



CALIFORNIA
Workforce Development Board
GRANT SOLICITATION
September 23, 2024



Oil and Gas Well Capping Pilot Initiative

Section One. Program Overview

The California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) and the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (LWDA), in partnership with the California Geologic Energy Management Division of the Department of Conservation (CalGEM) will fund up to \$7,555,327 to a previous or existing High Road Training Partnership to provide on-the-job training for oil well capping.

Under the Budget Act of 2022 (AB 178), the CWDB was allocated funding to develop the Oil and Gas Well Capping Pilot initiative in Kern and Los Angeles counties. The CWDB has solicited and awarded these funds through its High Road Training Partnership (H RTP) program to include the principles of High Road¹ and California Jobs First. The balance of these funds will be awarded under this solicitation specifically for the purpose of training apprentices and upskilling journeypersons on well capping projects.

Application Criteria

Applicants and successful grantee(s) must agree to and meet the following criteria:

- All projects under this initiative are subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.
- Seek and obtain appointment as an agent under Public Resources Code section 3226 so they can enter the premises of wells identified as deserted by CalGEM and perform the plugging and abandonment work on behalf of the state as part of the on-the-job training program. The grantee(s) will be provided guidance on steps for pre-well work activities by CalGEM.
- Once appointed as an agent, the grantee(s) will be responsible for submitting a detailed work plan in a format prescribed by CalGEM, completing any necessary environmental documents to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act, developing health and safety plans for the operation, and other pre-work activities as recommended by CalGEM before commencing well plugging and abandonment work under Public Resources Code section 3203. CalGEM will verify regulatory compliance and restoration of the site. If grantee(s) need technical assistance, CalGEM will provide assistance.
- Participate in up to two (2) community engagement meetings convened by the Department of Conservation to communicate anticipated work to nearby residents.
- At the time of award, grantees must be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations and qualified to perform public work pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5.
- Grantee(s) must comply with all prevailing wage laws and post job site notices as prescribed by regulation. Copies of the prevailing rate of per diem wages are on file at the Department of Conservation's principal office, which shall be made available to any interested party on request.
- Grantee(s) must make available for inspection or furnished upon request to a representative of the awarding body and the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement of the Department of Industrial Relations certified copies of all payroll records enumerated in subdivision (a) of Labor Code section 1776.

CWDB will execute the grant agreement(s), administer the grant funds, and manage grantee(s) under its H RTP portfolio, adhering to all administrative requirements therein. The Department of Conservation will be the awarding body in order to register the grantee(s) project with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) once CWDB and the grantee(s) execute the grant agreement(s).

¹ California Unemployment Insurance Code §14005 R (1-3)

Section Two. Grant Timeline

Event	Details
RFA Release	Monday, September 23, 2024
Applications Due	Monday, October 7, 2024
Award Announcement	Winter 2024
Grant Agreement Processing	December 30, 2024
Estimated Program Start Date	Spring 2025
Grant Term	April 29, 2025 – March 31, 2027

The CWDB may adjust all dates after the application submission deadline on Cal-E-Grants without an addendum to this RFA. All dates in the table above are estimated and may be changed. Significant dates, including cutoff dates and review periods, can be found on the Oil and Gas Well Capping Pilot Initiative [webpage](#).

All applications must be submitted by Monday, October 7, 2024, at 5 p.m. The online application portal will automatically close once the deadline has passed. There are no exceptions to application deadlines. Any technology or inability of an applicant to submit an application by the deadline for any reason shall not be grounds for an extension of the deadline. The CWDB will not accept or review any application materials submitted after the application deadline.

Questions

Questions regarding this RFA can be sent via email to Solicitations@cwdb.ca.gov.

Section Three. Application Submission Instructions

All applications for the Oil and Gas Well Capping Pilot initiative funding must be submitted electronically through the [Cal-E-Grants](#) website. Applicants must submit their application via the **CWDB Open Application** funding opportunity. Paper applications will not be accepted.

To access the **CWDB Open Application** on [Cal-E-Grants](#), applicants must select *the Funding Opportunities* link (located in the upper left corner of the website) or select the *CWDB* link (located in the middle of the website).

To begin the application, locate and select the **CWDB Open Application** link and select *Start Application*.

Cal-E-Grants

In order to receive funding consideration, all required exhibits and documentation must be completed and submitted in Cal-E-Grants by the application deadline.

Creating a Cal-E-Grants Account

New users must create a Cal-E-Grants account to access the CWDB Open Application.

To create an account:

1. Click on the Log In button on [Cal-E-Grants](#).
2. Select Sign Up.
3. Enter the required information in the New User Registration Form.
4. Follow the steps to complete registration.
5. For more information on new registration, refer to the [New User Registration](#).

If a Cal-E-Grants account already exists for your organization, request your organization's primary account holder to add the applying user via the system's Manage Users function. For information on adding new users, visit [Manage Users](#).

Logging in to Cal-E-Grants

Applicants must log in to the webpage using the administrator credentials created by their organization. It is recommended that the individual with the organization's administrator credential be the only person to add new and manage existing users. The administrator can add multiple users, inactivate users, and delete the contents of input fields in the application. When added, new users will be able to complete and submit the CWDB Open Application and, if awarded, have access to complete and submit Quarterly Progress Reports, Invoices, Modification Requests, etc.

Application Elements

Applicants must complete and include each of the following application elements to be considered for funding. Applications submitted with missing or incomplete information will not be reviewed or considered for funding.

Cover Page

Input basic information about the organization and proposed project.

Project Narrative

Respond to the narrative questions about the proposed project.

Work Plan

Provide details about proposed activities and estimated milestone completion dates quarterly throughout the grant term.

Expenditure Plan

Enter quarterly expenditure projections for the proposed grant funding.

Budget Narrative

Provide narrative details related to proposed line-item allocations, including but not limited to cost-breakdown calculations, subrecipient information, and purchase justification.

Supplemental Budget

Complete if grant funds are used for Equipment Purchases, Leased Equipment, Contractual Services, and/or Subrecipient.

Budget Summary

List all line-item allocations of the proposed budget. Costs are divided into two categories: Grant Funds and Leveraged Funds (Match).

Section Four. Selections and Award Process

Required Exhibits

All applicants must complete and submit the required exhibits. The Cal-E-Grants system will not allow an application to be submitted if the required fields are incomplete.

Document Name	Required?
Cover Page	Yes
Project Narrative	Yes
Work Plan	Yes
Expenditure Plan	Yes
Budget Narrative	Yes
Supplemental Budget	Yes, if grant funds are used for Equipment Purchases, Leased Equipment, Contractual Services, and/or Subrecipient
Budge Summary	Yes

Technical Review

All applications received will be subject to an initial round of review by CWDB to ensure adherence to and alignment with program requirements. Applications that do not meet the eligibility requirements/pass technical review will be disqualified.

Communication of Award Decisions

All applicants will receive an emailed communication of their award decision to the primary point of contact identified in their application following the conclusion of the application scoring process. Awarded grantees must respond via email to Solicitations@CWDB.ca.gov within three (3) business days to confirm acceptance of a grant award. Awarded applicants who do not confirm their award within this timeline may be subject to forfeiture of the award.