



# COMMUNITY AIR PROTECTION PROGRAM

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What is the Community Air Protection Program?

The Community Air Protection (CAP Program) is an incentive program that specifically focuses on providing grants for cleaner-than-required engines and equipment to help improve air quality and reduce exposure in communities most impacted by air pollution. The Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (VCAPCD) administers the CAP Program in Ventura County. VCAPCD has structured its programs to invest 100% of its CAP incentive funds to reduce pollution in Disadvantaged and Low-Income communities within Ventura County. Additionally, VCAPCD seeks to work with the community to fund projects that address the community's concerns. To be placed on a mailing list to be notified when community meetings are held, email [stephanie@vcapcd.org](mailto:stephanie@vcapcd.org) and specify you want to be placed on the "CAP" mailing list.

### What is a disadvantaged or low-income Community?

A disadvantaged community (DAC) is identified by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) as the top 25% most impacted census tracts in CalEnviroScreen 4.0 – a screening tool used to help identify communities disproportionately burdened by multiple sources of pollution and with pollution characteristics that make them more sensitive to pollution. Low-income communities are defined as the census tracts that are either at or below 80% of the statewide median income, or at or below the threshold designated as low-income by the California Department of Housing and Community Development's 2021 State Income Limits.

### How can I find out if I'm in a DAC or low-income community?

You can access the California Air Resource Board Priority Populations map to see if a particular location is within a DAC or low-income community here: <https://webmaps.arb.ca.gov/PriorityPopulations/>. VCAPCD staff can assist if there is any confusion or questions regarding a project location and DAC or low-income status.

### What are the eligible project types?

The CAP Program can fund any project type eligible for Carl Moyer Program incentives, with preference given to qualifying projects identified by the community and projects that fund zero-emission technology, such as:

- Diesel agricultural equipment replacements or repowers
- Diesel agricultural pump repowers with diesel engines or electric motors
- Diesel marine vessel repowers with diesel engines or EPA-certified diesel hybrid systems
- Off-road diesel (e.g., construction equipment) replacements or repowers
- Diesel emergency vehicle replacements or repower
- Locomotive repowers or replacements
- Heavy-duty diesel truck replacements with zero-emission trucks
- Diesel public school bus replacements with a zero-emission buses
- Installation of infrastructure (e.g., electric vehicle charging or alternative fueling stations)
- Community identified projects

### What are the requirements for replacement or repower projects?

- Applicant must be in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local air quality regulations at the time of application. Grants cannot be used for emissions reduction projects that are required by law or by another contract/agreement.
- Applicant must have owned the equipment for two years prior to applying for a grant.
- Existing equipment must be actively in use and fully functional at the time of application review.
- Existing equipment must have a working hour meter.
- Existing equipment must be destroyed or rendered useless and new equipment installed and functional prior to final grant payment.



## What are the funding amounts?

The maximum grant amounts, in percent of project cost, are as follows:

- 70% for off-road mobile equipment replacement (80% for first-time grantees)
- 85% for agricultural pump repowers with electric motors
- 70% for agricultural pump repowers with diesel engines
- 85% for marine vessel repowers
- 85% for locomotive repowers
- 80% for emergency vehicle replacements or repowers
- 50-80% for replacement of heavy-duty diesel truck with a zero-emissions truck
- Up to 100% for replacement of diesel public school bus with a zero-emission bus
- 50-100% for infrastructure equipment and installation

## How do I apply?

The District opens the application period in Spring (mid-March to early April) for approximately 75 days every year. The District will announce the open application period on its website ([www.vcapcd.org](http://www.vcapcd.org)) and through a mailing list. To be placed on this mailing list, email [stephanie@vcapcd.org](mailto:stephanie@vcapcd.org) and specify that you'd like to be added to the "Incentives mailing list."

You will need to work with an equipment dealer and provide a written quote for the full cost of the replacement equipment, repower project, or infrastructure project. Many local equipment dealers are familiar with the Carl Moyer Program and will be able to assist with the grant applications. Be sure to provide all documentation requested in the application forms to avoid delays and potential disqualification.

Applications can be found online at [http://www.vcapcd.org/grant\\_programs.htm#Carl\\_Moyer\\_Program](http://www.vcapcd.org/grant_programs.htm#Carl_Moyer_Program) or requested by emailing [stephanie@vcapcd.org](mailto:stephanie@vcapcd.org).

## What happens if I'm awarded a CAP grant?

Equipment or engine owners with successful projects must sign a grant agreement with VCAPCD to agree to the following conditions, including but not limited to:

- Participate in a pre-project inspection. All existing equipment/engines must be in working condition at the time of the award.
- Participate in a post-project inspection to confirm the project has been completed as stated in the grant agreement.
- Agree that the new equipment/engine will continue to operate as stated in the grant agreement in Ventura County for the full grant term stated in the grant agreement.
- Submit annual reports to document the usage and location of the equipment/engines.

## Application tips:

- To improve your chance of receiving a grant, request a smaller percentage of the project cost (many applicants request 50% or 60% to improve their cost-effectiveness ranking).
- Likewise, requesting a longer grant term can also increase your chances of receiving a grant.
- Apply for grants to replace older equipment/engines and equipment/engines that are used many hours per year first since they emit the most pollution.

## Still have questions?

Contact:

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