

Outreach Grant Program in Valley Air District's AB 617 Communities

Funds for air quality education and outreach projects related to the Community Emissions Reduction Programs developed by AB 617 Community Steering Committees in South Central Fresno, Shafter, Stockton and Arvin/Lamont

Please read the following information in its entirety prior to beginning the application process.

Todos los materiales de solicitud y los acuerdos de subvención se ejecutarán en inglés. Sin embargo, el Distrito alienta a que el alcance se lleve a cabo en inglés, español, punjabí, hmong o tagalo.

WHAT IS AB 617?

What is AB 617 and why is the Valley Air District offering this grant program?

Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617) requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and air districts to develop and implement additional emissions reporting, monitoring, reduction plans and measures in an effort to reduce air pollution exposure in state's most disadvantaged communities. Given that 20 of the 30 most disadvantaged communities in California are in the San Joaquin Valley, this process is bringing additional clean air resources and strategies to many Valley communities.

In 2018, South Central Fresno and the City of Shafter were the first Valley communities selected by CARB for investment of additional resources under AB 617. Each year since, CARB has added one additional Valley community. In 2019, Stockton was selected and in February of 2021, Arvin/Lamont was selected. The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (District) has been actively engaging with these communities to develop Community Emissions Reduction Programs (CERP) and Community Air Monitoring Plans (CAMP). To learn more about the District's AB 617 communities and their activities visit community.valleyair.org.

The Outreach Grant Program in the Valley Air District's AB 617 Communities (Grant) is being implemented to enlist the support of community non-profits in connecting their constituents to information, resources and incentives made available through the CERPs that have been developed in each of the Valley's four AB 617 communities.

WHAT IS THE GRANT?

What is the grant, how much will it fund, and who can apply for a grant?

The District will award up to \$2,000 per organization per year to assist with on-the-ground grass-roots outreach to help promote to the public in the identified AB 617 communities of South Central Fresno, Shafter, Stockton and Arvin/Lamont, the various information, resources and/or incentives available to the public as identified in a particular CERP. Potential information and/or resources might include:

Outreach on health effects of poor air quality:

www.valleyair.org/media/m1qdq2sk/2025-general-short-presentation-for-website_rev.pdf

Outreach to reduce illegal burning (such as the burning of trash):

www.valleyair.org/media/sjpfp5v4/burningtrashbrochure-2024-web.pdf

Clean Green Yard Machines Grant program which partially funds the replacement of residential gas-powered lawn and garden equipment with electric equipment: valleyair.org/cgym

Fireplace & Woodstove Change-out Program which funds the replacement of wood-burning fireplaces and stoves with electric heat pumps or gas devices: valleyair.org/change-out

Promotion of "REPAIR" events which assist individuals with vehicle repairs so that they can get their cars smogged: valleyair.org/driveclean-repair

The on-the-ground grass-roots outreach may include door-to-door canvassing, hosting outreach events, or conducting presentations in one or multiple languages. However, the District is open to new ideas and encourages innovation, if you have an idea that does not fit within any of these categories; we still encourage you to apply.

ELIGIBILITY

The District will accept grant applications from schools and universities, student groups, community groups, service clubs, youth organizations, churches, and other not-for-profit organizations located within the boundaries of the Valley Air District.

Outreach Project Location

Outreach projects must be targeted at the residents living within the boundaries of one of the District's AB 617 Communities of South Central Fresno, Shafter, Stockton or Arvin/Lamont. To see the boundaries of the AB 617 communities, please visit the community profile pages here: community.valleyair.org.

ELIGIBILITY (CON'T)

Eligible Expenses and Payment

Eligible uses of grant funds include, but are not limited to:

- *wages or salaries for direct outreach (such as door-to-door canvassing);*
- *purchase of materials and supplies;*
- *equipment rental;*
- *printing and postage of publicity and promotional materials;*
- *refreshments and other incentives for volunteers.*

ADDITIONAL REQ

In addition to meeting the eligibility requirements and conducting outreach related to a CERP, grant recipients must:

- *Obtain all appropriate permissions and permits for the project, if any;*
- *Provide the District with copies of any documents or materials produced for the project;*
- *For school projects, provide the District with examples of student work prepared through the project;*
- *Acknowledge District and CARB in all project promotional materials, printed programs or reports;*
- *Photograph project activities and provide the District with copies of the photographs;*
- *Upon project completion provide the District with a brief final project report.*

EVALUATION

The District reserves the sole discretion to determine if an applicant or project meets eligibility requirements, whether proposed expenses are an appropriate use of grant funds, and whether an application is complete. To this end, the District may request supplemental information regarding the project. Staff's evaluation, selection, and recommendations for funding will be based on:

- *The proposed project meets the grant objective to conduct public outreach within the District's AB 617 communities about the various information, resources and/or incentives available to the public as identified in a particular CERP.*
- *The project description, tasks and schedules are clear and complete.*
- *The budget is adequately detailed and appropriate.*
- *The project is fully funded. Non-grant funds necessary to complete the project should be available, or be realistically projected to become available within the grant period.*
- *The applicant demonstrates the ability to coordinate, manage and complete the project.*

FUNDING

Co-funding for identical outreach activities is not allowed. You must disclose if you have applied for, are planning to apply for, or have received funding from any other sources for this Project, and the activities that will be funded from such other sources. Applying for funding from other sources for this Project does not necessarily preclude you from applying for or receiving funds under this program. However, Projects will not be eligible to receive funds through this program to fund identical outreach activities as will be funded from such other sources.

ACKNOWLEDGE

This outreach is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide initiative that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy and improving public health and the environment – particularly in disadvantaged communities. The program is also supported by the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District to promote the AB 617 program in targeted Valley communities.

The following logos are required on any outreach materials:



HOW TO APPLY

APPLICATION LINK

The District anticipates accepting applications on a rolling basis with awards being granted monthly.

If you have any questions about the Outreach Grant Program in Valley Air District's AB 617 Communities, please reach out via phone, email, or fax, to:

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