



Fire Risk Reduction Community List

Information for Applicants

What is the Fire Risk Reduction Community List?

The Fire Risk Reduction Community List (FRRCL) is a list of local agencies located in state responsibility areas or very high fire hazard severity zones that meet best practices for local fire planning.

What are the benefits to local agencies ?

- Priority for CAL FIRE Wildfire Prevention Grants
- Possible insurance discounts for FRRCL communities.

How can my agency apply for the list?

The application form is available on:
bof.fire.ca.gov

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

- ✓ Cities
- ✓ Counties
- ✓ Tribal Nations
- ✓ Special Districts



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Benefit of FRRCL for Grants

Wildfire Prevention Grants are funds for projects in and near fire threatened communities to improve public health and safety while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. CAL FIRE's Wildfire Prevention Grants can be used to fund projects or activities focused on the protection of people, structures, and communities.

What types of projects can be funded with Wildfire Prevention Grants?

Hazardous Fuels Reduction

- Vegetation Clearance
- Fuel Breaks
- Chipping Days
- Prescribed Grazing
- Green Waste Programs

Wildfire Prevention Planning

- Wildfire Risk Mapping
- Strategic Fire Planning Documents

Wildfire Prevention Education

- Outreach Programs
- Educational Materials

Wildfire Prevention Grant applicants will receive priority if the applicant is on the Fire Risk Reduction Community List, or if the applicant plans to utilize the grant funding to meet the List eligibility requirements.



Want to learn more about CAL FIRE's Grants Program?



Benefit of FRRCL for Insurance

The California Department of Insurance "Safer From Wildfires" regulations in Title 10, Section 2644.9(d), require insurance companies to use a rating plan that takes into account and reflects whether a structure is in a Fire Risk Reduction Community.



[Read the Safer From Wildfire Regulations Here!](#)

FRRCL communities may see a discount on insurance costs. Property owners in FRRCL communities can be directed to the Board's FRRCL webpage to access the list and other supporting documents for submission to their insurance providers. Questions or concerns regarding their insurance can be directed to the California Department of Insurance, or their insurance provider.

Quick Links for Property Owners

For documents which can be submitted to insurance Providers to verify FRRCL community status, including the resolution of Board approval:

[Board of Forestry's FRRCL Webpage](#)

For information on Safer from Wildfires insurance discounts for homeowners:

[California Department of Insurance, Safer from Wildfires](#)

Ready to Apply for the Fire Risk Reduction Community List?

To receive the Fire Risk Reduction Community designation, and benefits of the FRRCL, qualifying agencies must apply during the open application period. Once the list is updated it will remain valid for two years.

Timeline:

The application for the 2026 list will open July 1, 2025 and close October 1, 2025. Applicants *including* returning applicants *must* apply during the open application period for inclusion in the 2026 list.

July 1st, 2025

Application period opens. Application form posted to the Board's FRRCL webpage. Board staff begins review of applications.

October 1st, 2025

Application period closes, all applications due by midnight. Application form removed from webpage.

October 2025- June 2026

Board staff reviews applications. Applicants will be notified if additional information is needed to process their application. The Board will send notifications on application status.

June 16-17, 2026

The tentative 2026 FRRCL comes first before the Resource Protection Committee, and the before the full Board. Full Board will vote to adopt 2026 FRRCL.

July 1st, 2026

2026 list becomes effective. List is posted to the Board's website. List will remain active for 2 years.



- ✓ Complete your application early.
- ✓ Provide files in lieu of links.
- ✓ Include the name of the local agency in file names.
- ✓ For lengthy documents such as Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, note which pages contain the pertinent details.
- ✓ Include at least two points of contact with up-to date information.



Once my agency has submitted our application, what can we expect next?

Your application will be reviewed by Board staff. If additional information is needed to process your application Board staff will contact your agency via the information provided on your agency's FRRCL application. You will be notified of your application status during the Board review period. If the applicant meets all requirements the agency's name will be recommended to be added onto the next iteration of the list.

The list will first come before the Resource Protection Committee, and then before the full Board for adoption. Both meetings are open to the public.



To be added to the Board's mailing list and receive FRRCL updates including open application period notifications please email: LandUsePlanning@bof.ca.gov

Cities and Counties

To qualify for the FRRCL cities and counties will need to demonstrate compliance and exceedance of state minimum fire regulations.

Cities and Counties should complete the "City and County" portion of the application form. There are 10 total criteria, criteria 1-4 are mandatory criteria, and 5-10 are optional criteria. To qualify for the list a city or county would need to meet all 4 mandatory criteria, and 2 optional criteria.

Mandatory Criteria

The first four criteria are designed to determine whether a city or county has done its due diligence in keeping compliant with state regulations. In this portion cities and counties will be asked to provide documentation showing they have fulfilled the requirements of the following areas:



[Fire Hazard Severity Zones](#)



For Counties only:
[Subdivision Map Submission](#)



[Safety Elements](#)



[Subdivision Review Recommendations Progress Reports](#)



Click on the links above for more information!

Optional Criteria

The optional criteria are designed to credit agencies for local fire planning actions they have taken which exceed state minimums or demonstrate best practices. Cities and counties can select which two optional criteria they would like to use to qualify.



Low Income Cities and Counties

The FRRCL program includes additional avenues for low-income cities and counties to qualify for the List. To be considered a **low-income city** the median household income must be equal or less than **80% of the area median income for the county** in which it is located.

A **county** with a median household income equal to or less than **80% of the California statewide median household income** is defined as low income.

Low Income cities and counties must meet all applicable mandatory criteria, one optional criteria, and have one optional criteria included as an objective in their Safety Element.



Special Districts and Tribal Nations

To qualify for the FRRCL designation, a special district or Tribe will need to demonstrate it meets or exceeds best fire planning practices. The application form consists of eligibility criteria which allow applicants to receive credit for a variety of fire planning actions, ranging from administrative actions to participating in community outreach and education.

Special Districts and Tribal Nations that are not cities and counties should complete the “Non-City and County” portion of the application. The application consists of 7 optional eligibility criteria. Special districts and Tribal applicants will qualify for the list if they demonstrate they meet 2 of the criteria.



What type of fire planning actions can be used to qualify for the list?

There are many actions that can be utilized to qualify for the list, such as:

- Recent adoption of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan.
- Active engagement Firewise USA community.
- Implementation of a California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP) project.
- Identification of wildfire as a high priority hazard in a recent Local or Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Implementation of an ongoing public outreach and education program about water conservation, defensible space, or Traditional Ecological Knowledge pertaining to fire.



Low Income Special Districts and Tribal Nations

The FRRCL program includes additional avenues for low-income special districts and Tribes to qualify for the List. To be considered low-income the special district or Tribe must serve **at least one city or county with a median household income equal or less than 80% of the area median income for the county or state** in which it is located. Low Income special districts or Tribes must meet 1 criteria, and have one criteria included as an objective or expected outcome in that agency’s strategic plan or similar.



What type of evidence will my agency be asked to provide?

As part of the FRRCL application process you will be asked to submit evidence for each criterion being used to qualify.

For example, a Fire District might submit a flyer from a recent community event to demonstrate active engagement with a Firewise USA community.

