



# Senate Bill 1 Technical Assistance Program

## Criteria Explanation

*Version: March 2024*

The Senate Bill 1 Technical Assistance Program (SB 1 TA Program) aims to provide SB 1 grant application support to eligible local, regional, and tribal governments facing significant and imminent sea level rise threats along the California coast and San Francisco Bay shoreline. The SB 1 TA Program will prioritize applicants based on the following criteria outlined below:

*Multiple criteria may apply to your jurisdiction, and therefore applicants are encouraged to consider all criteria that apply.*

### *Environmental Justice Community:*

Environmental Justice (EJ) communities are communities disproportionately impacted by environmental injustices and social inequities, and historically underserved. [OPC's Equity Plan \(2022\)](#) acknowledges that EJ communities often face heightened exposure to environmental hazards in contrast to surrounding communities. Jurisdictions (cities or counties) with EJ communities are prioritized for TA.

EJ communities are identified and prioritized using the following definitions and tools:

- At or above 75% [CalEnviroScreen Version 4.0](#)
- At or below 25% [California Healthy Places Index \(HPI\)](#)
- Disadvantaged communities (DAC) and/or Severely Disadvantaged Communities (SDAC), as identified with the [Parks Community FactFinder Map](#)

### **Other tools that may be used to identify EJ Communities include:**

- Regionally/locally defined underserved communities
- At or below 80% [Assembly Bill 1550](#) (Gomez, Chapter 369, Statutes of 2016)

### *Federally Recognized Tribe or Tribal Partner:*

The SB 1 TA Program aims to address the historical injustices against all California Native American tribes. Federally recognized tribes, along with applicants that intend to build meaningful partnerships with both federally and non-federally recognized tribes, will be prioritized to receive TA. Federally recognized tribes and organizations with meaningful



partnerships with non-federally recognized tribes as outlined below will be prioritized for technical assistance:

- Federally recognized Native American tribes
- Eligible governments partnering with California Native American tribes
  - Partnerships must go above and beyond subawards to include long term collaboration and strategic partnerships.
  - For example, partnerships that go beyond consultation, with co-developed deliverables, coordination, and partnership with the tribe(s). Long-term and continued partnership should be demonstrated.
  - *Please note that a letter of support will be required from the Tribal Council to satisfy SB 1 Grant eligibility requirements under this sub criterion on the applicant's full proposal. However, a letter of support is not required to qualify for TA.*

#### *Small and Rural Community:*

The SB 1 TA Program Team acknowledges that small and rural communities are often subject to their own set of climate adaptation challenges including distance from critical services and infrastructure disinvestment. Additionally, local government agencies in small and rural communities are often constrained on staffing and other capacity, making it challenging for them to respond to funding opportunities and fill planning gaps. Jurisdictions with small and rural communities as outlined below will be prioritized for technical assistance:

- Rural coastal communities of 50,000 or less and outside of urbanized areas relevant to an applicant's jurisdiction
- Isolated communities situated outside of contiguous urban areas, with populations fewer than 75,000, and designated as low-income per Assembly Bill (AB) 1550
- Small or rural community designation under OPR's Small and Rural Community Screening Tool
- Communities facing physical isolation from critical infrastructure and services, increased dependence on natural resources, and economic diversification challenges
- Designated as low capacity by Headwaters Economics' Rural Capacity Index

#### *Other:*

This criterion offers an opportunity for applicants to submit their locally specific barriers to SLR planning. Suggestions for locally specific barriers include but are not limited to:

- Planning project in the proposal is highly complex that requires additional technical assistance



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- Jurisdiction does not have a SLR planning grant in the pipeline and has not received a SLR planning grant in the past
- Jurisdiction has not completed a SLR vulnerability assessment, an Adaptation Strategy, or a SLR plan update
- Jurisdiction faces budget constraints
- Jurisdiction faces staffing issues
- Constituents are reluctant to prioritize SLR planning