



Frequently Asked Questions

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General

1. What is PowerForward?

PowerForward is a Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Battery Manufacturing block grant funded by the California Energy Commission (CEC). PowerForward supports projects that seek to expand battery manufacturing in California, contribute to California's zero-emission transportation goals and create high quality jobs and positive economic impact.

2. Is the funding limited to a geographic area?

Funding is available statewide for battery manufacturing projects throughout California. Priority will be given to projects with positive economic impact to disadvantaged and low-income communities throughout California.

3. How is a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) defined?

Disadvantaged communities are defined as those in the 75th to 100th percentile (top 25%) of CalEnviroScreen 4.0. The California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) recently announced CalEnviroScreen 4.0, an update from 3.0 which uses environmental, health, and socioeconomic information to produce cumulative impacts to communities by census tract in the state. To see if your infrastructure project may fall in one of these areas, visit the map [here](#).

Eligibility

4. Can a non-US based company participate in PowerForward? Should there be a preference for CA or US-based companies?

The grant is eligible to companies with a physical place of business in California. The applicant's company must be registered with the Secretary of State office and be in good standing. Grant funding can only be applied to projects in California.

5. What activities and products are eligible for funding?

Battery projects for transportation use will be considered. A specific list of eligible activities and products are still being discussed. These will be listed in the resulting solicitation to be released in early 2024.