

Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District

2026 DMV GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Released October 1, 2025

**One signed original project proposal must be submitted to the
Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District Administrative Office
By 5:00 p.m. on February 27, 2026**

(Late proposals or emailed proposals will not be accepted)

Administrative Office
2700 "M" Street, Suite 302, Bakersfield, CA 93301-2370
(661) 862-5250 • ekapcd@kerncounty.com • www.kernair.org

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Signed Original Proposal Must Be Submitted by 5 pm, February 27, 2026
(Late or Emailed Proposals Will Not Be Accepted)

Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District
2700 "M" Street, Suite 302
Bakersfield, CA 93301

I. DMV GRANT PROGRAM BACKGROUND

Assembly Bill 2766 (AB 2766) authorized the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to collect a motor vehicle registration clean air surcharge of \$4 per vehicle to implement the California Clean Air Act (CCAA). Revenue generated from AB 2766 are directed for use in the purposes of reducing air pollution generated from motor vehicles and other related sources. The Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District (District) allocates a substantial portion of annual AB 2766 funds to support its DMV Grant Program and Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Rebate Program.

The DMV Grant Program is designed to provide a mechanism for the fair, unbiased distribution of AB 2766 funds to eligible emission reduction projects located within Eastern Kern County. This Request for Proposals (RFP) describes eligible project types and addresses requirements for submitting a project proposal. The District reserves the right to reject any or all project proposals. Project funding varies from year-to-year but is generally around \$250,000.

District staff reviews all project proposals submitted by the deadline to determine eligibility and potential grant amount. All applications become property of the District. If the DMV Grant Program is oversubscribed, staff will conduct a random selection process to aid in awarding funds to eligible projects that have been deemed complete. The selected project list will be presented to the District's Board of Directors for approval at the May 2026, Board meeting. Once approved, project agreements will be developed and presented to the Board for final approval at the July 2026, Board meeting.

II. ADDITIONAL GRANT PROGRAMS

If your project does not qualify for the DMV Grant Program you may be eligible for funding through one of the District's other incentive programs. The following sections give a brief overview of potential emissions reduction grant funding opportunities available to Eastern Kern residents.

1. Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Rebate Program

The District's Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Rebate Program incentivizes Eastern Kern residents to reduce their motor vehicle emissions by purchasing a new zero-emissions automobile. Eligible applicants can receive a rebate of up to \$4,000 after they purchase a new qualifying ZEV. The ZEV Rebate Program is on-going and has its own application process. ZEV Rebate Program applications are processed first-come first-served, and rebates are issued accordingly. More information can be found on the District's website: www.kernair.org/DMV/ZEV.

2. Carl Moyer Program

The Carl Moyer Program (CMP) offers incentive funding for projects that reduce emissions from heavy-duty diesel-fueled engines. CMP projects generally involve repower or replacement of heavy-duty and medium heavy-duty diesel-fueled tractors, construction equipment, and emergency equipment. CMP applications are processed first-come first-served and eligible projects are awarded accordingly. More information can be found on the District's website: www.kernair.org/CarlMoyer.

3. Community Air Protection Funds

In 2017, Governor Brown signed into law Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617) (Chapter 136, Statutes of 2017) which directed the California Air Resources Board (CARB) in conjunction with local air quality management districts and air pollution control districts to establish the Community Air Protection Program (CAP). CAP funds supplement the Carl Moyer Program, to expedite funding of vehicle and equipment engine replacement, focusing on criteria and toxic emissions reductions in disadvantaged and low-income communities with poor air quality.

4. Lower Emission School Bus Program

Assembly Bill 923 (AB 923) provides a mechanism for the District's Governing Board to reduce emissions from older high-emitting school buses through retrofit and replacement pursuant to the Lower-Emission School Bus Program (LESBP). School districts located in Eastern Kern interested in retrofitting or replacing their older school buses are encouraged to contact the District at ekapcd@kerncounty.com or (661) 862-5250.

5. Wood Smoke Reduction Program

The Wood Smoke Reduction Program (WSRP) is funded by California Cap and Trade revenues. CARB determines project criteria and program eligibility guidelines that the District must follow. The WSRP awards eligible Eastern Kern homeowners up to \$5,000 to replace their existing woodstove or fireplace with a new EPA certified wood pellet stove, pellet fireplace insert, or catalytic fireplace insert. Natural gas and propane stoves or inserts are not eligible for funding. The WSRP begins accepting applications October 1st of each year. Applications are processed first-come first-served, and vouchers are issued accordingly until all funds have been exhausted. More information can be found on the District's website: www.kernair.org/WSRP.

III. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

An eligible DMV Grant Project can receive up to \$50,000. Projects from the following four categories are eligible for 2026 funds: Infrastructure, Road Improvement, Public Education, and Innovative Emission Reduction. Project descriptions and requirements are as follows:

1. Infrastructure

The purpose of this category is to encourage the use and development of cleaner vehicles by providing funding for electric and alternative fuel vehicle infrastructure. Strategically placing more EV charging stations and CNG refilling stations will make the use of alternative fuel vehicles more convenient; thereby encouraging their purchase and use. Examples of Infrastructure projects include:

- A. Installation of Level II or Level III **public charging**, fleet charging, or workplace charging station that serves electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles.
- B. Installation of public, fleet, or workplace CNG refilling station.

Requirements for an Infrastructure Project

- a. Proposal must indicate type of station being installed (including charge level), how long station will be operated, detailed maintenance plan, and party or entity responsible for maintenance.
- b. Written documentation is required with project proposal if applicant plans to partner with a business, government agency, or municipality that has a publically accessible location, and is willing to provide electricity and maintain the station.
- c. If real property is an essential part of the project the applicant must show evidence of the right or authority to construct by demonstrating ownership, control of property, or land owner's written permission.
- d. Proposal must include a detailed site map showing location of station or signage and all property easements adjacent to proposed site.
- e. Contractor(s) hired to complete construction must be licensed, bonded, and insured.
- f. Electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) installations must comply with local, state, and federal codes and regulations. Appropriate permits are required from the local building, fire, environmental, and electrical inspecting and permitting authorities. Find more information on related codes and standards on the Codes and Standards Resources page at: http://www.afdc.energy.gov/codes_standards.html.

2. Road Improvement

Road Improvement projects reduce fugitive dust (PM10) emissions that result from vehicle activity on public roads. Eligible road improvement projects include:

- A. Paving unpaved dirt public access road that has an average of at least 100 one-way vehicle trips per day or serves a minimum of ten occupied residences.
- B. Application of long-term (lasting at least one year) dust palliative(s) (excluding oil and water) to an unpaved dirt public access road that has an average of at least 100 one-way vehicle trips per day or serves a minimum of ten occupied residences.

Requirements for a Road Improvement Project

- a. Each public access road to be improved must have an average of at least 100 one-way vehicle trips per day or serve a minimum of ten occupied residences.
- b. At least one end of the improved segment of road must tie into an existing paved road.
- c. If real property is an essential part of the project the applicant must provide evidence of the right or authority to construct by demonstrating ownership, control of property, or land owner's written permission and provide a detailed site map showing location of all homes and property easements adjacent to proposed road to be improved.
- d. All contractor(s) hired must be licensed, bonded, and insured.

- e. All paving projects, excluding palliatives, must have a nominal depth/thickness of at least three (3) inches compacted.
- f. Dust palliative must be durable for at least one year. Project proposal must include documentation from manufacturer stating average life and durability of the palliative to be applied to the road surface.

All Road Improvement Project Proposals Must:

- i. Specify length and width of road to be improved, type of road base to be used (if applicable), average number of one-way trips per day, and average speed of vehicles travelling on the road;
- ii. Describe steps taken to deal with run-off, and estimated life expectancy of improvement;
- iii. Include a detailed maintenance plan indicating how long the project will be maintained and identifies the party or entity responsible for maintenance.

3. Public Education

Public Education projects generally lead to indirect emissions reductions. An effective public education program should be designed to deliver a focused message that instills behavioral changes and creates lifelong habits geared toward reducing emissions. Eligible public education programs can include:

- A. Development and implementation of air quality curriculum in school districts;
- B. Development and distribution of educational materials, educating at-risk populations on the health impacts of poor air quality, including how to avoid the impacts of poor air quality, and what they can do to improve overall air quality;
- C. Tuition reimbursement for mechanics training for servicing alternative fuel systems, including electric and hybrid technology or vehicles operating within the District.
- D. Other innovative public education projects are encouraged.

Requirements for a Public Education Project

- a. Proposal must describe in detail, how the project will lead to a reduction in motor vehicle emissions or increase awareness of at-risk groups.
- b. An outreach type program should describe size and location of its target audience and the methods and materials that will be used.
- c. A participatory program description should include the number of participants, level of involvement of the participants, and the extent of participation in approximate hours.
- d. Project submitted by a non-profit organization must include proof of 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit designation in proposal.

Requirements for Alternative Fuel Mechanics Training

- a. Proposal must demonstrate educational course specifically provides training in mechanics, operational safety, and maintenance of Alternative Fueled Vehicle (AFV) technology or alternative fuel infrastructure technology systems.
- b. Proposal must demonstrate the need for an instructor/training course, length of time required to complete training, required material(s), and number of possible students.
- c. Applicant must demonstrate the need for trained personnel by identifying approximate number and type of AFVs the mechanic will be servicing once trained.

4. Innovative Emission Reduction

The Innovative Emission Reduction category includes projects that reduce motor vehicle emissions by providing alternative methods of travel and lower the total number of vehicles on the road. These projects can include:

- A. Inner-agency videoconferencing system.
- B. Subsidy to initiate new commuter vanpool.
- C. Construction of public accessible park and ride facility.
- D. Construction of a public bike path or installation of public bike locking rack.

Requirements for an Innovative Emission Reduction Project

- a. Proposal must include a thorough explanation of the number, estimated length, and type(s) of motor vehicle trips that could be reduced.
- b. Proposal must include a detailed maintenance plan indicating how long the project will be maintained and party/entity responsible for maintenance.
- c. Park and ride or bike path proposal must provide a detailed site map showing location of all property easements adjacent to proposed paving.
- d. Contractor(s) hired to complete any construction project must be licensed, bonded, and insured.

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IV. PROJECT PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

1. A completed copy of the DMV Grant Program Application along with all required support documentation pursuant to Section V, Proposal Format must be submitted with all project proposals.
2. Applicant must be a legal entity or individual with whom an agreement can be entered into; voluntary or informal associations not recognized by the state as a legal entity are not eligible to apply.
3. Project proposal submitted by an agent representing a company, non-profit group, government agency, or home owner's association with a governing board must provide an approved Board Resolution or signed Board Letter from agent's governing entity stating authority has been given to make the proposal. All other applicants must sign statement of authority to submit a proposal.
4. Project proposal is limited to a maximum grant request of \$50,000. However, total project cost, including other funding sources, can exceed \$50,000.
5. Maintenance contracts, extended warranties, insurance or other operational items are not eligible for funding.
6. Any additional funding or incentive applicant is expecting to receive, or made available after the application has been submitted, must be immediately disclosed to District.
7. Portions of a project funded by DMV grant funds cannot commence prior to the effective date of an approved agreement (July 2026, at the earliest).
8. If a project requires liability insurance, the applicant must provide certificate(s) of insurance that meet all applicable requirements, as indicated in the project agreement, prior to commencing project.
9. Applicant must provide a maintenance schedule (if applicable) demonstrating the ability to maintain the project for its proposed life.

Project Proposal with original signature must be received at the District's Administrative Office located at: 2700 "M" Street, Suite 302, Bakersfield, CA 93301 BEFORE 5:00 P.M. ON FEBRUARY 27, 2026.

**You are encouraged to submit your application before the final day.
(Late or Emailed Proposals Will Not Be Accepted)**

V. PROPOSAL FORMAT

Applicant must use DMV Grant Program application located in this document, or on the District's website www.kernair.org. In addition to an application, each applicant must also provide support documents for the following five categories, arranged in the same order as listed below:

1. **Project Overview and Emission Reductions**

Provide project details including location/area of operation. Infrastructure projects should indicate the estimated number of vehicles it will serve. Road Improvement projects should indicate the number of homes the road serves.

Clearly explain how the program will lead to emission reductions or to greater awareness of air quality issues among at-risk populations. For an indirect emission reduction project, such as public education, please provide a detailed description that lists the estimated number of people the program will reach and their participation level.

2. **Project Organization/Background**

Provide a brief description of the organization, agency, or firm proposing the project. If the project is a joint venture list the organization that will act as lead. Specify the proposing entity's qualifications to carry out the project. Describe the resources available to operate and maintain the project for its proposed life span.

All non-profit organizations must provide proof of 501(c)(3) tax-exempt designation.

3. **Work Statement/Schedule**

Describe each phase of the work to be performed. Provide a list of all work products, deliverables, and anticipated dates of delivery (*if applicable*).

4. **Funding Request/Breakdown of Cost**

Briefly define the portion or percentage of the proposed project funded by the DMV Grant. Specify whether the project is new or a continuation/expansion of an existing program. Indicate whether the proposal is for a short-term project that will be part of a long-term ongoing program. Include total amount of DMV Grant funds required and the amount, if any, of a co-funding source.

Clearly state the total project cost excluding extended warranties, maintenance, insurance or other such costs. Include the following in your cost section:

- A. Estimated total cost and itemized breakdown by task.
- B. List all expected funding sources, including DMV Grant funds, and any in-kind (non-monetary) contributions.
- C. Provide a letter of commitment from each co-funding source or your agency indicating the status of the funds designated for the project (if applicable).

5. Authority to Submit Proposal

The person signing and submitting a DMV Grant Program application must have authority to do so. If a governing board or other such entity is required to authorize submittal, then the project proposal must include a board resolution delegating authority to the person responsible for submitting the proposal. If the proposed project is not associated with a business or agency, then a board resolution is not required.

The District understands many agencies have a limited number of board meetings. In an effort to accommodate applicants, District will accept an approved board resolution authorizing submittal of a DMV Grant proposal up to thirty (30) days after the project proposal deadline. To be granted this extension, an otherwise complete project proposal must be submitted to the District by the deadline and the applicant must request an extension for the Board Resolution in the proposal. A copy of the board letter requesting authority to submit a DMV Grant proposal and a copy of the draft resolution must be included in the project proposal.

NOTE: District may request additional information after the proposal has been submitted. DMV Grant project proposals may not be altered after February 27, 2026, except at the request of District staff. Applicants should immediately inform the District if there is need to withdraw a project proposal.

VI. PROJECT SELECTION & AGREEMENT

All eligible projects may be awarded DMV funds unless the program is oversubscribed. If oversubscribed, the District will conduct a random selection process for choosing eligible projects that have provided a complete application. All applicants will be notified via post mail with one of the following letters: grant funding award, incomplete application, or ineligible project.

The DMV Grant Program is generally oversubscribed. Project proposals meeting requirements of this RFP, and deemed complete and eligible by staff, have equal merit. Staff determination of eligibility is final. After all, 2026 DMV Grant funds have been allocated to eligible projects, one or more project may be placed on a standby list.

The District's Board of Directors must concur with staff's recommended funding list prior to developing agreements (contracts). Each Grantee will be required to execute an agreement with the District as a condition of receiving funds. After the Grantee signs the agreement, the agreement is presented to the Board of Directors for final approval with Chair's signature. For most projects, agreement approval will occur at the July Board meeting.

The agreement may require Grantee to perform monitoring, record keeping, or reporting. Scope and duration will vary depending upon the nature of the project. All applications become public information. Applicants should limit submissions of proprietary information.

VII. PROJECT PAYMENT

All projects that have been selected, approved for funding, and have executed agreements with the District, will be eligible to receive monetary reimbursement upon completion of the project as stipulated in Exhibit A of the agreement. Payment will not exceed total project costs or maximum dollar amount listed in Exhibit A of the agreement. In order to receive DMV Grant reimbursement the project must be completed pursuant to the requirements listed in Exhibit A of the agreement and Grantee must provide the following documentation to the District:

1. District Invoice for Payment form;
2. Verification of fiduciary authority if not clearly stated in Board Resolution;
3. Completed IRS Form W-9;
4. Proof of 501(c)(3) tax-exempt designation (if applicable);
5. Contractor/Vendor invoice(s) showing real costs and charges associated with project;
6. Proof of liability insurance as detailed in the agreement (if applicable); and
7. Project report (if applicable).

VIII. AUDIT PROCEDURES

Any entity that receives DMV Grant funds may be subject to an audit of each project funded. The audit may be conducted by District staff or by an independent auditor selected by District. District will review the audit to determine if the funds were used appropriately for the reduction of air pollution from motor vehicles pursuant to the California Clean Air Act.

2026 DMV Grant Program Schedule

Program Guidelines Available.....	October 1, 2025
Final Date to Submit Proposal (Late Proposal Will Not Be Accepted)	February 27, 2026
Project Selection	April 2026*
Board Meeting to Consider Funding Selected Projects	May 2026**
Agreements Ready for District Board Approval	July 2026**

*Random lottery process will only be required if program is oversubscribed.

**Date may change based on availability of District Board members.

IX. SUBMIT PROJECT

Submit Signed Original Proposal by 5 pm, February 27, 2026
(Late or Emailed Proposals Will Not Be Accepted)

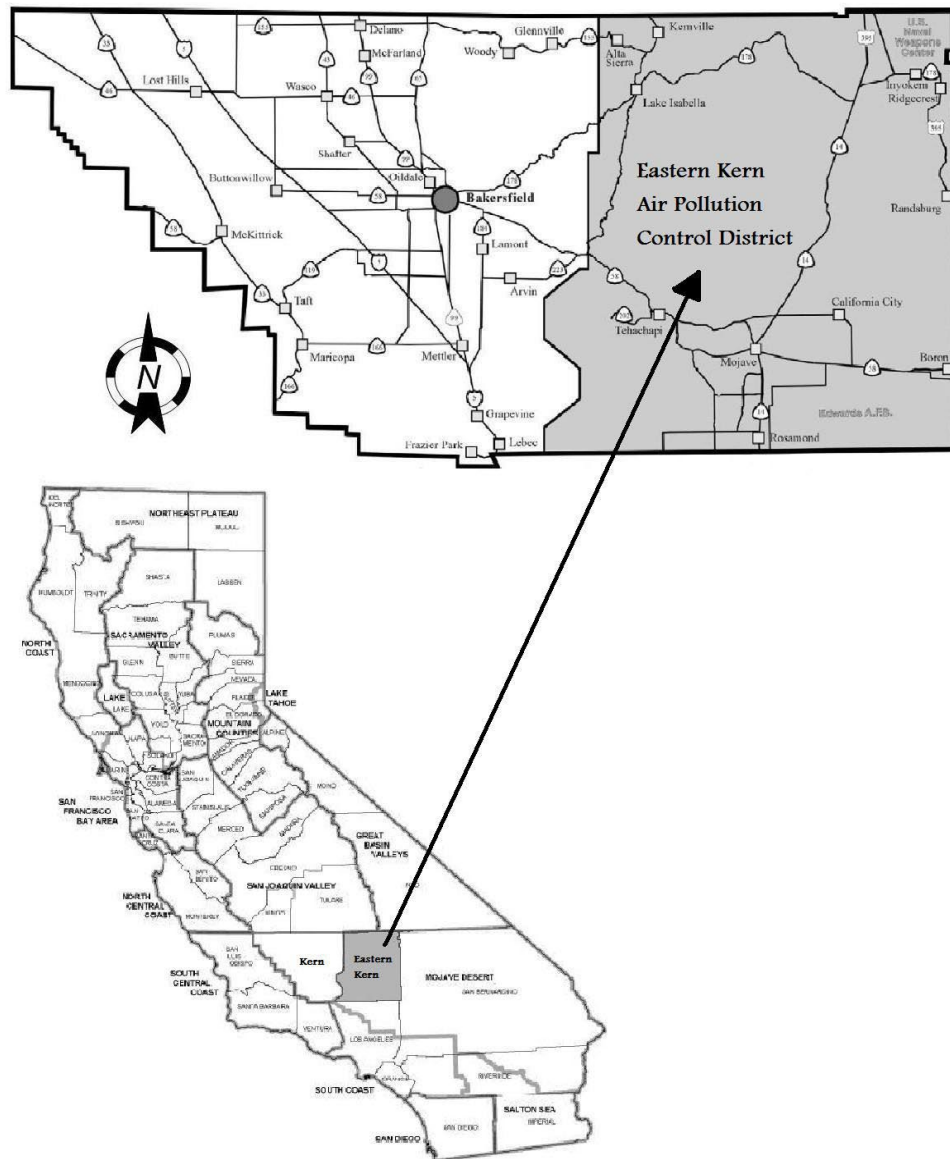
Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District
2700 "M" Street, Suite 302
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Direct all questions to Jeremiah Cravens, Senior Air Quality Specialist

(661) 862-5250 or email Cravensj@kerncounty.com

Interactive electronic applications are available at www.kernair.org.

Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District Boundary Map





EASTERN KERN AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
2700 "M" STREET SUITE 302, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301-2370
(661) 862-5250 • www.kernair.org

2026 DMV Grant Program APPLICATION

(Please Type or Print)

Individual or Business Name:			
Contact Person (if different than above):			
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	
Phone:	Email (Required):		
Project Type (Select All that Apply)			
Infrastructure	EV Charging Station	CNG Refueling Station	Innovative
Road Paving	Public Education	Bike Path/Locking Rack	Van Pool
Geographic area served by project:			
Brief Project description: _____ _____			
Total Project Cost:		Total Funds Requested:	

I hereby certify that I am authorized to submit this application and all information provided in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Print Name of Responsible Person:	Title:
Signature of Responsible Person:	Date:

DATE RECEIVED	Validation (for DISTRICT use)		
	Is Application Complete:	Yes	No
	Eligible for Funding:	Yes	No