

Evaluation Criteria for Providing Benefits to Priority Populations
CLEAN TRANSPORTATION AND EQUIPMENT

California Climate Investments
2018 Funding Guidelines
Benefit Criteria Table



Project Type:
CLEAN TRANSPORTATION AND EQUIPMENT

California Climate Investments are required to meet minimum levels of investments to projects that benefit residents of disadvantaged communities, low-income communities, and low-income households, collectively referred to as “priority populations.”

All projects counting toward the statutory investment minimums must be located within an identified community and benefit individuals living within that community, or directly benefit residents of low-income households anywhere in the State. Administering agencies must determine if a project meets the evaluation criteria for providing direct, meaningful, and assured benefits to priority populations using the following evaluation approach:

Step 1: Identify the Priority Population(s). Project must be located within a census tract identified as a disadvantaged community or low-income community, or directly benefit residents of a low-income household;

Step 2: Address a Need. Project must meaningfully address an important community or household need for the disadvantaged community, low-income community, or low-income household; and

Step 3: Provide a Benefit. Using the evaluation criteria, identify at least one direct, meaningful, and assured benefit that the project provides to priority populations. The benefit provided must directly address the identified need.

Only investments that meet these evaluation criteria will be counted toward achieving the statutory investment minimums identified for priority populations. Administering agencies can fund projects that otherwise provide meaningful benefits, but do not meet these evaluation criteria; however, those projects will not be counted toward investment minimums.

The following table includes the minimum evaluation criteria for administering agencies to use to determine whether projects satisfy each of the three steps. The evaluation criteria are designed to enable administering agencies to readily make an objective “yes” or “no” decision about whether a particular project provides a benefit to a priority population. Administering agencies may provide more detailed evaluation criteria specific to the project types funded or program requirements to determine benefits to priority populations.

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Administering agencies must use the criteria table that is applicable to the specific project type(s) funded. For complex projects, there may be more than one applicable criteria table. A complete list of available criteria tables is available at: www.arb.ca.gov/cci-fundingguidelines.

Administering agencies may choose to have applicants assess their proposed project against the evaluation criteria and provide the benefit criteria table as part of solicitation materials. Administering agencies must refer to CARB's Funding Guidelines for direction on how to use the criteria table in program design and implementation, project evaluation, project selection, and reporting (www.arb.ca.gov/cci-fundingguidelines).

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Project Type: Projects will offer incentives for lower emission or zero-emission vehicles, equipment, and infrastructure, including the replacement of older, higher-emitting vehicles and equipment, or the production of renewable, low-carbon fuel.

Projects must satisfy the applicable evaluation criteria in Steps 1, 2, and 3 to be considered to provide direct, meaningful, and assured benefits to priority populations and count toward statutory investment minimums.

Step 1 – Identify the Priority Population(s).¹ *Ensure that the project is located within a census tract identified as a disadvantaged or low-income community, or directly benefits residents of a low-income household.*

Step 1.a: Identify the Project

Describe the project:

Continue Step 1 on the following page.

¹ An online mapping tool of identified disadvantaged communities and low-income communities, and a “look-up” tool list of “low-income” thresholds by county and household size are available at: <https://www.arb.ca.gov/ci-communityinvestments>.

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Step 1.b: Identify How Project Location Is Determined Using the Applicable Project Type.	
<i>For this Project Type:</i>	<i>Project Location may be determined by:</i>
Consumer-based incentives (e.g., vouchers, rebates)	Residence of the direct recipient, OR where the vehicle or equipment is registered, domiciled, or operated a majority of the time
Commercial or industrial business-based incentives (e.g., vouchers, rebates, grants)	Where the vehicle or equipment is domiciled or operated a majority of the time
Projects that operate at freight facilities, hubs, ports, railyards, or airports	Where the vehicle or equipment is registered, domiciled, or operated a majority of the time, OR at least a portion of the facility, hub, port, railyard, or airport
Projects that implement green zones	Where the vehicle or equipment is registered, domiciled, or operated a majority of the time, OR a majority of the green zone
Projects that operate at schools	At least one school where the vehicle or equipment is registered, domiciled, or operated
Other new/replacement vehicles or equipment & supporting infrastructure	Where the vehicle or equipment is registered, domiciled, or operated a majority of the time
Production of renewable, low-carbon fuel	Where the vehicle or equipment that uses the majority of the fuel produced is registered, domiciled, or operated a majority of the time
Identify the applicable project type and how project location is determined:	
<i>Continue Step 1 on the following page.</i>	

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Step 1.c: Identify the Priority Population(s)

Using the location determination from Step 1.b, evaluate the project against each of the following evaluation criteria. Check all the boxes that apply.

- A. Is the project located within the boundaries of a **disadvantaged community census tract**?
- B. Is the project located within the boundaries of a **low-income community census tract**?
- C. Is the project located outside of a disadvantaged community, but **within ½-mile of a disadvantaged community and within a low-income community census tract**?
- D. Is the project located within the boundaries of a **low-income household**?

If a project does not meet at least one of the qualifying evaluation criteria in Step 1, the project does not count toward statutory investment minimums and no further evaluation is needed.

If the project meets at least one of the qualifying location criteria as described in Step 1.c, continue the evaluation in Step 2.

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Step 2 – Address a Need. *Identify an important community or household need and evaluate whether the project provides a benefit that meaningfully addresses that need.*

To identify a need that the project will address, agencies and/or applicants can use a variety of approaches:

- A. **Recommended Approach:** Host community meetings, workshops, outreach efforts, or public meetings as part of the planning process to engage local residents and community groups for input on community or household needs, and document how the received input was considered in the design and/or selection of projects to address those needs;
- B. **Recommended Approach:** Receive documentation of support from local community-based organizations and/or residents (e.g., letters, emails) identifying a need that the project addresses and demonstrating that the project has broad community support;
- C. **Alternative Approach:** Where direct engagement is infeasible, look at the individual indicators in CalEnviroScreen that are most impacting an identified disadvantaged or low-income community (i.e., indicators that score above the 75th percentile), and confirm that the project will reduce the impacts of at least one of those indicators; or
- D. **Alternative Approach:** Where direct engagement is infeasible, refer to the list of common needs for priority populations in CARB’s Funding Guidelines Table 5 and confirm that the project addresses at least one listed need.

Describe identified community or household need(s):

If the project addresses a community or household need as described in Step 2, proceed to Step 3. If the project does not address a community or household need, it will not count toward statutory investment minimums and no further evaluation is needed.

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Step 3 – Provide a Benefit. Evaluate the project against each of the following evaluation criteria to determine if it provides direct, meaningful, and assured benefits to priority populations. The benefit provided must directly address the identified need.

Project must meet at least one of the following benefit criteria:

- A. Project provides incentives for vehicles, equipment, or renewable transportation fuel that reduce criteria air pollutant or toxic air contaminant emissions, such as diesel particulate matter;
- B. Project provides greater mobility and increased access to clean transportation for residents of a disadvantaged or low-income community by placing services in that community, including ride-sharing, car-sharing, or other advanced technology mobility options (e.g., neighborhood electric vehicles, vanpooling, shuttles, smartphone application-based ride-sharing services, bike-sharing services);
- C. Project provides greater mobility and increased access to clean transportation for residents of a disadvantaged or low-income community, or a low-income household, by providing incentives for the retirement or replacement of older, higher-emitting vehicles.

If the project meets the evaluation criteria in Steps 1, 2, and 3, it will be considered as providing direct, meaningful, and assured benefits to priority populations and will be counted toward statutory investment minimums.