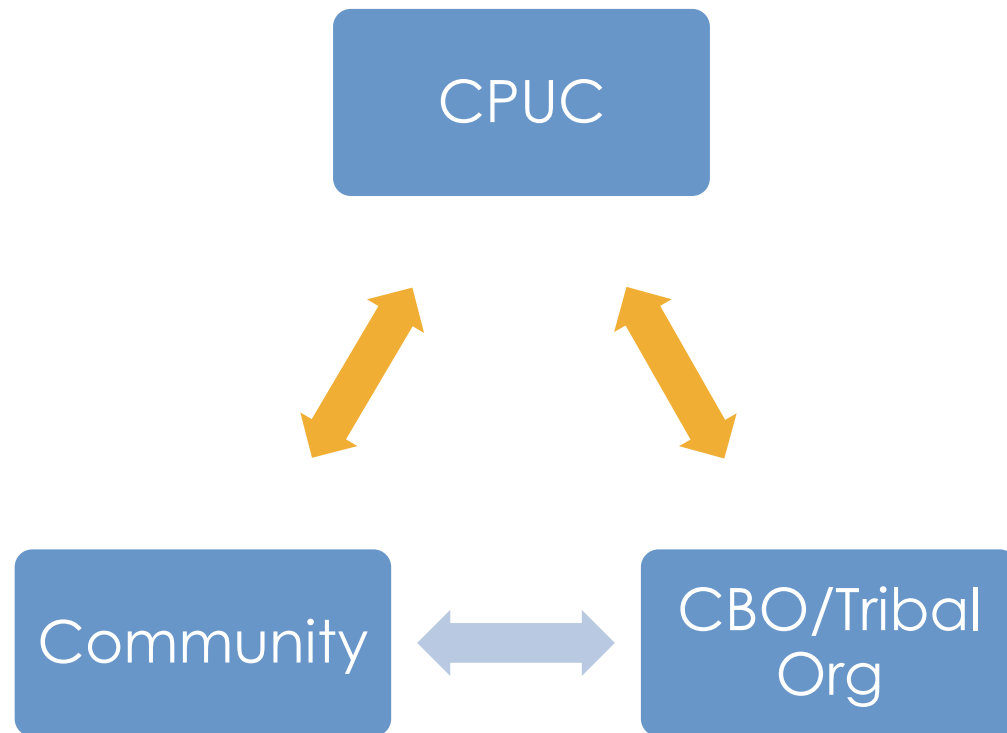
# Project Narrative: Vision Statement

Communicate desired outcomes.

- A. Effectively communicate equity, engagement, or education needs of under-resourced communities.
- B. Reflect objectives and principles of the E&A Grant Program.
- C. Be achievable, while also communicating aspirational objectives.
- D. Describe the communities or populations that will benefit from funding.

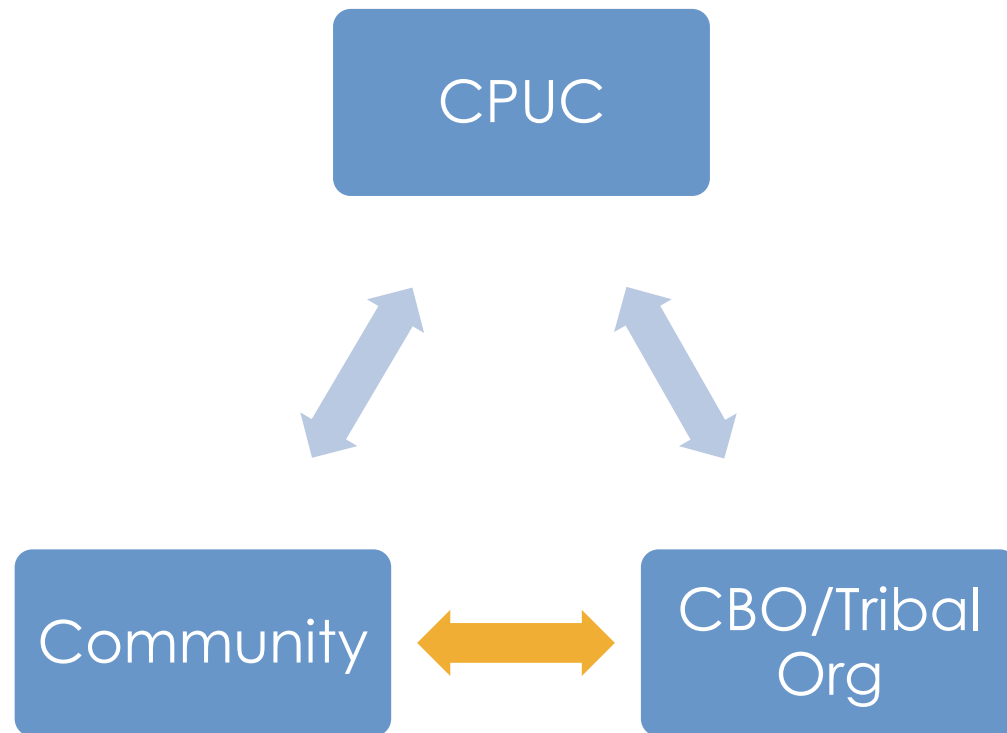


# Project Narrative: CPUC Participation



Detail how the applicant's proposal will allow participation with the CPUC on an ongoing basis.

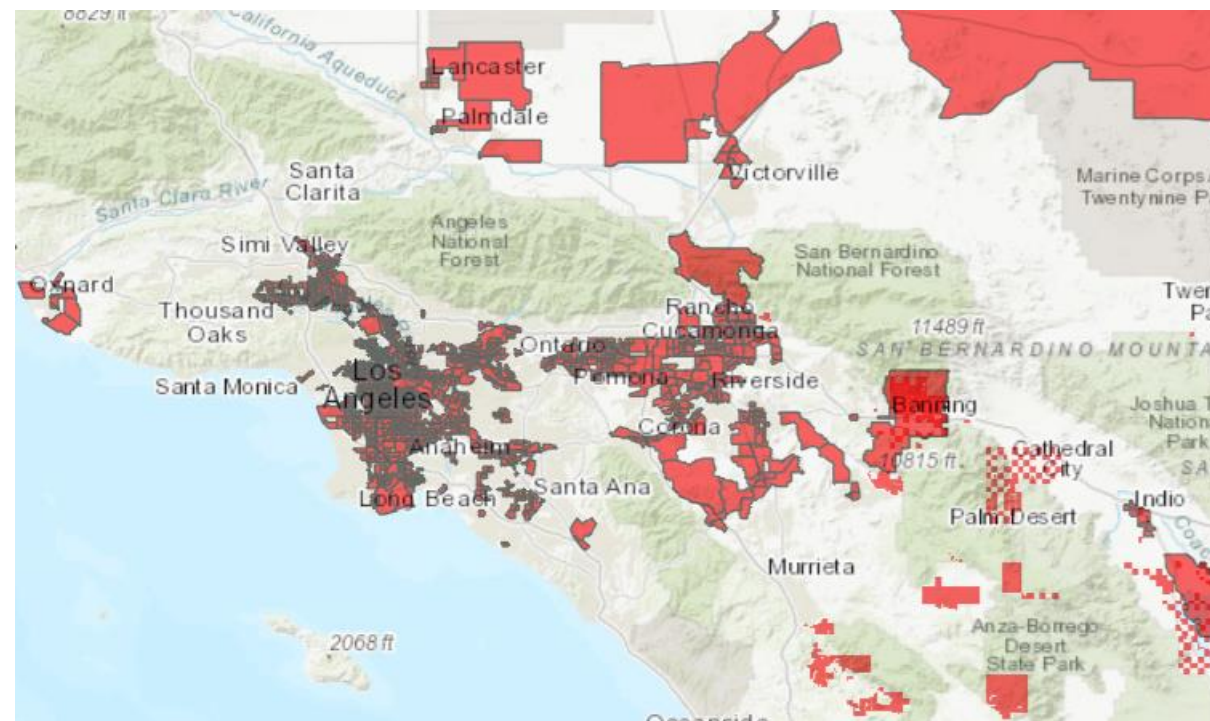
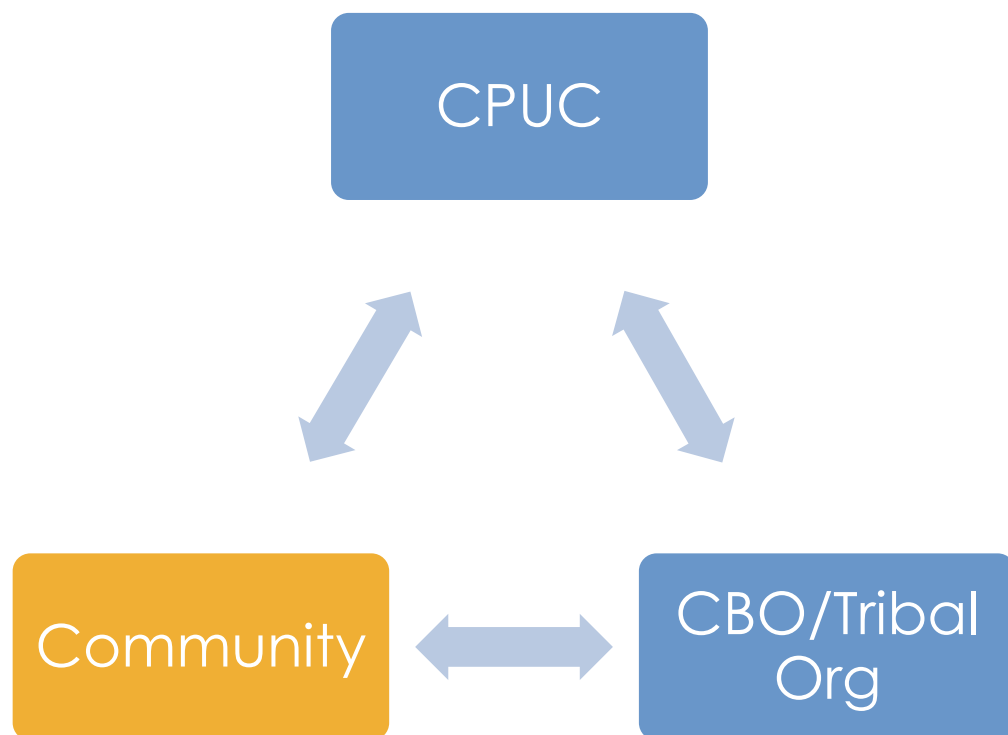
# Project Narrative: Ability to Represent Community



Demonstrate experience as an advocate, representative, and steward of an underserved or underrepresented community.

# Project Narrative: Ability to Represent Community

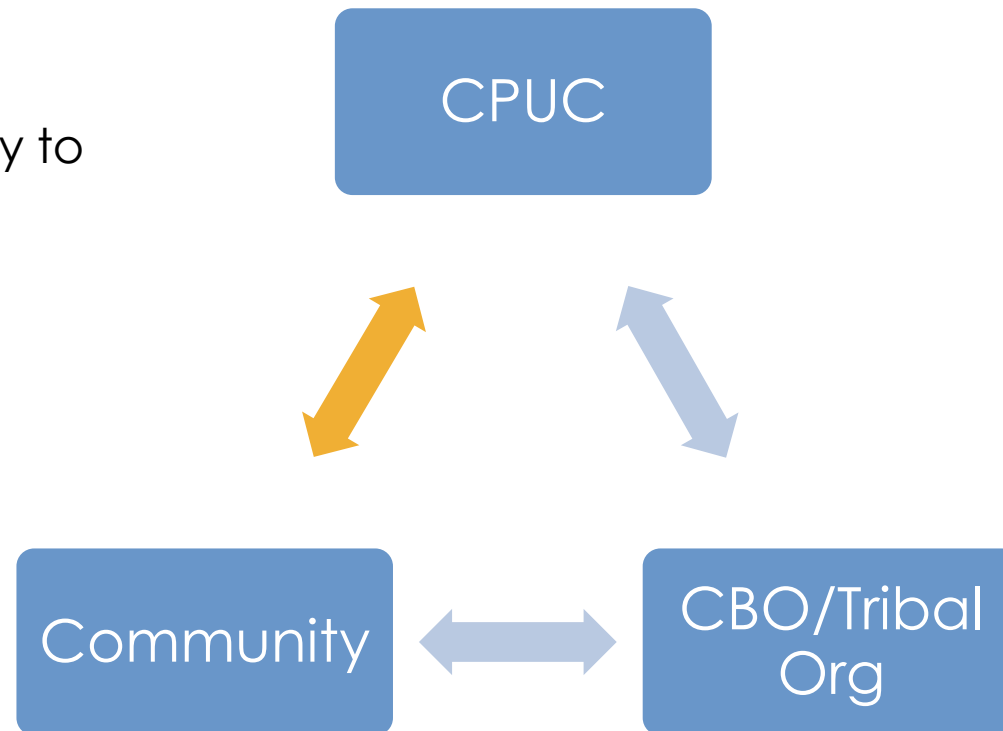
Provide demographic and geographical data on the communities served.



[SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities via Cal EnviroScreen 4.0](#)

# Project Narrative: Community Benefit

Demonstrate ability to provide a lasting benefit to an underserved community.





# Application Checklist

- 1) **Equity, Engagement, and Education Account Application Coversheet**
- 2) **Proof of Eligibility**
  - a) Type 1 Applicants: IRS Letter confirming status as a 501(c)(3) entity. The IRS letter must also include the applicant's Tax Identification Number.
  - b) Type 2 & 3 Applicants: Support letter from the Tribal administrator, chair, or council.
- 3) **Workplan Table**
- 4) **Budget Table**
- 5) **Letters of Support (2)**
- 6) **Project Narrative (10 page maximum)**

# Application Review

- EEE Grant applications under \$150,000 will be reviewed via ministerial review and approved by staff. Applications requesting more than \$150,000 and up to the maximum \$200,000 will be decided on via resolution.
- Staff will check for eligibility and completeness, and rank applications based on scoring criteria.
- A completed [Payee Data Record STD 204](#) form will need to be submitted before payment can be disbursed.
- A completed and signed Grant Agreement will need to be returned (within 30 days) before payment can be disbursed.

# Grant Account Timeline

September 8, 2023



Application Window Opens

October 31, 2023



Application Window Closes

December 11, 2023



Awards Announced

45 days after reported  
milestone  
accomplishment



Award Payments

**Questions?**

**Equity, Engagement, and Education  
Grant Account**

# Clean Energy Access Grant Account

# Clean Energy Access Grant Account

**Total Funding:** \$13,700,000

**Tribal Reserve\*:** \$1,950,000

**Maximum Award:** \$500,000

## Application and Funding Cycle:

- 1st cycle applications available late 2023 or early 2024
- 2nd cycle applications available Summer 2024
- Funding of up to \$500,000 for project activities and application support aimed at increasing access of clean energy programs and energy rebates. Additionally, it supports outreach and awareness related to clean energy programs. To qualify for these grants, the proposed activities must be associated with the following CPUC programs:
  - Microgrid Incentive Program (MIP)
  - Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP)
  - Technology and Equipment for Clean Heating (TECH) Program
- This grant account will not fund infrastructure buildouts, such as hardware or equipment, but will help facilitate the planning of projects.

\*Tribal applicants are eligible for both Tribal-reserved and general non-reserved funds.

# Applicant Resources



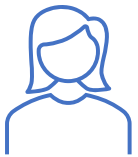
Website



Guidelines



Workplan and Budget Templates



Staff

[www.cpuc.ca.gov/capacitygrants](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/capacitygrants)

# Thank you!



## California Public Utilities Commission

Questions? [Capacitygrants@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:Capacitygrants@cpuc.ca.gov)

[www.cpuc.ca.gov/capacitygrants](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/capacitygrants)