

Proposition 64 Public Health & Safety Grant

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Updated March 9, 2026

Eligibility of School Districts and County Offices of Education

- 1. Can a school districts or a county office of education apply as the grantee, or is eligibility limited to cities and counties?** No, grant eligibility is limited to cities, counties, or cities and counties.
- 2. Can a school district or county office of education (COE) be designated as the Lead Public Agency (LPA) on a city's or county's application?** Yes. A city or county applicant may choose to select a school district or county office of education to serve as its LPA, but as the grantee, the city or county is still ultimately responsible for management and oversight of the grant award.

Cohort 3 Restrictions

- 3. If a city or county is currently a Cohort 3 grantee, are there restrictions on applying for Cohort 4?** Yes. The city or county must designate a different LPA than the one listed in the Cohort 3 Grant Agreement.
- 4. Can an LPA in Cohort 3 participate in Cohort 4 as a funded partner?** Yes. Cohort 3 LPAs may participate in Cohort 4 as partners or subcontractors, as long as a different LPA is designated for the new application.
- 5. If we are still operating Cohort 3 grant, what additional requirements apply?** A city or county operating a Cohort 3 grant must designate a new LPA.

Eligibility Criteria

- 6. If a county prohibits retail sales in unincorporated areas but a city within the county allows retail, is the county eligible?** No. Eligibility is based on the applicant jurisdiction's ordinances, not those of the cities within it.
- 7. Are different departments of a county government eligible to apply separately?** Yes. A jurisdiction may submit up to two proposals, each with a different LPA and different scope of work.
- 8. Does "cities and counties" include agencies or organizations located within them?** The city or county must be the applicant. An agency or organization located within the city or county may serve as the LPA.
- 9. If a city or county becomes eligible after the release of the RFP, would they be eligible to apply for funding?** Jurisdictions must meet eligibility criteria by the proposal due date, March 30, 2026.

- 10. If a city or county is not eligible to be a grantee, can they receive funds as part of a regional task force or as a subcontractor on the grant of an eligible city or county?** No. Cities and counties that are ineligible may not receive Prop 64 grant funds.
- 11. If cities within a county are not eligible to apply, does that make the county ineligible to apply for funds?** No, a county's eligibility is exclusive of the eligibility of the cities.
- 12. If a city is eligible, but is within a county that is ineligible, is that city still eligible?** Yes, a city's eligibility is exclusive of the eligibility of the county.

Application Preparation, Submittable App & Administrative Roles

- 13. Can an agency submit a grant application on behalf of the LPA?** Anyone may prepare and upload application materials, but the applicant must be a city or county.
- 14. Can another agency prepare narrative and fiscal reports on behalf of the LPA?** Yes. Preparation or reports may be delegated, but the grantee remains responsible for accuracy, compliance, and submission.
- 15. Can the day-to-day program contact be a subgrantee or subcontractor?** Yes, the day-to-day program contact may be a subgrantee or subcontractor, but the Project Director must be an employee of the grantee.
- 16. Can subgrantees have subgrantees?** Yes, but the applicant is responsible for ensuring all subgrantees and subcontractors meet BSCC eligibility and reporting requirements.
- 17. Is the Letter of Intent (LOI) required?** No. The LOI is optional and nonbinding.
- 18. Can the LOI list the LPA as "To be Determined" (TBD)?** Yes.
- 19. Is there required language for the governing board resolution?** Yes. Appendix D of the RFP includes required assurance language that must be included in the resolution.
- 20. Is there flexibility for local approval requirements given the short timeline between notification and award?** Yes. The governing body resolution is not required at proposal submission but must be submitted before the grant agreement is executed.
- 21. Is the Submittable application able to be saved and reopened?** Yes. Applicants may save drafts and return to them using the "Save Draft" button.

- 22. What items differ between Cohorts 2/3 and Cohort 4?** Key differences come from changes made to the Revenue and Taxation Code and include less restrictive eligibility criteria and a focus on “enforcement of illicit cannabis.”
- 23. Can the Authorized Official sign two applications from the same jurisdiction?** Yes. A jurisdiction may submit two proposals, and the same Authorized Official may sign both if they have legal authority.
- 24. Can applicants begin entering information into Submittable early – such as budget templates, narratives, and required attachments – to avoid lastminute technical issues?** Yes. Applicants are strongly encouraged to begin entering information into the Submittable Application Portal as early as possible, including uploading draft versions of the Budget Attachment, Project Narrative, and other required documents.
- 25. How can we submit supplemental data (e.g., maps, technical information)?** Supplemental attachments are not allowed.

Collaboration & Multi-Jurisdictional Work

- 26. Can three lead agencies from different jurisdictions submit individual applications but collaborate on enforcement?** Yes. Each jurisdiction may submit its own application and collaborate regionally, as long as funds are not passed on to ineligible jurisdictions.
- 27. Is collaboration with other agencies required?** No. Collaboration is encouraged but not required.
- 28. Is each application only competing against applications under the same Program Purpose Area (PPA)?** No. Applicants will compete within their applicable category, which is based on jurisdiction size.

Geographic Scope

- 29. Can grant activities take place outside the applicant city?** Yes.
- 30. Can funds be used on federally owned lands (e.g., Forest Service/Bureau of Land Management)?** Yes.
- 31. Can Prop 64-funded services be offered to residents, or delivered inside, of a city or county that is ineligible?** Yes. Prop 64 funded services can be provided inside of an ineligible city or county, but the ineligible city or county may not receive Prop 64 funds.

Coordination with Department of Cannabis Control (DCC)

- 32. Is there a requirement to work with DCC to receive enforcement funding?** Not directly. The BSCC will coordinate with DCC on the administration of grants funded under PPA 1.
- 33. Is there a specific workflow or task force required with DCC?** No.

Project Structure & Budgeting

- 34. Can an applicant choose more than one PPA?** Yes.
- 35. Can a sheriff's department submit a proposal covering PPA 1 and PPA 2 in one application?** Yes. Applicants may select one or more PPAs in a single proposal.
- 36. Can an LPA also be hired as a consultant with the subgrantee?** No.
- 37. Are school districts (as subcontractors) required to register with the CA Secretary of State?** No. Only non-governmental organizations (NGOs) must meet this requirement.
- 38. Is a "project" the entire grant request or the subcomponents?** A project refers to the entire grant funded effort, including all PPAs and activities.
- 39. Can contracts with vendors be shorter than the full 5-year period?** Yes. Applicants must budget for the full 5-year grant term, but vendor contracts do not need to last all five years.
- 40. If existing vendor contracts are ending, can this grant continue them?** Yes, as long as the contract supports allowable activities and does not constitute supplanting. Grant funds must augment or expand activities, not replace existing funding.
- 41. If we have a funding plan but have not funded a project, would that be supplanting?** No. Supplanting occurs only when existing funds are reduced because grant funds replace them.
- 42. If a JAG-funded program ends and would cease without this grant, is applying considered supplanting?** No. If the prior funding source has ended, continuing the program with Prop 64 funds is not supplanting.
- 43. Are there opportunities for budget and work plan revisions during the 5-year cycle?** Yes. Budgets may be revised with BSCC written approval.
- 44. Do funds roll over from year to year?** The grant is a single 5-year award, not annual allocations.

45. Is the Sacramento trip a one-time requirement or annual? The Sacramento trip is a one-time requirement.

Questions Related to PPA 1 (Public Safety/Enforcement)

46. What is considered “enforcement” for the purpose of this grant? Please refer to page 8 of the RFP: “For purposes of this grant, ‘enforcement’ refers to the coordinated activities undertaken by a local jurisdiction to identify, investigate, disrupt, and deter illicit commercial cannabis operations. Enforcement includes administrative, civil, and criminal actions that uphold state and local cannabis laws through inspections, investigations, nuisance abatement efforts, legal proceedings, and multiagency operations designed to protect public health, consumer safety, the environment, and the integrity of the licensed cannabis market.”

47. For PPA 1, are law enforcement agencies eligible to apply solely for technology related projects? Yes. Technology only projects are eligible under PPA 1 if the technology directly supports enforcement activities.

48. Does “illegal cannabis” include illegal THC products sold at retail stores?
Yes.

49. Is enforcement of smoke shops or gift shops with unpermitted cannabis sales eligible? Yes.

50. Is code enforcement (e.g., environmental health, building/planning, agricultural pesticide enforcement, etc.) allowable under “enforcement”?
Yes.

51. Can funds be used to support eradication of illicit cannabis operations? Yes.

52. What can funding be used for under PPA 1? Are staff for patrols, equipment, vehicles, etc. all allowable expenditures? Yes. Please see page 9 of the RFP for a list of allowable uses of funds under PPA 1.

53. Are requests for vehicles to support cannabis grow abatement allowed under PPA 1? Yes. Vehicles or vehicle modifications used for enforcement or inspection activities are allowable.

54. For PPA 1, will the enforcement priority apply? Applicants will earn priority points if at least 70% of the total budget is dedicated to PPA 1.

55. Are allowable enforcement activities equally weighted in priority? Yes. Priority points are based on the percentage of the budget dedicated to enforcement, not the type of enforcement activity.

- 56. If a project falls under PPA 1 and another PPA, are priority points applied to the whole application?** Yes. Priority points apply to the total score as long as the applicant dedicates at least 70% of the total grant budget to PPA 1.
- 57. Are priority points only for PPA 1?** Yes. Priority points apply only to PPA 1 (Public Safety/Enforcement).
- 58. For PPA 1, can funds be used for cannabis impairment detection training for officers?** Yes. Training is allowable under PPA 1 when it directly supports enforcement activities such as identifying, investigating, or deterring illicit commercial cannabis activity.
- 59. For PPA 1, can enforcement include straight time or only overtime?** Straight time and overtime are both allowable expenditures.

Questions Related to PPAs 2 through 4

- 60. Does public health include behavioral health?** Yes. Behavioral and mental health services are explicitly listed under PPA 2.
- 61. To qualify for Public Health (PPA 2), do we need to partner with a public health agency?** No. Partnerships are encouraged but not required.
- 62. How does the RFP define Environmental Impacts under PPA 4? A:** Environmental Impacts (PPA 4) supports activities that prevent injury and protect community health by identifying, evaluating, or reducing exposure to harmful environmental conditions linked to illicit cannabis cultivation. Eligible activities may include environmental monitoring, hazardous-materials cleanup, watershed or forest protections, nuisance abatement, fire-risk mitigation, pesticide-impact reduction, and related code-enforcement efforts.
- 63. Can you provide examples of Environmental Impacts in forest contexts?** Examples include hazardous waste cleanup at illegal grows, pesticide and fertilizer removal, watershed restoration, and fuel mitigation or fire protection activities.
- 64. For PPA 2, are supplies an allowable expense?** Yes.
- 65. For PPA 4, how does eligibility work for nonprofits doing environmental remediation across multiple counties?** Nonprofits cannot apply directly. A city or county must apply as the LPA and may subcontract with the nonprofit.
- 66. Do we need each county as the lead applicant for PPA 4 work across multiple counties?** Not necessarily. One county may apply for grant funding and subcontract with other eligible counties, or each eligible county may submit its own application.
- 67. Are PPAs scored separately if an application covers more than one?** No.

Allowable Expenditures in General

- 68. Can grant funds be used to transport program participants by car?** Yes.
- 69. Can funds be used to hire new personnel, or only supplemental staffing?** Both are allowed. New positions, limited-term staff, and overtime/backfill are all eligible.
- 70. Can funds be used for cannabis specific prearrest diversion programs for youth?** Yes. Diversion programs that redirect youth from justice involvement are allowable under PPA 3.
- 71. Can funds be used for cannabis specific procedural justice trainings for police?** Yes, if the training supports enforcement, public health, or youth outcomes tied to cannabis impacts.
- 72. Can funds be used for environmental remediation on federal lands?** Yes.
- 73. Can funds be used for eradication operations?** Yes. Activities such as site stabilization, hazard mitigation, and multiagency operations targeting illegal cultivation are allowable under PPA 1.
- 74. If an applicant dedicates at least 70% of the budget to enforcement in order to earn the priority points, can the remaining funds be used for public outreach and environmental protection?** Yes. The remaining portion of the budget may support any allowable PPA activities.

Award Amounts and Multiple LPAs

- 75. Is the maximum award per application or per county?** Per application. Maximum awards are tied to each application based on jurisdiction size.
- 76. Can two LPAs in the same county each request \$6 million?** Yes. A county may submit up to two proposals, each with a different LPA and scope.
- 77. What if we cannot allocate 70% of the budget to enforcement—are we still competitive?** Yes.
- 78. Can probation receive enforcement funds if Public Health is the LPA?** Yes. The LPA may subcontract to any eligible public agency.

Scoring

- 79. Are PPAs listed in order of priority for purposes of scoring?** No. PPAs are not ranked. Applicants may choose any combination of PPAs.
- 80. Are applications evaluated on a 200point scale if priority points do not apply?** Yes. All applications are evaluated using the same rating factors. Priority

points (20 points) are added only if the project meets all PPA 1 enforcement criteria.

81. Are PPA 1 priority points applied to the whole application? Yes. Priority points are added to the total score if the applicant: a) selects PPA 1, b) allocates at least 70% of the budget to PPA 1, and c) meets the minimum scoring threshold of 100 points before priority points are applied.

82. For scoring, are PPAs scored separately or as one application? As one application. Scoring is based on the overall project, regardless of how many PPAs are included.

83. Is each rating based on the project description as a whole or averaged across subsections? Each rater assigns a point value to each rating factor using the six-point rating scale.

84. Is a project the whole application or the subcomponents? The entire proposal constitutes the project. Rating factors apply to all required sections and attachments.

Research, Data, and Reporting

85. Is there a preference for having an external evaluator? No. There is no preference for using an external evaluator. Applicants must, however, be able to meet all data reporting and evaluation requirements.

86. Can prospective applicants receive the data collection requirements or reporting templates used by previous cohorts? Data collection requirements and reporting templates are cohort specific. Cohort 4 grantees will receive updated templates at the start of the grant cycle.