



County of Humboldt

Water Storage and Renewable Energy System Grants

UPDATED Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) v03

Purpose

The purpose of the Water Storage and Renewable Energy Programs is to provide grant funding to assist cannabis farmers in Humboldt County in their installation of water storage/conservation projects and renewable energy systems for cannabis cultivation operations to help provisional state license holders transition to annual licenses, protect watersheds and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Program funding was awarded by the Department of Cannabis Control's (DCC) Environmental Compliance and Equity Fund.

Program Years

Fiscal Years 2022-2025

Application Period

Applications will be available online at [Water Storage Program Webpage](#) and [Renewable Energy Program Webpage](#) at 8:00 AM PST on Monday, August 22, 2022. Assistance with the online application form is available upon request by contacting the Humboldt County Planning and Building Department at (707) 267-9408. Details of the application process are below in the Application Process section.

Submission deadline for all applications is 5:00 PM PST on Friday, September 2, 2022.

Governance

The Program is governed by the County of Humboldt's Board of Supervisors Resolutions approved June 14, 2022, applicable guidelines of the Department of Cannabis Control Local Jurisdiction Assistance Grant Program, and other applicable local and state laws and regulations.

Estimated Program Funding

\$9,702,400 for Round 1 of the Water Storage Grant Program and \$2,480,000 for Round 1 of Renewable Energy System Grant Program are currently available. The County of Humboldt Planning and Building Department is administering the Program with DCC grant funds. Another future round of funding is possible for approximately \$3,000,000 for both programs combined. Grant funds will be provided to eligible applicants selected by the Board of Supervisors through a competitive application process. Water Storage Program applicants may qualify to apply for up to \$60,000 per parcel and Renewable Energy System Program applicants may qualify to apply for up to \$30,000 per parcel, unless otherwise stated.



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Funding Eligibility

To be eligible for either program, applicants must meet ALL of the following criteria:

1. Applicant is a Humboldt County cannabis cultivation permit holder or interim permit holder AND State of California cannabis cultivation license holder ~~AND a Humboldt County Business License holder.~~
2. The applicant's Humboldt County cannabis cultivation taxes are current. *
3. The applicant's County cannabis cultivation permit fees have been paid.
4. Costs for eligible improvements must have been incurred after January 21, 2022.
5. No trees are removed for the projects.
6. The Renewable Energy System Program has an additional eligibility criterion that must be met: The property used for commercial cannabis cultivation is not connected to the commercial electrical power grid. **

* For clarity: Current means Measure S cannabis cultivation taxes billed for first installment of 2020 and all years prior have been paid in full

**For clarity: A property is eligible if the commercial cannabis operation is not connected to the power grid, even if it has an existing residence or approved use that is connected.

Description of Projects Eligible for Funding

Water Storage Program

1. Funds will be awarded for projects that increase rainwater catchment, forbearance, and water conservation.
2. Funds can be used for purchase and/or installation of water storage and/or water conservation equipment including but not limited to water tanks, plumbing, drip irrigation systems, water metering devices, soil water sensors, mulch, bioswale installation, ponds, and pond equipment. Other project related fees and expenses may also be included if water storage and/or water conservation benefits are documented.
3. Funds may be applied toward permitting fees associated with eligible water storage and conservation projects.



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Renewable Energy System Program

1. Funds may be awarded for eligible projects that replace gas/diesel/propane powered generators used for commercial cannabis cultivation operations with renewable energy systems.
2. Funds may be used for purchase and/or installation of renewable energy system infrastructure, and engineering for renewable energy systems.
3. Funds may be used to establish a property's connection to the commercial power grid
4. Other expenses may also be funded if reductions in gas/diesel/propane powered generator use are documented.
5. Funds may be applied toward permitting fees associated with eligible renewable energy projects.

Application Process

Apply via the online application form found at: [Water Storage Program Webpage](#) and [Renewable Energy Program Webpage](#). Electronic attachment formats accepted are PDF, JPEG, or PNG.

Online applications only, no paper submissions will be accepted.

Application Assistance: In the case that an applicant does not have the ability or access to apply online, assistance in filling out the online application form may be accessed at our office location at 3015 H Street, Eureka, CA 95501 between 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM Monday through Friday .

Application Deadline: 5:00 PM PST, Friday, September 2, 2022. Only complete applications, including all required attachments, received online before 5:00 PM PST, Friday, September 2, 2022, will be considered.

Applications may be subject to public disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act.

Application Review and Award Selection

All applications and supporting documents will be reviewed by County of Humboldt Planning and Building Department staff to ensure applicant meets eligibility criteria.

- If you need to update or resubmit your application, resubmitted applications submitted prior to the deadline will be reviewed based upon date of resubmission rather than the date of initial submission.



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The County will rank eligible applications.

- Applications will be ranked according to the ranking criteria in the application. Attachments required for upload such as the proposed budget will also be used for ranking purposes.
- A point score ranking will be attached to each application.
- For applications that have the same ranking criteria score, the applications will be ordered according to the date the complete application was received, with the earliest application ranked first.

Project Award

The County will only award funds to projects occurring on legal parcels.

Planning and Building Department staff will bring a ranked list of eligible applicants to the Board of Supervisors for final decision on grant awards. The Board of Supervisors will decide which applications are approved for funding.

Submission of an application in no way obligates the County of Humboldt to award a grant and the County of Humboldt reserves the right to reject any or all applications, wholly or in part, at any time, without penalty.

For More Information

For further information, please visit our websites at [Water Storage Program Webpage](#) and [Renewable Energy Program Webpage](#). With specific questions about applications contact the Planning and Building Department via email at planningbuilding@co.humboldt.ca.us, or call (707) 267-9408, or visit our office at 3015 H Street, Eureka, CA 95501.

The County of Humboldt is an Equal Opportunity Employer and complies with Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) requirements and guidelines. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.