

MCE RFP 2026-07 for Community Partnership Program
Responses to Questions Submitted

1. For proposed projects that include multiple types of activities and participants, some costs may be specific to an individual outreach activity, while others such as project coordination, preparation, technical assistance, travel, participant stipends, materials, or administrative support, may span several activities. Could you please clarify how MCE would prefer applicants to represent these costs in the budget workbook? Should shared/project-level costs be allocated across the individual "Outreach Action" rows, or may applicants create separate rows for activities or costs that support the overall project?
 - a. Applicants may create separate rows for activities or costs that support the overall project. For example, staff costs, print materials, and stipends may each be listed as separate rows. These examples are provided for illustration only.
2. Additionally, when multiple team members or participants associated with the same activity have different hourly rates or stipend amounts, should those be shown on separate lines under that activity?
 - a. Yes, please delineate those separately to the extent possible.
3. If an organization is interested in applying for the MCE Community Partnership Program to develop and implement an awareness campaign focused on clean energy career opportunities and connecting community members to existing training and workforce development resources, and the first phase of this type of campaign would be dedicated to developing new, culturally relevant content (e.g., videos featuring clean energy career role models, etc.), could the organization apply for grant funds from the MCE Community Partnership Program to support this development phase, with plans to reapply in 2027 for campaign implementation? Or, would the organization need to both develop and implement a clean energy career awareness campaign within 12 months?
 - a. This scenario is not specifically addressed in the solicitation. Applicants may propose projects that focus on developing outreach materials or campaign infrastructure. However, applicants should clearly describe why that work is needed, what deliverables would be produced during the grant term, and how the proposed project advances the goals of the Community Partnership Program. All applications will be evaluated based on the criteria outlined in the solicitation.
4. Are you able to share any additional details on the specific target neighborhood boundaries in Richmond, or an estimate of the overall resident population within that focus area?

- a. The Richmond Rising Program service area covers the following neighborhoods in Richmond: Iron Triangle, Santa Fe, Coronado, and Atchison Village. The area contains approximately 6,000 single-family households. You can find an interactive map here: <https://richmondrisingca.org>
- 5. What format is expected for the three business references? For example, can we list the reference organization name, contact info, and relationship to the applicant organization? Or, should we solicit and collect three signed letters of support?
 - a. The solicitation does not prescribe a specific format for the three business references. Applicants should provide three business references that can attest to the organization's work history and the general quality of work performed. Signed letters of support are not specified as a requirement.
- 6. Can an organization submit more than one application?
 - a. The solicitation does not specify a limit on the number of applications an organization may submit. If submitting more than one proposal, each should represent a distinct scope of work. Please note that awards are expected to be limited to no more than \$30,000 per organization.
- 7. Is there a preference for focusing outreach and programming in a specific county or city?
 - a. No. There is no preference for a specific county or city. Applicants should focus on the geographic area(s) that best align with their organization's expertise and capacity.
- 8. Electric vehicle (EV) education was not mentioned in the webinar/RFP. Is EV education a priority for this RFP, and would proposals focused on EV education be considered?
 - a. EV education is not specifically identified as a priority in the solicitation. However, respondents are not limited to the specific outreach areas identified in the RFP and may propose other outreach approaches that align with the overall scope of work. Applicants should clearly describe the proposed approach, target audience, anticipated outcomes, and how success will be measured.
- 9. Does MCE plan to offer an e-bike rebate program in 2027? If so, would MCE be interested in receiving an application focused on e-bike education and outreach?
 - a. MCE does not currently offer an e-bike rebate program, and we cannot say whether one will be offered in 2027. That said, applicants are not limited to only the specific outreach areas identified in the RFP. If an organization has expertise in e-bike education and believes that outreach would align with the broader scope of the solicitation, it may submit a proposal.