



Community Economic Resilience Fund Program (CERF)

Labor and Workforce Development Agency
Governor's Office of Planning and Research
Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development



Why CERF?

1. California is large and diverse: no one-size-fits all to future-proof our economy.
2. Business as usual not an option: California's economy is not working for all
3. Accelerate the transition to carbon-neutral economy: foster new industry and jobs



CERF Program Objectives

Promote regions-up approach to economic resiliency, equity, and sustainable growth

Support inclusive economic planning

Align and leverage federal and state funding opportunities



CERF Program Design

Phase 1: Planning

13 regions, \$5M each

- Inclusive planning processes
- Development of economic transition plans
- Analysis: cluster, labor market, etc.
- Locally-embedded coordinator

Phase 2: Implementation

Upwards of \$500M total

- Projects that
 - Demonstrate community support
 - Promote state climate goals
 - Support labor standards and job quality
 - Demonstrate clear role in regional strategy
 - Complement existing funding sources

CERF Regions

- 13 regions that will all receive planning and implementation dollars through competitive processes
- Designed to maintain consistency with existing efforts and definitions
- Administration of program will allow for flexibility to collaborate across these regions and work at different levels



Planning Phase: Primary Roles and Definitions

High Road Transition Collaborative:

A “Team of Teams” incorporating efforts/leadership from around the region. Must include representation from community, environmental justice, labor, business, economic development, etc.

Neutral Convener:

Lead org tasked to organize inclusive group of stakeholders, facilitate meetings, oversee third-party research

Fiscal Agent:

Intermediary in grant management, has history and capacity to administer federal funds

Coordinator:

Person hired or contracted by the convener to support outreach and facilitation

Planning Phase: Overview of Analysis Required

- **Priorities for Research and Planning:**
 - Economic Competitiveness and Resilience
 - Equity
 - Sustainability
 - Job Quality
- **Analysis Required**
 - Regional Summary
 - SWOT Analysis
 - Labor Market Analysis
 - Industry Cluster Analysis
 - Holistic Economic Resiliency & Transition Strategy

Timelines and Next Steps

| Month | Program Progress |
|-----------------------|--|
| December 2021 | Release of finalized regions |
| December 2021 | Draft guidelines for Planning Grants released for public comment |
| January 2022 | Listening-session webinar for public feedback |
| Feb-March 2022 | Incorporate public feedback & solicitation drafting |
| late April – May 2022 | Release second round of guidelines & host listening sessions |
| May 23, 2022 | Final planning phase solicitation released |
| July 25, 2022 | Applications due |
| August 8, 2022 | Announce awardees and begin contracting process |
| Fall/Winter 2022 | Release solicitation implementation (rolling basis) |

Thank you & Q+A

For listserv updates: OPR Home page > E-Lists > Just Transition

For resources and general information: [Community Economic Resilience Fund - Office of Planning and Research \(ca.gov\)](#)

