



November 6, 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR: All POTENTIAL APPLICANTS

FROM: Keali'i Bright, Division Director
Division of Land Resource Protection

SUBJECT: Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program Notice of Funding
Availability (Round 10)

The California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) and the California Department of Conservation (Department) are pleased to announce the release of this Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC). SGC anticipates approximately \$91 million in funding will be available for funding for competitive awards in Round 10. This amount is subject to change based on final calculations of funding available to the program from the FY2023-2024 Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds and residual funds available from disencumbered projects. The SALC program guidelines were adopted on October 31, 2024, and may be subsequently amended.

The SALC program provides grant funding for the following investment types:

- **Agricultural Conservation Capacity and Project Development** – Grants to develop agricultural conservation easement and fee acquisition projects and/or cover associated costs to help close acquisition projects where the cost of the acquisition is covered by an alternate source of funding.
- **Agricultural Conservation Acquisitions** – Grants to protect important agricultural lands under threat of conversion to nonagricultural uses through the acquisition of voluntary, permanent agricultural conservation easements (easements) or fee title purchases.
- **Agricultural Conservation Planning** – Grants to develop and implement plans for the protection of agricultural lands under pressure of being converted to non-agricultural uses.

Critical Dates for Round 10:

Acquisition and Planning Pre-proposals due: January 31, 2025

Acquisition, Capacity, and Planning Applications due: July 3, 2025

Project Awards: October 2025

Funding for the SALC program is provided from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF), an account established to receive Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds. The SALC program is part of the California Climate Investments, a statewide initiative funded through GGRF that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work, reducing GHG emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment – particularly in Disadvantaged Communities.

Pre-proposal materials must be submitted electronically via email at salcp@conservation.ca.gov no later than 11:59pm Pacific Time on January 31, 2025. Application materials must be submitted electronically



California
**Department of
Conservation**
Division of Land Resource Protection

Gavin Newsom, Governor
Gabe Tiffany, Acting Director

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via email at salcp@conservation.ca.gov no later than 11:59pm Pacific Time on July 3, 2025. Receipt of the digital materials by the Department determines the official submittal date and time. SALC will acknowledge receipt of the digital pre-proposal and application by email to the Contact Person listed on the Grant Application Cover Sheet.

The SALC program Guidelines, application forms, detailed instructions, and related SALC program information are posted on the Department's webpage at <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/grant-programs/SALCP/Pages/Program-Guidelines.aspx>.

To receive information regarding workshops and other updates, please subscribe to the Department's email list at <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/grant-programs/SALCP>.

If you have questions, please contact the Department's SALC program staff at salcp@conservation.ca.gov.

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