

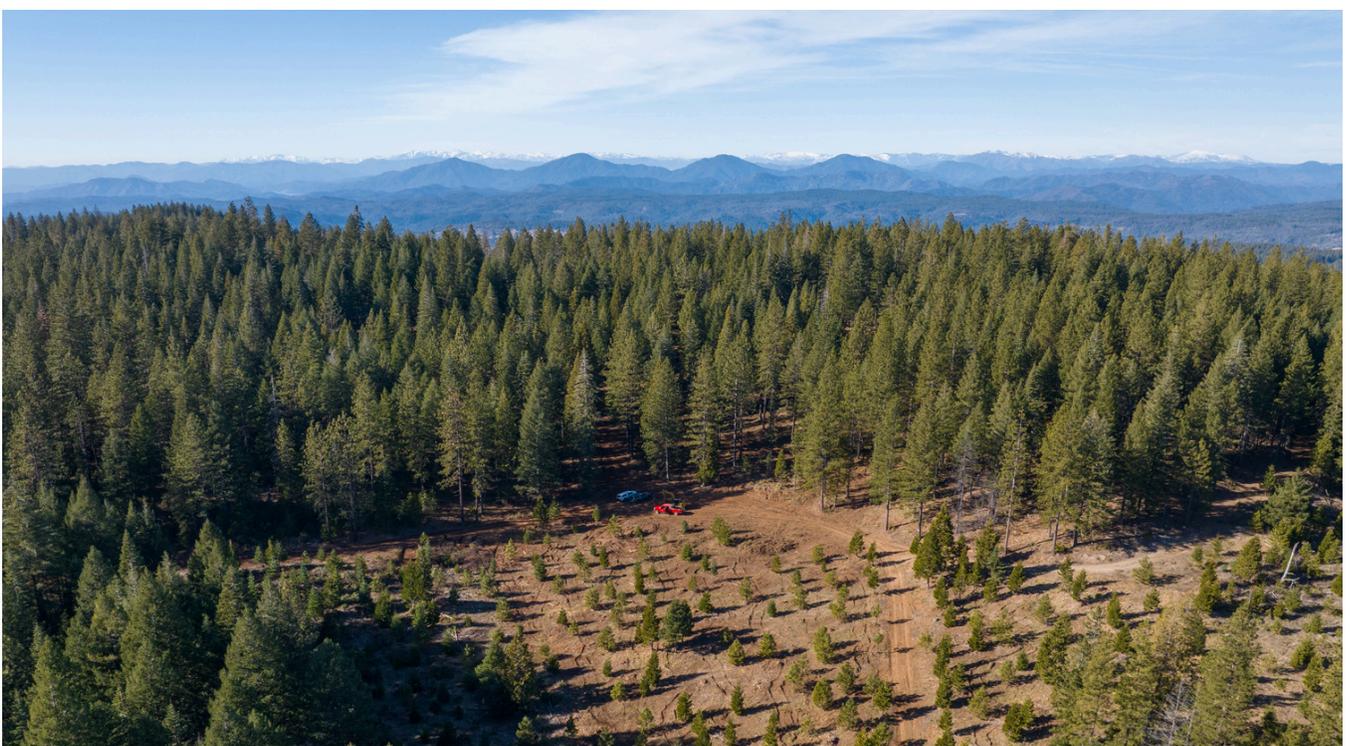


Notice of Funding Opportunity

2026 STATE FIRE CAPACITY GRANT PROGRAM

\$600,000 Available to Eligible Entities Across California

APPLICATIONS OPEN APRIL 1, 2026



Federal financial assistance funding for this opportunity is provided by the United States Forest Service (USFS) as an annual award for FY 25 through the State Fire Capacity Program.

Funding #25-DG-11052012-155

Funding Summary

2026 State Fire Capacity Grant Program

\$600,000 Total Funding Available

Funding Announcement

California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) is pleased to announce an open funding opportunity for the State Fire Capacity (SFC) Grant Program. Funding for the 2026 State Fire Capacity Grant Program is provided for CFSC from the Cooperative Fire Program of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Department of Agriculture, Pacific Southwest Region. The Federal Assistance Listing (formerly Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance - CFDA) number and name are 10.698 Cooperative Fire Program.

Eligibility

Applicants should review this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and the [application guide](#) closely. They contain grant management guidelines and important information about eligible projects. Successful applicants must demonstrate appropriate grant management ability and must be deemed fully eligible for funding by CFSC prior to subaward.

Goals and Strategy

The State Fire Capacity Program serves as a mechanism to help California communities respond to the growing concern over catastrophic wildfire and exemplify efforts to create fire-adapted communities through:

- Hazardous fuels reduction and maintenance projects on non-federal lands.
- Community Wildfire Protection Plans and other wildfire mitigation plans or assessments.
- Wildfire prevention and mitigation education and outreach.

Past awarded projects have bolstered awareness and engaged the public in developing more wildfire resilient neighborhoods and communities, as well as providing planning and capacity funds to identify and prioritize shovel-ready projects.

Available Funding and Match

Applicants may request up to \$200,000 in federal funding for a 24-month period of performance (projected October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2028).

Please note: a cost share match ratio of 1:1.5 (1.5x the awarded amount) will be required for this grant opportunity.

Program Eligibility

2026 State Fire Capacity Grant Program

Organization Eligibility

The following types of organizations are eligible to apply:

- Nonprofit Organizations
- Home/Property Owners Associations
- Native American Tribes
- Resource Conservation Districts
- Municipalities: Towns, Cities, and Counties
- Institutions of Higher Education
- Joint-Powers Authorities
- Special Districts
- School Districts
- State Agencies

Organizations must have had an Independent Financial Audit within the past two years (FY24 or later).

Individuals are not eligible to apply.

For-Profit Organizations are not eligible to apply.

Unincorporated groups/organizations without legal standing* must have a Fiscal Sponsor and submit a Fiscal Sponsor Agreement Letter with their application.

*Legal Standing: By definition, state and local government organizations have legal standing. Non-Profit, for-profit, or other organizations must be incorporated to do business in the State of California or Nevada and have a Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN). Organizations that do not meet these requirements must identify an organization with legal standing to act as a “fiscal sponsor” to administer the grant funds for the applicant.

SAM Requirement

All grant subrecipients will need a Unique Entity ID. This is a requirement to apply for federal financial assistance. This is a free process, but it can take some time. You should begin the registration process by reviewing the *Get Started* page [HERE](#).

Sample Potential Projects

- Chipping, Grazing, & Thinning Programs
- Mastication Programs
- Roadside & Landscape Fuel Breaks
- CWPP Related Fuels Projects
- Timber Harvest Plans
- Outreach Campaigns
- Mailing Programs & Educational Resource Development
- Workshops for Homeowners
- Home Ignition Zone Inspection
- CWPP Development or Updates
- Firewise Planning & Development

Program Expectations

2026 State Fire Capacity Grant Program

How to Apply

Applications open on April 1, 2026. Visit <https://cafiresafecouncil.org/grants-and-funding/apply-for-a-grant> to create a new ZoomGrants account or log in to your existing account and select "26 State Fire Capacity" to begin. The grant program and applications will not be available for viewing until April 1, 2026; however, you should utilize the Application Guide and the Application Planning Tool, which are available [here](#) to assist in developing your application and planning your project.

All applicants must complete the following tabs in the ZoomGrants application:

- Application Summary
- Organization Information
- Project Information
- Tables (includes the work plan, project deliverables and budget detail)
- Required Document Uploads

ZoomGrants Application Assistance: CFSC staff do not have access to your login information. To retrieve login information, you must use the 'Forgot Password' link on the ZoomGrants login page (www.zoomgrants.com/login/). If further assistance is needed, the ZoomGrants Technical Support team is available from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. MDT, Monday through Friday, toll-free at 866-323-5404 or email questions@zoomgrants.com.

Application Timeline

Applications open April 1, 2026, and the application deadline is May 15, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. PDT. Grant awards will be announced in late Summer 2026. The grant term is 24 months with an anticipated period of performance of October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2028.

**Wednesday,
April 1, 2026**

Applications
Open



**Thursday,
April 2, 2026**

Application Development
Webinar (Recorded).
Office Hours: Thursdays



**Friday,
May 15, 2026**

Applications Close
at 11:59 PM PDT



**Thursday,
October 1, 2026**

Grant Period of
Performance
Begins



Frequently Asked Questions

2026 State Fire Capacity Grant Program

Frequently Asked Questions

I applied to 25 SFC and asked for my application to be copied over. Do I have to do anything else?

Yes, if requested, your application was copied over to 26 SFC. Your application will be in an unsubmitted state and available for edits beginning on April 1, 2026. Please note that previously provided documents **do not** copy over and will need to be re-uploaded. The application should be updated to reflect program changes for 26 SFC.

What are the changes that occurred between 25 SFC and 26 SFC?

The grant limit has reduced to \$200,000.00; for-profit organizations are not eligible to apply. Documentation requirements and templates have been updated; applicants must have had at least 1 independent financial audit in the last 2 years. Questions in ZoomGrants have been expanded upon, and application scoring has been updated.

Whom do I contact if I have questions or need assistance with my application?

Please reach out to Chris Lozano, CFSC Senior Grant Specialist, listed on the Contact Us page below, for application-related questions. ZoomGrants system access or technical questions should be sent directly to Questions@ZoomGrants.com.

What is the total funding available per applicant?

Each applicant may apply for up to \$200,000.00 of federal grant funds; however, applicants should only apply for what they can reasonably spend within the period of performance. There is no guarantee that applications will be awarded in full.

Can you further explain the match requirement (1.5x) that is required for this grant application?

For every \$1.00 of federal funding received, the recipient must contribute \$1.50 from non-federal sources toward the total project cost. An applicant applying for the full \$200,000.00 would need to match \$300,000.00 for a total project cost of \$500,000.00.

I understand that Federal guidelines have some specific considerations for selected items of cost. Where is this information so I may review for budget development?

Most information and guidelines for federal grants can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFRs) in Title 2 Part 200 (2 CFR 200). Cost principles are found in Subpart E, and General Provisions on Selected Items of Cost are covered between [200.420-200.476](#).

Can SFC grant funds be used for prescribed burning projects?

The State Fire Capacity Grants do not allow for the completion of prescribed burns that have ground-disturbing or environmental impacts, such as in a fuel treatment project; however, it may be possible to develop capacity for prescribed fire use as part of a larger planning, training, or educational effort.

What is the total length of the grant term, and will there be an option to extend the term if needed?

The total grant term is approximately 24 months (October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2028). There will be no extensions.



Contact Us

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Join us in helping communities live safely with wildfire!



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