

POWER **FORWARD**

Pre-Application Workshop

April 19, 2024 10am - 11am PT



**NEW
ENERGY
NEXUS**



Housekeeping

- Workshop is being recorded.
- Updates on solicitation documents including the presentation will be posted on the PowerForward website powerforwardgrant.org
- Please save questions until the end

Agenda

Time	Item
10:00 AM	Welcome and Introductions
10:05 AM	PowerForward Background and Overview
10:10 AM	Eligibility Requirements
10:20 AM	Completing and Submitting your Application
10:30 AM	Q&As
11:00 AM	Adjourn

PowerForward Background

- PowerForward is an equity-first, market-accelerating ZEV battery manufacturing infrastructure grant program
 - Developed from GFO-21-606
 - Implemented by CALSTART in partnership with New Energy Nexus, Lawrence Berkeley Labs, and YUNEV

PowerForward Overview

➤ Goals & Objectives

1. Attract and retain ZEV battery manufacturing in California.
2. Directly and indirectly create high-quality jobs.
3. Create positive economic impacts that benefit local communities and priority populations.
4. Foster opportunities for leveraging California's domestic lithium supply for domestic manufacturing chains.
5. Foster a battery supply chain ecosystem that contributes to California's goals for zero-emission transportation.
6. Leverage federal funding opportunities for California.

Project Eligibility

- Only private, for-profit businesses as first respondent
 - Not-for-profit and educational institutions may be included on a project team
- Projects must be located in California
- Projects must fall under the eligible project categories

- Applicants are only eligible to submit one application under this solicitation

Project Categories – Category 1

Cathode Production	The manufacturing of cathodes for cells and batteries for zero-emission vehicles
Cathode Active Materials Processing	The processing of precursor materials for cathodes for cells and batteries for zero-emission vehicles

Project Categories – Category 2

Materials Processing	The processing of precursor materials for batteries from raw material (graphite, lithium, etc.) for cells and batteries for zero-emission vehicles.
Cell Component Manufacturing	The manufacturing of separators, electrolyte, or electrodes for cells and batteries for zero-emission vehicles.
Cell Manufacturing	Production of lithium-ion, sodium-ion, or solid-state cells for light, medium, or heavy duty zero-emission vehicles.
Module, Pack, and BMS Manufacturing	Production of modules, packs, and BMS for light, medium, or heavy duty zero-emission vehicles.
Remanufacturing & Recycling	Processing of end-of-life cells and batteries to recover critical battery materials (lithium, cobalt, manganese, nickel, etc.) for re-use in the production of new batteries for zero-emission vehicles.

Available Funding

- Total Available Funding: \$35 million

Category	Award Range
1	\$5M-\$17.5 M
2	\$5M-\$17.5 M

- 50% Cost Share
 - Such that a minimum project size is \$10M
- CALSTART, in consultation with the CEC reserves the right to:
 - increase or decrease the amount of funds available under this solicitation
 - shift the remaining funds into the other category if funding remains available in one category after all eligible projects in that category have been funded

Application Format (1/2)

Item	Attachment Number	Action Needed by Applicant
Table of Contents	N/A	Create referenced document
Executive Summary	N/A	Create referenced document
Project Operations Narrative	N/A	Create referenced document
Project Design Narrative	N/A	Create referenced document
Project Impact Narrative	N/A	Create referenced document
Scope of Work Template	Attachment 1	Create document from supplied template
Schedule of Products and Due Dates	Attachment 2	Create document from supplied template
Budget Forms	Attachment 3	Complete form
Resumes	N/A	Create referenced document

Application Format (2/2)

Item	Attachment Number	Action Needed by Applicant
Letters of Support/Commitment	N/A	Create referenced document
CEQA Worksheet	Attachment 4	Complete form
Manufacturing Facility Layout	N/A	Create referenced document
Localized Health Impacts Information Form	Attachment 5	Complete form
Confidential Volume (if applicable, see Section 3.2.13)	N/A	Create referenced document
Past Performance Reference Form	Attachment 6	Complete Form
Risk Assessment Form	Attachment 7	Complete Form

Project Narratives

- Must create and submit 3 Project Narratives
- Respond to each scoring criterion described in the Evaluation Criteria
- Include a Table of Contents
- Formatting
 - 11-point font, single-spaced, and a blank line between paragraphs

Narrative	Page Limits
Project Operations Narrative	3-5 pages
Project Design Narrative	3-5 pages
Project Impact Narrative	Up to 10 pages

California Environmental Quality Act

Attachment 4

- Encumbrance Deadline: June 30, 2025
- CEQA compliance must be completed before agreements for awarded projects are executed

Confidential Information

- Small sections of the Narratives may be provided as confidential information. Confidential information includes:
 - Corporate financial records, technology trade secrets, and price components of materials
 - Corporate financial records include balance sheets and cash flow statements, and 3-year pro forma statements (if applicable)
 - A technology trade secret is defined as a formula, practice, process, design, instrument, pattern, commercial method, or compilation of information which is not generally known or reasonably ascertainable by others, and by which a business can obtain an economic advantage over competitors

- Must be a ***separated, clearly-labeled document***

Past Performance Reference Form

Attachment 6

- Must complete Past Performance Reference (PPR) Form to provide references for:
 - Agreements with the CEC in the last 10 years
 - The 5 most recent executed agreements with other public agencies
- Complete a separate PPR Form for each agreement
- Include contact information as references may be contacted by CALSTART staff.
- If no active or prior agreement(s) with CEC, Applicants must still complete PPR Form stating “No active or prior agreement(s)” on the form.

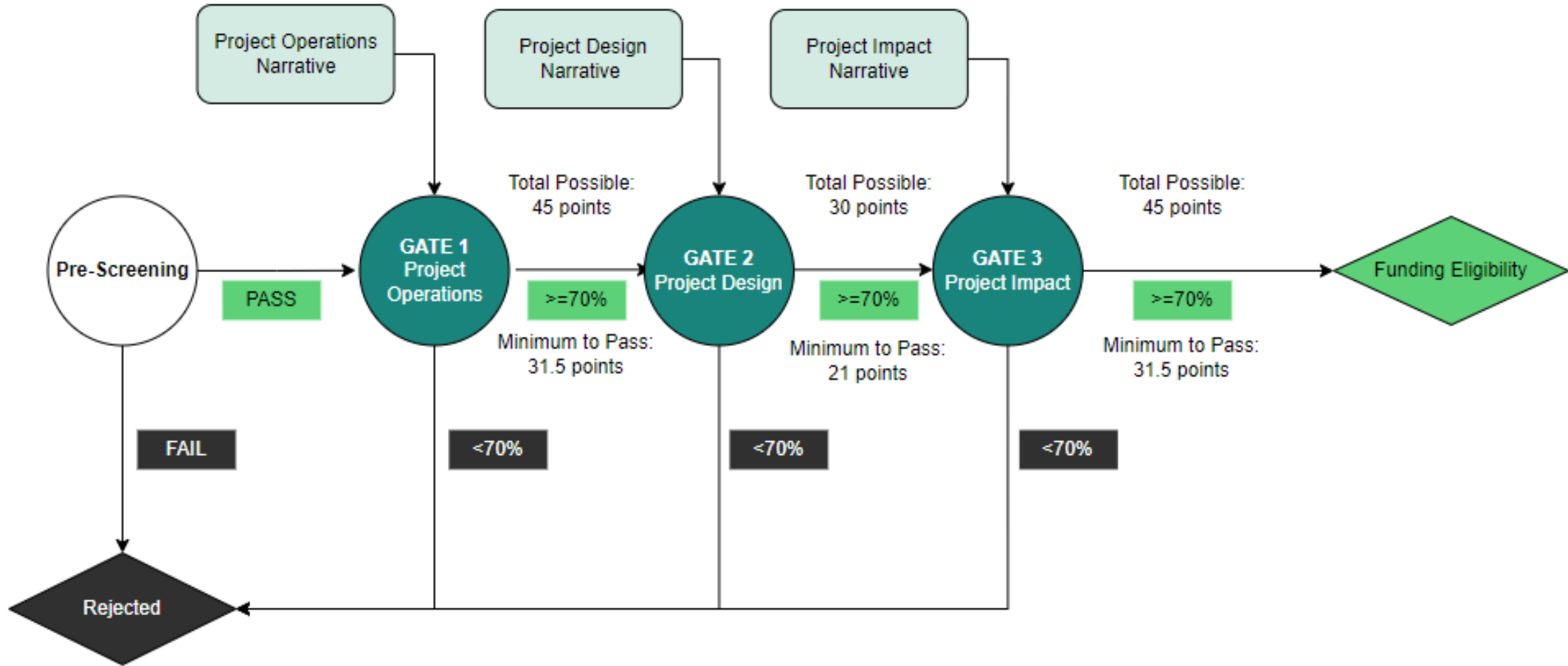
Risk Assessment Form

Attachment 7

- Must Complete one Risk Assessment form
- Answer all sections completely

Entity name, address, city, state, zip code:		
EIN (Employer ID Number):		
DUNS Number:		
Number of Years in Operation:		
Entity contact person:		
Entity Type of Organization (select one):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofit corporation <small>(Please attach determination letter)</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporation/other: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/ Partnership
Entity Organization Classification (select all that apply):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Large Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Minority Institution Owned
<input type="checkbox"/> Woman-Owned Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Disadvantaged Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Does project require special licenses or certifications?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> NA
Does Entity possess the required licenses or certifications?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> NA
Is the Entity currently involved in litigation?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes, explain.		
Is the entity currently, or has it ever been debarred or suspended from contracting with federal, state or local governments?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> NA
If so, when? Explain:		
Within the last five years, has any organization staff been jailed, convicted of a felony or under criminal investigation?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes, explain.		
Has Entity received an award or subaward to conduct programs similar to those covered under this proposed subaward agreement in the last five (5) fiscal years?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> NA
Has Entity annual financial statements been audited by an independent audit firm in the last five (5) years?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Was Entity required to comply with the Single Audit requirements of the Uniform Guidance (2 CFR Part 200) in the last five (5) fiscal years?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> NA

Evaluation Process



Award Methodology

- Applications must pass pre-screening
- Applications are evaluated in stages referred to as “gates” and Applicants must score $\geq 70\%$ on each gate to continue.

Gate	Total Possible Points	Points Needed to Pass
1. Project Operations	45	31.5
2. Project Design	30	21
3. Project Impact	45	31.5

- CALSTART will recommend awards to the highest ranked projects in each category such that Category 1’s highest award and Category 2’s highest award will be recommended first (according to final overall application score). The remaining awards will be recommended in order of highest score regardless of category, until available funding under this solicitation has been exhausted.

Pre-Screening Process

- Pre-Screening Criteria (PASS/FAIL)
 - Application is received by the due date and time specified
 - Application is received with all required attachments and documents
 - Applicant provides the required authorizations and certifications
 - Applicant has not included a statement that is contrary to the required authorizations and certifications
 - Applicant does not include confidential information, or any portion marked confidential, except for information separated and clearly labeled as confidential
 - The Applicant is an eligible Applicant as specified
 - The project is an eligible project as specified
 - The project meets the minimum match share requirement
 - Applicant passes the past performance form
 - Applicant passes the risk assessment form

- Applicants that fail any of the Pre-Screening Criteria shall be disqualified and eliminated from further evaluation

Evaluation Process

- To evaluate all applications, CALSTART will organize an Evaluation Committee. The Evaluation Committee may consist of CALSTART staff, Project Partners, and other private and public entities
- The total score for each application will be the average of the combined scores of all Evaluation Committee members.

Scoring Scale

% of Possible Points	Interpretation
0%	Not Responsive
10-30%	Minimally Responsive
40-60%	Inadequate
70%	Adequate
75%	Between Good and Adequate
80%	Good
85%	Between Good and Excellent
90%	Excellent
95%	Between Excellent and Exceptional
100%	Exceptional

Project Operations Gate

Categories	Possible Points
Manufacturing Operations	20
Project Implementation	10
Project Budget	10
Financials	5
Total Possible Points	45
Minimum Passing Score (70%)	31.5

Project Design Gate

Categories	Possible Points
Team Qualifications	10
Workforce Plan	20
Total Possible Points	30
Minimum Passing Score (70%)	21

Project Impact Gate

Categories	Possible Points
Market Impact	10
Community Benefit	10
Domestic & Sustainable Supply Chain	20
Federal Funding	5
Total Possible Points	45
Minimum Passing Score (70%)	31.5

Submission Checklist

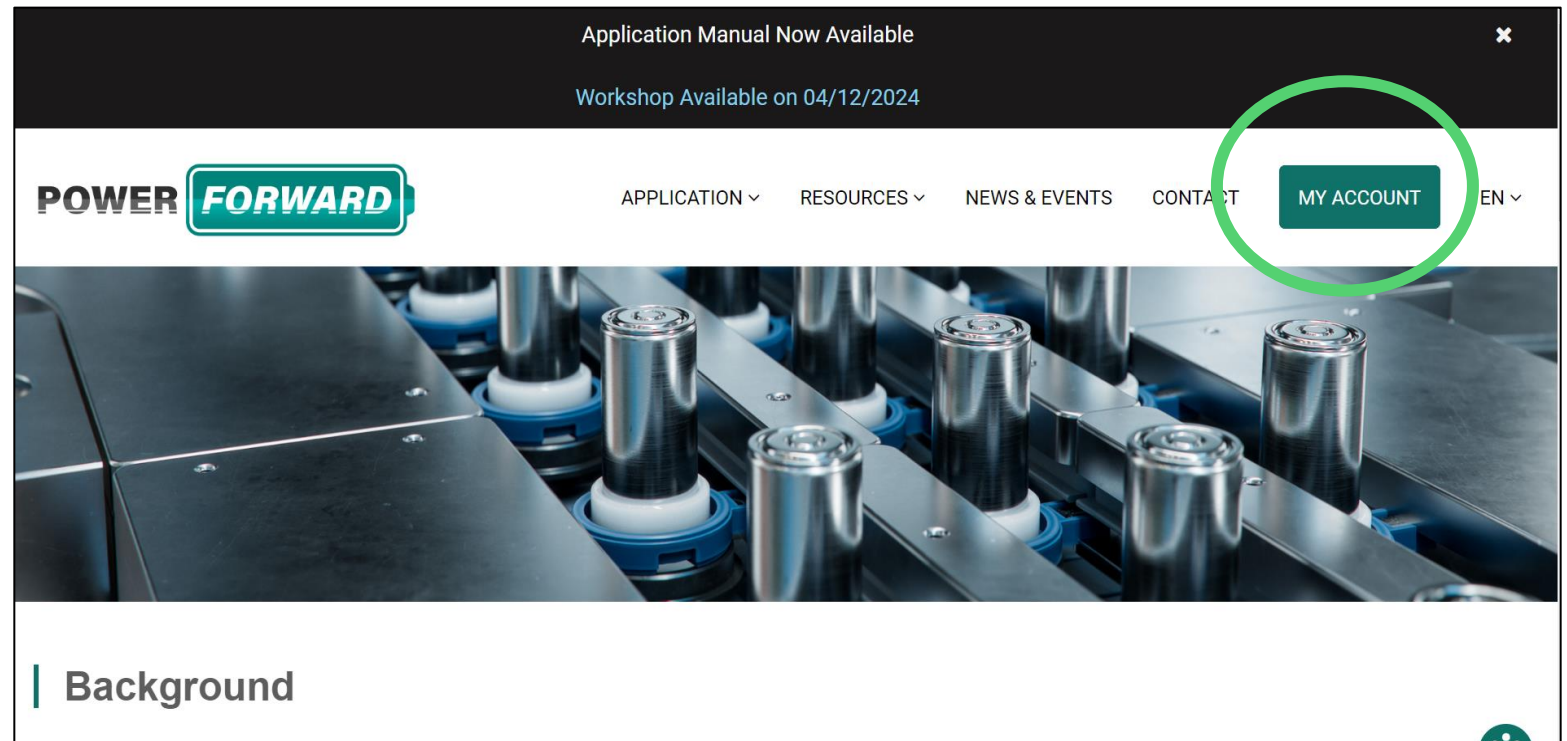
- Create account on powerforwardgrant.org
- Begin application form and fill out required fields
- Download application document package
- Complete application documents
- Upload completed documents to application portal
- Check for completion
- Submit!

Submission Process

- Strict Deadline of **5:00 PM (Pacific Time) 7/1/24**
- Submissions will *only* be accepted through the PowerForward website application portal
- Files must be in Microsoft Word (.doc) and Excel (.xlsx) format, unless originally provided in the solicitation in another format. Budget forms must be Excel (.xlsx) format.

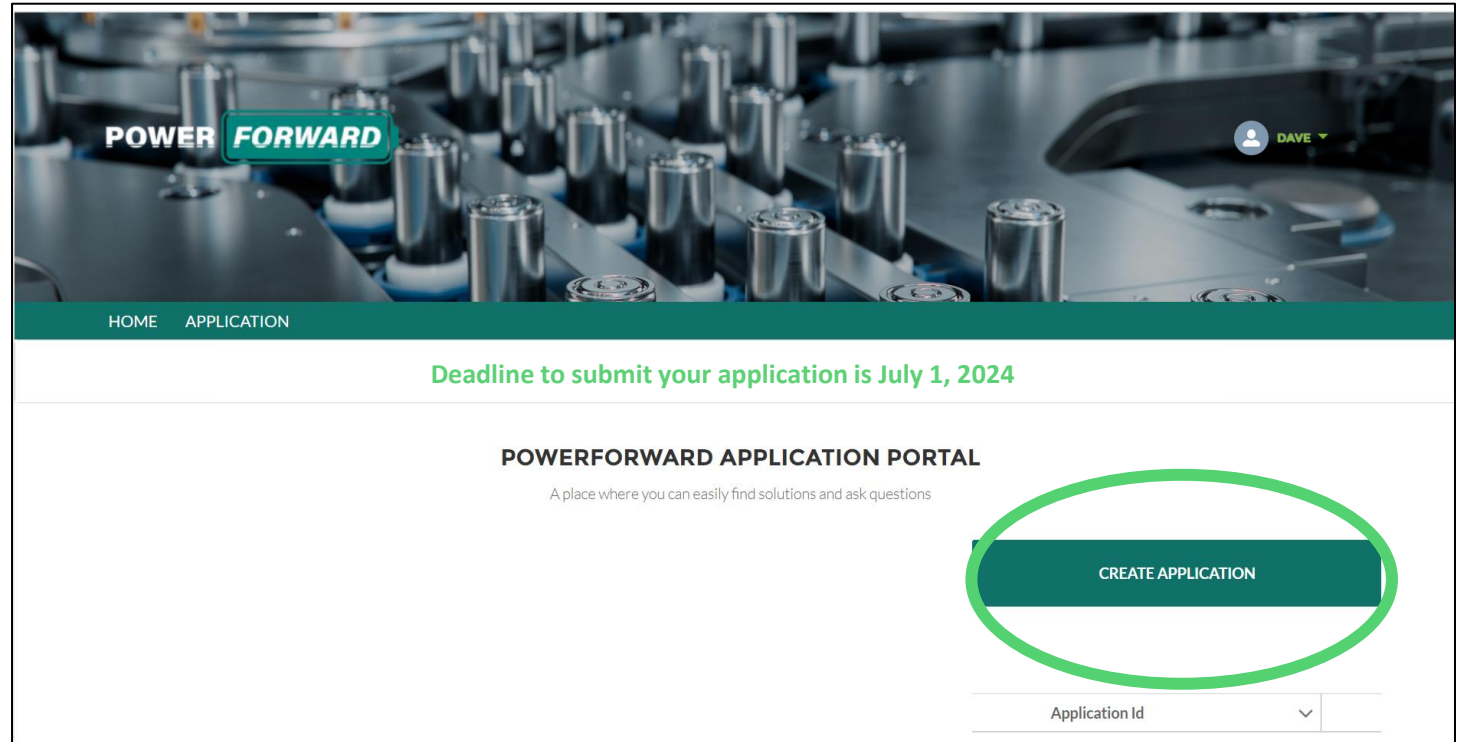
Application Portal (1/5)

- Navigate to **My Account** from powerforwardgrant.org
- Follow instructions to Create an account



Application Portal (2/5)

- After creating an account, navigate to Application Portal
- Select “Create Application”



Application Portal (3/5)

- Fill in Application Form fields and complete all sections
- Proceed to Application Attachment document upload
- Download attachments

① Click on the Application form tab and complete all the sections
② Click On document upload tab and upload all the required documents
③ Complete the application form by selecting the Sign and Date tab and inputting your full name and date
④ Submit your application

[Download forms here](#)

APPLICATION FORM DOCUMENT UPLOAD SIGN AND SUBMIT

● Basic Information Applicant's Legal Name Title of the Project
● Project Information Amount Requested Federal ID
● Applicant's Project Manager Administrative Cost (%)

● Administrator
● Accounting Officer
● Legal Notices
● Key Project Partners

Applicant's Legal Name:

Title of the Project:

Amount Requested:


Federal ID:

Administrative Cost (%):

Application Portal (4/5)

- Complete all attachments and documents, as specified in the Application Structure (Application Manual, Pg. 18)
- Portal will not allow you to continue until all files uploaded

APPLICATION FORM DOCUMENT UPLOAD SIGN AND SUBMIT

 Application Documents

	Document Number ↑	Document Name	Status	Document Required
1	AD-0040	Budget Forms	Pending Upload	Required
2	AD-0041	CEQA Worksheet	Pending Upload	Required
3	AD-0042	Confidential Volume	Pending Upload	Not Required
4	AD-0043	Letters of Support/Commitment	Pending Upload	Required
5	AD-0044	Localized Health Impact Information Form	Pending Upload	Required
6	AD-0045	Manufacturing Facility Layout	Pending Upload	Required
7	AD-0046	Past Performance Reference Form	Pending Upload	Required
8	AD-0047	Project Narrative	Pending Upload	Required
9	AD-0048	Resumes	Pending Upload	Required
10	AD-0049	Risk Assessment Form	Pending Upload	Required
11	AD-0050	Schedule of Products and Due Dates	Pending Upload	Required
12	AD-0051	Scope of Work	Pending Upload	Required

Application Portal (5/5)

- When documents are complete and uploaded, **check application for completion and accuracy**
- Sign and Submit!
 - Digital signatures accepted

HOME APPLICATION

Deadline to submit your application is July 1, 2024

Application Form Document Upload Sign & Submit Submitted

INSTRUCTIONS

- ① Click on the Application form tab and complete all the sections
- ② Click On document upload tab and upload all the required documents
- ③ Complete the application form by selecting the Sign and Date tab and inputting your full name and date
- ④ Submit your application

[Download forms here](#)

APPLICATION FORM DOCUMENT UPLOAD SIGN AND SUBMIT

Submit Application Signature

Please complete all the required fields in the Application Form and upload the required Documents before Sign and Submit.

Key Dates

Activity	Date
Solicitation Release	4/5/24
Pre-Application Workshop 10:00 a.m. (Pacific Time)*	4/19/24
Deadline for Written Questions by 5:00 p.m. (Pacific Time)*	4/30/24
Anticipated Distribution of Questions & Answers	5/14/24
Deadline to Submit Applications by 5:00 p.m. (Pacific Time)*	7/1/24
Anticipated Notice of Proposed Awards Posting	August 2024
Anticipated CEC Business Meeting	September 2024

Next Steps After Grant Award

- **Notice of Proposed Award:** Shows total proposed funding amounts, rank order of applicants by project group, and the amount of each proposed award.
- **Agreement Development:** Proposal documents will be processed into a legal agreement.
- **Failure to Execute:** CALSTART reserves the right to cancel the pending award if an agreement cannot be successfully executed with an applicant.
- **Project Start:** Recipients may begin work on the project only after the agreement is fully executed (approved at an Energy Commission business meeting)

Q&A

30 Minutes

- Please chat your question or comment in the Question and Answers window or raise your hand and you will be called on to unmute yourself.
- Please remember to introduce yourself by stating your name and affiliation. (Feature found under the Participants panel).
- Keep questions and comments under 2 minutes to allow time for others.
- Note that our official response will be given in writing and posted on the PowerForward website.

FAQ

- Written Questions may be submitted through the Docket or emailed to CALSTART staff
 - Docket 23-TRAN-03
 - <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=23-TRAN-03>
 - CALSTART staff
 - Phoebe Bisnoff (pbisnoff@calstart.org)
 - Sarah Buchanan (sbuchanan@calstart.org)
- Deadline for written questions **4/30**
- FAQ will be released **5/14**
 - Posted to the PowerForward website and the Docket



Thank You for Participating!

Applications are due
July 1, 2024 by 5:00 PM PT

