

Draft Equipment Request for Applications

Public Comment Session

November 30, 2022

HEALTHY REFRIGERATION GRANT PROGRAM



CDFA OFFICE OF
FARM *to* FORK
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



Hearing Stakeholder Input on the RFA

- Two ways to submit comments:
 - Verbally or via chat today
 - By email to cafarmtofork@cdfa.ca.gov by Dec 12th
- Today's session will be recorded for internal use
- Comments will be summarized & responses will be posted: cafarmtofork.cdfa.ca.gov/hrgp.html
 - Posted comments will all be anonymous



Agenda

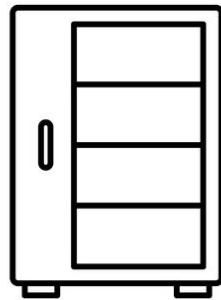
- 1. Provide information about the draft RFA**
- 2. For CDFA to hear comments and questions**
 - For consideration in final RFA & future RFAs
 - To summarize & provide responses



Purpose & Available Funding



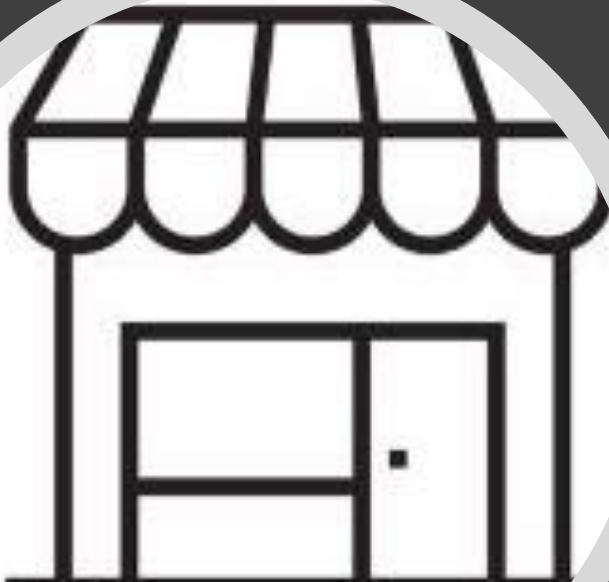
HRGP funds energy-efficient refrigeration equipment in corner stores, small businesses, and food donation programs in low-income and low-food access areas



This RFA is for:

- Applicants seeking refrigeration equipment
- Organizations applying for equipment and to provide technical assistance (TA) to corner stores, small businesses, or food donation programs

Up to \$12 million in grants available



Changes to Pilot Program

2 types of Technical Assistance:

- Technical Assistance grant round (targeting 3-5% of funding pool)
- For organizations providing equipment & TA, cap on TA raised to 20%

Expanded items can be stocked in fridges:

- Vegetables, fruits, nuts, meat, eggs, dairy products, minimally processed (including frozen, dried, smoked, fermented), culturally appropriate foods grown in CA to extent possible

Expanded cold storage equipment can be considered:

- Including freezers

Expanded eligibility:

- Food donation programs can be considered

Advance payments can be considered:

- Up to 3 months of expenses, for no more than 90% of grant total
- Provided terms and conditions are satisfied



RFA Basics

HRGP is established in Food and Agricultural Code Section 49105 & funded through the 2021 and 2022 state budgets

Up to \$12M is available for equipment grants

- A second equipment grant round will be held in fall 2023
- No minimum or maximum cap for requests
- One and multi-year grants considered
 - Target start date in summer-fall 2023
 - Ending by December 2026
- Applications submitted via CDFA's new grant management system, AmpliFund

Eligibility

Corner stores

Small businesses

Nonprofits


- providing equipment & TA to corner stores/food donation programs
- Selling food directly in low-income/low-access areas

Cities/counties/local government orgs

Tribal governments

Previous applicants and grantees

- past implementation performance will be considered



Allowable
Expenses and
Disbursement

For All Grantees:

Refrigeration and freezer equipment

Installation/unloading & placement Costs

Removal & recycling of equipment being upgraded

Minor electrical work

For Technical Assistance (TA) Providers:

All the above

TA at no more than 20% of the total grant amount, including:

- Staff time & benefits
- Travel
- Materials
- Other direct costs
- Subcontracting (with justification)

Indirect rate – up to 10% of total grant amount

Reimbursement & Advance Pay

Reimbursements:

- Monthly, quarterly or annual reimbursements
- Payments issued 45-60 days after invoices approved

Advance Pay when Cash Flow is Low:

- Up to 3 months of expenses
- No more than 90% of total grant
- Complete application form
- Funds must be spent before new advance
- Grantees can't earn interest on advances
- Cities, counties, & universities not eligible
- Can be combined with reimbursements

Technical Assistance

March 2022 Technical Assistance Provider (TAP) grant round:

- Seven TAPs assist with:
 - Outreach and application assistance
 - Technical expertise with refrigeration, energy efficiency, climate friendly equipment, or “healthy retail” best practices

Visit cafarmtofork.cdfa.ca.gov/hrgp.html to find TAPs contact information

This grant round:

- Organizations applying on behalf of corner store, small businesses, or food donation programs
- Equipment and "hands-on" TA such as:
 - Selection, purchase, installation
 - Procurement, stocking, merchandising
- Up to 20% of budgets for TA
- TA must be provided free of cost to grantees

Selecting Equipment

Resources

- RFA guidelines
- Pre-vetted equipment lists in RFA appendices
- TA Providers

Energy-efficient & climate friendly

- Units with doors
 - Open cases must be justified
- Standalones use hydrocarbons
- Select lowest GWP refrigerant if choice

Assistance

- CDFA: cafarmtofork@cdfa.ca.gov
- For unusual questions:
Effecterra: <http://www.tinyurl.com/hrgp-technical>



Proposal Review



1. Administrative Review

2. Technical Committee Review
(including external reviewers)

- Call for reviewers

3. CDFA Executive leadership
approves final awards

- CDFA may ask clarifying questions, modify proposals, or make partial awards

Funding Priorities

Communities Served

- Low-income and low-food access
- Socially disadvantaged groups

Track Record or Strong Plan

- Experience
- Evidence of demand
- Partnerships

Technical Assistance

- TAPs have capacity, expertise, relationships
- Clear plan

Implementation Plan

- Reasonable timeline, goals, outcomes

Budget

- Reasonable, consistent with implementation plan, sufficient

Timeline for RFA

RFA Released for Public Comment	November 21, 2022
Listening Sessions for Live Comments	November 30, 2022 December 1, 2022
Public Comments Due	December 12, 2022 5:00 pm PT
Comments Addressed and RFA Released	Mid December 2022
Grant Applications Due	March 15, 2023 5:00 pm PT
Anticipated Awards Announcement	Late May 2023
Tentative Start Date for Grant Terms	August 2023
End Date for Grant Terms	By December 2026
Tentative Date for Round Two RFA Release	September 2023

Reporting Requirements

Corner stores and small businesses:

- Supply a photo of new equipment in use
- Participate in the evaluation

Nonprofits and local government organizations:

- Annual and final report plus photos
- Participate in the evaluation
- Facilitate evaluation for sites

Participation in the program evaluation

- Evaluation activities may include:
 - Survey completion
 - Participating in interviews
 - Store visits
 - Surveys and/or interviews with customers
 - Collection of sales data and/or energy bills

Questions and Comments

Contact us at
cafarmtofork@cdfa.ca.gov

by December 12th, 5pm PT

