

Senate Bill 1 Technical Assistance Program: Frequently Asked Questions

Updated on June 29, 2023

Eligibility/Evaluation Criteria

| Question | Answer |
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| Are non-California entities eligible for funding? What about non-US entities? | Project funding must demonstrate a benefit to the state of California. "Applicants" generally refers to California-based entities. However, staff residing in California, project funding expended in California, or subgrantees partnering with California-based entities will also be considered. International applicants and partners are not eligible to be grantees. |
| Are private entities eligible for funding? | Private entities are not eligible to be the lead applicant. However, private entities are eligible to be a part of the Applicant team as a subcontractor. For a full list of eligible lead applicants, please refer to <i>Section III. A. Grant Eligibility</i> in the RFP. |
| Is there a limit to how many subcontractors/collaborators can be on an application? | This Solicitation encourages a team-based approach to technical assistance. Various entities collaborating to contribute specific subject matter expertise is expected. There is no limit to the number of entities collaborating on one application. |

| Will the TA Provider that is selected be eligible to act as staff or contractor for other SB 1 grant projects? | No, the selected TA Provider and all staff and subcontractors working under its direction relative to this funding shall not be eligible to act as staff or contractor for any SB 1 grantee, nor may it receive separate SB 1 grant funds for its own projects. This includes implementation of plans or projects. Please refer to the Solicitation under <i>Conflicts of Interest</i> for more information on this. |
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| Will the TA Provider that is selected be able to help applicants that are not eligible for TA prepare an SB 1 grant application? | No, the selected TA Provider and all staff and subcontractors working under its direction relative to this funding shall not be eligible to provide assistance in preparing SB 1 applications for entities that are not eligible to receive TA. |

Funding

| Question | Answer |
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| Is a match in funds required for applications? | No, while the use of leveraged funds is appreciated, it will not be given priority in the evaluation process. |
| Are there restrictions on what can be included in the budget? | Yes, please refer to OPC's Budget and Invoicing Guide for this list of restrictions. |
| What is the funding timeline? | We expect to select a TA Provider in the late Summer/early Fall 2023, with grant agreement write-up and execution occurring immediately after selection. Once an agreement is executed, the project can begin. |
| How much of the budget should go towards Task 4? | A majority of the budget should go towards Task 4, as is stated in the Application Template. |

TA Recipients and SB 1 Grant Program Applicants

| Question | Answer |
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| What have potential applicants stated in the past as areas where they need the most help in obtaining state funding? | The list that is provided on page 10 of the RFP reflects feedback regarding challenging aspects of past state funding application processes. The final list of TA services that is provided in the application should be refined to reflect past experiences the Applicant team has had with TA, and the strengths and capabilities of the Applicant team. As the SB 1 Grant Program further develops, OPC is working to identify areas where the application process can be more equitable and streamlined. |
| How many TA Recipients are expected to be served under the SB 1 TA Program? | The number of TA Recipients able to be served under the SB 1 TA Program will be dependent on a variety of factors that are provided at the Application stage. These include the proposed TA Recipient criteria (who may qualify to be a TA Recipient), the maximum number of hours each TA Recipient can receive, the budget, and Outreach and Education plans. The Applicant is encouraged to use any prior TA experience when developing these components of the application. |
| Does OPC know who will be applying to the SB 1 Grant Program? Is OPC targeting specific areas along the coast for TA? | While the SB 1 Grant Program is still under development, it is known that the eligible applicants will be local, regional, and tribal governments. For more information on which coastal jurisdictions may be interested in |

applying to the SB 1 Grant Program, refer to the California Coastal Adaptation Planning Inventory, which provides information about the status and trends of sea-level rise (SLR) adaptation planning along California's Outer Coast. The Inventory will be updated in 2024 to include San Francisco Bay, State Parks, tribal lands, and federal lands.

Miscellaneous

| Question | Answer |
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| Are there any examples of established TA Programs similar to this one? | While we are not aware of any TA Programs in the SLR planning space, there are many well-established TA Programs that assist, or have assisted, TA Recipients applying for state funding. As a starting point, please refer to the Strategic Growth Council's Technical Assistance resources, including their Case Studies that highlight successful technical assistance efforts of State agencies. |
| Are there more opportunities to provide Technical Assistance for OPC Projects and Programs? | The SB 1 TA Program is the first OPC TA Program to be established at OPC. However, we anticipate that OPC TA efforts will continue to expand. As such, OPC staff have outlined the OPC TA Core Values, a living document that seeks to provide background and guidance in the design of OPC TA Programs. |
| What is the SB 1 Grant Program that this TA Program is being created for? Is it currently active? | The SB 1 Grant Program is still in the process of being developed. The overall goal of the Grant Program is to provide funding for coastal communities to develop SLR adaptation plans |

| | to build resilience to SLR along the entire coast |
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| | of California and San Francisco Bay. This TA |
| | Program and the SB 1 Grant Program are |
| | planned for a paired launch in Fall 2023. |
| How much funding is available for the SB 1 | A total of \$102 million has been appropriated to |
| Grant Program? | OPC for the implementation of SB 1 through |
| | the Budget Acts of 2022 and 2023. |
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| Where will the SB 1 TA Program information | The SB 1 TA Program Information and |
| and resources be hosted? | Resources will be hosted on the OPC Website. |
| | However, the TA Provider will play a critical role |
| | in the development of the SB 1 TA Program |
| | materials and resources that are shared. |