

PG&E Resilience Hubs Grant Application 2021

Overview & Eligibility

Communities across California face growing threats from the projected changes in the state's climate. These risks include extreme weather events such as coastal and inland flooding, heat waves, wildfires, and more powerful storms, as well as slow onset stresses like sea level rise and rising average temperatures.

Some California communities may lack a safe gathering place or access to critical services during a climate-driven extreme weather event or other local emergency or disruption. These events can have a disproportionate impact on vulnerable populations, including environmental and social justice communities, who may have fewer resources to absorb and recover from disruptive events.

Through the Resilience Hubs grant program, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is requesting grant proposals to help communities build a network of local resilience hubs. These projects can provide a physical space or set of resources that supports community resilience—such as access to power, shelter, and information—to climate-driven extreme weather events, including wildfires, as well as future Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events. Once developed, the hubs can also be accessed year-round to build and sustain community adaptive capacity in a trusted location.

Suitable approaches for resilience hub proposals may include, but are not limited to, conducting a feasibility analysis to assess resilience hub needs through local engagement, planning and design of physical spaces or mobile resources that will provide community resilience benefit, or retrofits of existing buildings or structures to support community resilience.

Recognizing the varying needs and levels of project planning across communities, PG&E will issue a total of \$400,000 in grant awards in 2021 at both the \$25,000 and \$100,000 level, depending on the applications we receive:

- **Feasibility Projects:** Proposals for grants of \$25,000 each, to fund an assessment of resilience hub needs and conceptual ideas for a resilience hub.
- **Design and Build Projects:** Proposals for grants of \$100,000 each, to fund the design and/or creation of a resilience hub, either planning and design of new physical spaces or mobile resources or retrofits of existing buildings or structures to support community resilience.

Priority will be given to projects that address the needs of disadvantaged and/or vulnerable communities. These grants are intended to serve as seed funding to support resilience hub facility planning and design. Communities may need to pursue other sources of funding to cover the full cost of the hub.

This funding will be distributed through a competitive solicitation and bid process to eligible nonprofit or government organizations (including tribal governments) within PG&E's service territory. Applicants must be prepared to provide documentation to demonstrate they meet PG&E's criteria for eligibility.

Applicants should apply for either a Feasibility Project or a Design and Build Project based on the proposed activities and existing information regarding the need and feasibility of a resilience hub in your

community. If you need to begin with assessing the need for or feasibility of your hub idea, you can apply for a Feasibility Project in this cycle and then apply for a Design and Build Project in a future cycle.

Application Evaluation

Proposals must comply with all submission instructions and guidelines to be considered for funding.

Evaluation Criteria:

PG&E will evaluate all proposals according to the application sections below. Application Part 3.1 applies only to proposals for Design and Build Projects; all other sections are required for both award types.

Requirements for Grantees

Funded applications will be expected to complete the following actions:

- Respond to a PG&E questionnaire about the project.
- Participate in quarterly update calls with PG&E.
- Provide a report to PG&E detailing project actions, stakeholders engaged, capacity building achievements, additional resources leveraged, and other outcomes, including an executive summary.

Applying

The deadline for applications is **Tuesday, August 31, 2021**. Applications should be submitted to ResilienceHubs@pge.com.

[Click here](#) for additional information on the Resilience Hubs grant program. Any questions should be submitted to ResilienceHubs@pge.com.

BEGIN APPLICATION

Registration:

1. Organization Legal Name:
2. Tax ID Number:
3. Organization Official Address:
4. Organization Main Phone:
5. Organization Mission Statement:
6. How did you hear about the Resilience Hubs grant program? (Optional)

Primary Contacts:

7. Name of Organization's Highest-Level Employee:
8. Associated Title (e.g., "Executive Director"):
9. Associated Email Address:
10. Name of Grant Manager:
11. Grant Manager Main Phone:
12. Grant Manager Email:

Application Part 1 – Project Overview and Goals

- 1a. Provide a title for your proposed project:
- 1b. Which grant are you applying for: *Feasibility Project* or *Design and Build Project*?
- 1c. In which county or jurisdiction will grant funds primarily be used?
- 1d. Briefly describe the proposed project and project goals: *(150 words or less)*
- 1e. What is the project duration including start and end dates?

Application Part 2 – Statement of Need

(Recommend 200-300 words per sub-section 2a–2c; total response to Part 2 section should not exceed 2 pages).

- 2a. State the need for this project and provide any background and context necessary to understand the project's purpose.
- 2b. Provide a clear characterization of what climate hazard(s) this project will address, including the current and future risk of the climate hazard(s) using appropriate data.
- 2c. Describe the community that this project will serve and how your project will help address the identified needs of disadvantaged and/or vulnerable communities.

Application Part 3 – Project Approach and Project Impact

(Total response to Part 3 section should not exceed 3 pages.)

- 3a. Provide a detailed description of your project approach, including the specific activities that will help achieve your project goals. Describe your approach and rationale for planned stakeholder involvement in the project.
- 3b. Describe which organization(s) you will partner with and why and the role of these partners in your project. If match funding is required for the full scope of the project, consider describing your intent for and status of match funding.
- 3c. Describe the anticipated outcomes your project will have and how you will measure success.

Application Part 3.1 – Project Feasibility [APPLIES TO DESIGN AND BUILD PROJECTS ONLY]

(Total response to Part 3.1 section should not exceed 3 pages.)

- 3.1.a Describe how the project defines a resilience hub (see supporting material for more information on resilience hubs and examples).
- 3.1.b Describe the proposed site(s) of the hub and how you anticipate the site(s) will be resilient to climate hazards. Describe the accessibility of the site to vulnerable and/or disadvantaged communities that would likely rely on it and its accessibility to populations of different mobility and communication levels.
- 3.1.c Describe how the proposed resilience hub will create or enhance the adaptive capacity of the community to relevant climate hazard(s). This may include how the proposed hub relates to existing programs and/or plans, such as larger community resilience or emergency plans.
- 3.1.d Describe how the proposed hub will provide community benefit during non-event times.
- 3.1.e Describe how the project will identify and overcome barriers to achieve sustained success and how your project will enhance community resilience to identified climate hazard(s) beyond the life of the grant.

Application Part 4 – Timeline and Budget

(Part 4 will not count against any word counts or page limits; take the space and words you see as necessary.)

- 4a. Include a timeline of your project including specific tasks, schedule and outcomes for the project. Timeline can be in a table or outline form.
- 4b. Budget table and narrative required to indicate the budget for:
 - Salaries and benefits
 - Equipment and supplies
 - Travel/Training/Other expenses (please specify)
 - Total Funding Request (sum of the categories above)
 - Any additional funding sources that would supplement PG&E grant funding

Application Part 5 – Letters of Support [Optional]

To supplement your grant proposal, please consider attaching letters of support from your project partners, community members, or other stakeholders. Letters of support are optional but recommended to demonstrate community support for your proposal.

Glossary of Terms

Note that all definitions are quoted directly from the [CalOES Adaptation Planning Guide](#), except for *Resilience Hub* (which is defined for the purpose of this grant).

| Term | Definition |
|-------------------------|---|
| Resilience Hub | A resilience hub provides a physical space or set of resources that support resilience in communities—including access to power, shelter, or information—during climate-driven major weather events and other extreme events, while helping to build and sustain year-round community adaptive capacity, especially for vulnerable communities. |
| Adaptation | Making changes in response to current or future conditions (such as the increased frequency and intensity of climate-related hazards), usually to reduce harm and to take advantage of new opportunities. |
| Disadvantaged community | Areas disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative public health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation, or with concentrations of people that are of low income, high unemployment, low levels of homeownership, high rent burden, sensitive populations, or low levels of educational attainment. |
| Sensitivity | The level to which a community, government, species, natural system, or other entity would be affected by changing climate conditions. |
| Vulnerability | Climate vulnerability describes the degree to which natural, built, and human systems are susceptible to harm from exposure to stresses associated with environmental and social change and from the absence of capacity to adapt. |
| Vulnerable communities | Communities that experience heightened risk and increased sensitivity to climate change and have less capacity and fewer resources to cope with, adapt to, or recover from climate impacts. These disproportionate effects are caused by physical (built and environmental), social, political, and/or economic factor(s), which are exacerbated by climate impacts. These factors include, but are not limited to, race, class, sexual orientation and identification, national origin, and income inequality. |