

Grant Program Title: Communities in Charge

Funding Agency: California Energy Commission (CEC)

Award Amount: Per eligible connector: up to \$6,500, or 100% of eligible costs, whichever is less

Brief Description:

Communities in Charge is California’s market-accelerating, light-duty electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure incentive project implemented by CALSTART, and supported in partnership with GRID Alternatives and Tetra Tech.

Communities in Charge is designed to catalyze new markets and swiftly deploy electric vehicle (EV) charging ports with intentional outreach, engagement, and technical assistance supporting the deployment of Level 2 Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE). Through identifying and prioritizing locations where community members live and gather, Communities in Charge deploys Level 2 charging ports, and provides streamlined access to incentive funds for the benefit of communities

Applicants must provide documents indicating their project’s level of readiness. Once submitted, applications will be prioritized by project Readiness Tier:

Priority	Readiness Tier	Documents Provided at Time of Application
Awarded First	Tier 1	Site Verification Form + Final Site Design + Issued Building Permit + Eligible Equipment Selection (See Note)
Awarded Second	Tier 2	Site Verification Form + Final Site Design + Building Permit Application
Awarded Third	Tier 3	Site Verification Form + Preliminary Site Plans

To encourage distribution across the state and afford opportunity for equitable participation amongst Applicants from similar geographies, incentive funds will be distributed across four (4) regions. These regions are: Northern, Southern, Central and Eastern (see [Implementation Manual](#) to determine your campus’ region).

Region	Proportion of Funds
Northern	\$5,000,000
Southern	\$10,000,000
Eastern	\$6,000,000
Central	\$9,000,000

CSU Campuses

Bakersfield
Channel Islands
Chico
Dominguez Hills
East Bay

Fresno
Fullerton
Humboldt
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego

San Francisco
San José
San Luis Obispo
San Marcos
Sonoma
Stanislaus

Eligibility:

Applicant to Communities in Charge must be the property owner, an Authorized Lessee, or an Authorized Representative.

The California State University is an eligible project site as a “Community Connection” via the “Schools in Charge” framework. (See [Implementation Manual](#) additional documentation that is required at the time of application)

Eligible Project Types:

New Level 2 EVSE installation projects with a minimum of 4 and maximum of 20 connectors/ports. DC Fast Chargers and their associated costs are ineligible for incentives through Communities in Charge.

Additional Charging Ports: Charging Ports may be installed above the maximum. However, incentives will be issued only for Charging Ports meeting project requirements, up to the maximum number of Charging Ports listed above.

Please review the Implementation Manual for additional requirements and eligible costs under the program.

Match Funding Requirement: N/A

Application Open Date: November 14, 2024

Letter of Intent Deadline: N/A

Application Deadline: January 31, 2025

For details regarding **Evaluation/Scoring Criteria**, please reference pages 24-26 of the [Implementation Manual](#).

Period of Performance: Awardees have 270 calendar days (9 months) from receipt of their Notice of Final Award to complete their Project Site and provide documentation to the CALSTART Project Team.

Grant Program Link:

<https://thecommunitiesincharge.org/>

Program Contact Information: For questions about application processing and award, email CICprocessing@TetraTech.com

Free Technical Assistance

GRID Alternatives provides no-cost technical assistance and application support for projects serving low-income, disadvantaged, and Tribal communities. Learn more about EV charging, review your property and program requirements, and get started on the next steps for a Communities in Charge application.