



October 31, 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR: All POTENTIAL APPLICANTS

FROM: Shanna Atherton-Bauer, Division Director
Division of Land Resource Protection

SUBJECT: Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program Notice of Funding
Availability (Round 11)

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 \$58 million in funding will be available for funding for competitive awards in Round 11. Of this amount, up to 50% of funding will be made available for Round 11, Cycle A. The remaining amount will be made available in Round 11, Cycle B. This amount is subject to change based on final calculations of funding available to the program from the FY2025-2026 Cap-and-Invest auction proceeds and residual funds that become available from disencumbered projects. Awards will be made twice a year at the SGC Council meeting of the month in which “*Project Awards*” are indicated under Critical Dates below. The SALC program guidelines were adopted on October 31, 2024, and subsequently amended August, 2025.

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

- **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 11, Cycle A:

Acquisition Phase 1 Pre-proposal: Rolling submittals

Acquisition Phase 2 Pre-proposals due: December 1, 2025 (submittal contingent on Phase One approval)

Planning Pre-proposals due: January 15, 2026

Acquisition Applications due: January 15, 2026 (submittal contingent on Phase Two approval)

Project Awards: April 2026

Critical *Dates for Round 11, Cycle B:

Acquisition Phase 1 Pre-proposal: Rolling submittals

Acquisition Phase 2 Pre-proposals due: May 14, 2026 (submittal contingent on Phase One approval)

Planning Applications due: June 17, 2026

Acquisition Applications due: June 17, 2026 (submittal contingent on Phase Two approval)

Project Awards: October 2026



**Dates are Subject to Change*

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

Phase One Acquisition Pre-proposal materials must be submitted electronically via email to SALCP@conservation.ca.gov. SALC will acknowledge receipt by “replying all” to the original email submission. The Phase One pre-proposal must be submitted as a Word document. No email response within three (3) business days from SALC may indicate the applicant’s email was not received.

Planning Pre-proposal, Phase Two Acquisition Pre-proposal, and Planning and Acquisition Application materials must be submitted electronically via email at salcp@conservation.ca.gov no later than 11:59pm Pacific Time on their relevant due dates listed above. 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 “replying all” to the original email submission. No email response from SALC within three (3) business days may indicate the applicant’s email was not received.

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.