

**Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program
Priority Population Benefits Checklist**

SALC Program projects must satisfy at least one criterion in Step 1, one criterion in Step 2, and one criterion in Step 3 to be considered to provide direct, meaningful, and assured benefits to priority populations, receive priority population status through the SALC Program, and count toward statutory investment minimums. Please complete and submit this checklist if you are interested in qualifying for priority population status through the SALC Program. Supporting documentation must be provided for all claims.

Priority population status does not affect project eligibility.

STEP 1 – Identify Priority Population(s)

Evaluate the project against each of the following criteria. Check all boxes that apply. Supporting documentation required. If a project does not meet at least one of the qualifying criteria in Step 1, the project does not count toward statutory investment minimums and no further evaluation is needed.

Criteria	Yes	No
A. Is a majority of the project land located within the boundaries of a disadvantaged community census tract ?		
B. Is a majority of project land located within the boundaries of a low-income community census tract ?		
C. Is a majority of the project land located outside of a disadvantaged community, but within ½-mile of a disadvantaged community <u>and</u> within a low-income community census tract ?		

STEP 2 – Address a Need

Identify an important community or household need and evaluate whether the project provides a benefit that meaningfully addresses that need. Supporting documentation required. If the project does not address a community or household need, it does not count toward statutory investment minimums and no further evaluation is needed.

Important Community or Household Need

Describe the important community or household need your project meets and how your project addresses said need in the space provided:

STEP 2 – Address a Need (continued)

Method Used to Identify Need	Yes	No
<p>Indicate the method used to identify the important community need described above and provide supporting documentation:</p> <p>A. Host community meetings, workshops, outreach efforts, or public meetings as part of the planning process to engage local residents and community groups for input on community or household needs, and document how the received input was considered in the design and/or selection of projects to address those needs.</p> <p>B. Look at the individual factors in the latest version of CalEnviroScreen that are most impacting an identified disadvantaged or low-income community (i.e., factors that score above the 75th percentile), and confirm that the project will reduce the impacts of at least one of those factors.</p> <p>C. Receive documentation of support from local community-based organizations and/or residents (e.g., letters, emails) identifying a need that the project addresses and demonstrating that the project has broad community support.</p> <p>D. Refer to the list of common needs for priority populations in CARB’s Funding Guidelines Table 5 and confirm that the project addresses at least one listed need (should match the need identified above).</p>		

STEP 3 – Provide a Benefit

Evaluate the project against each of the following criteria to determine if it provides direct, meaningful, and assured benefits to priority populations. Project must meet at least one of the following benefit criteria. Supporting documentation required. Check all boxes that apply.

Criteria	Yes	No
<p>A. Project preserves a site that allows public access.</p> <p>B. Project significantly reduces flood risk to households within one or more disadvantaged or low-income communities.</p> <p>C. Project maintains water quality and health of watersheds serving priority populations through avoiding the conversion of forest lands or wetlands that would have resulted in impacts to nearby water bodies located in the same or a directly adjacent disadvantaged or low-income community as the project.</p> <p>D. Project increases food access to priority populations through regular farmers’ markets, donations to food banks or distribution centers serving residents of disadvantaged or low-income communities, or low-income households.</p> <p>E. Project provides regular and ongoing educational opportunities through partnerships with schools or non-profit organizations located in disadvantaged or low-income communities and site access to residents of these communities.</p>		