Fire Risk Reduction Community List FAQs

# **Overview**

## What is the Fire Risk Reduction Community List (FRRCL)?

[Public Resources Code 4290.1](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=4290.1&lawCode=PRC) requires the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop and maintain “a list of local agencies located in a state responsibility area or very high fire hazard severity zone...that meet best practices for local fire planning." This list will be published on the Board’s website by July 1, 2022, and updated every two years thereafter. The next update will be effective July 1, 2024. The Board’s regulations pertaining to the List can be found in the California Code of Resources, Title 14, Sections 1268.00-1268.04.

## How will the List be used? What does it mean for a local agency to be on or off the List?

[Public Resources Code 4124.7](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=4124.7.&lawCode=PRC) requires CAL FIRE to “prioritize local assistance grant funding applications from local agencies based on the “Fire Risk Reduction Community List.” Wildfire Prevention Grant applicants will receive priority if the applicant is on the Fire Risk Reduction Community List. Projects are selected on a competitive basis and consecutive awards are not guaranteed. To learn more about available grants and the grant process, please visit [Wildfire Prevention Grants | CAL FIRE](https://www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/grants/wildfire-prevention-grants).

## What is considered a “local agency” for the purposes of this List?

A local agency is defined as “Any city, city and county, or county; tribal agency; agency, department, district or other publicly funded entity serving a city or and county.” Non-profits, homeowner’s associations, Fire Safe Councils, and other non-governmental organizations are not considered local agencies.

## Does a local agency need to reapply when the List is updated every two years to remain on the List?

Yes.

## How do I apply for the List?

The application form is available on the [Board’s website](https://bof.fire.ca.gov/projects-and-programs/fire-risk-reduction-communities-list/) during the open application period, along with detailed instructions on the application process. Applications are due April 1st of every even-numbered year. To navigate to the website, please visit bof.fire.ca.gov, under the Projects & Programs tab, select Fire Risk Reduction Communities List.

## When is the FRRCL application period open?

The application period is open at the beginning of every even year and due April 1st of the same even year. The Board will not accept applications outside of this open application period, nor will the application be available outside of the open period. You can sign up to receive automatic notifications of the application period here: [State Board of Forestry & Fire Protection list manager sign up](https://bof.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=172af298a6a70bf21ef09866c&id=f9d930c4f0)

# **Wildfire Prevention Grants & the Fire Risk Reduction Community List**

## Does not being eligible for the List preclude a local agency from applying for or receiving [Wildfire Prevention Grant](https://www.fire.ca.gov/grants/fire-prevention-grants/) funding?

No, the Wildfire Prevention Grants eligibility remains as is listed in the Wildfire Prevention Grants Procedural Guide for the corresponding fiscal year. Applicants not eligible for the List will not be precluded from receiving grant funds.

* **Will a local agency receive priority for grant applications designed to meet the eligibility criteria with the goal of being added to the List?**

Yes. Wildfire Prevention Grant applicants will receive priority for utilizing the funding to meet the List eligibility requirements. Applications are evaluated based on the criteria located in the Wildfire Prevention Grants Procedural Guide for the corresponding fiscal year.

# **Subdivision Review Program & the Fire Risk Reduction Community List**

## Does a city or county have to have received one or more reviews from the [Subdivision Review Program](https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/divisions/wildfire-planning-engineering/subdivision-review-program) to meet criterion 1268.01(a)(4)? What if the local agency does not have any subdivisions that are eligible for review by the program?

## No. If a local agency has not yet been reviewed by the Subdivision Review Program, or if it contains no subdivisions eligible for review, it only needs to indicate this in the List application form for this criterion to be met.

## Does a city or county have to have implemented the recommendations from each subdivision review it has received to meet criterion 1268.01(a)(4)? What if some of these recommendations are infeasible to implement?

No. The progress report submitted may explain why certain criteria have not yet been implemented or are infeasible to implement and still meet this criterion.

# **Subdivision Map Act Findings**

* **How do I submit subdivision map findings?**

To submit your subdivision map findings, please fill out the [Subdivision Map Finding Form](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fbof.fire.ca.gov%2Fmedia%2Fdzldm44f%2Ffinal-subdivision-findings-form_ada.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) and submit to LandUsePlanning@bof.ca.gov. For additional information you can visit bof.fire.ca.gov, Projects and Programs tab, Subdivision Findings, or click here to be directed to the site: [Subdivision Findings webpage](https://bof.fire.ca.gov/projects-and-programs/subdivision-findings/).

# **Miscellaneous**

## Is the Fire Risk Reduction Community List the same thing as, or related to, the Community at Risk List?

No, these lists are separate and unrelated to each other. The Fire Risk Reduction Community List focuses on proactive community planning and risk reduction whereas the Community at Risk List is based primarily on exposure to the hazard of wildfire.

## How was the definition of a Low-Income Local Agency in 1268.00(e) determined?

For cities -- This definition is based on a city’s median income relies on data published annually by the Department of Housing and Community Development in 25 CCR § 6932. This source was selected for consistency with the data already used by CAL FIRE’s Grants program in determining low-income status.

For counties – A low-income county is one with a median household income equal to or less than $64,352. The 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) from the US Census Bureau reports a California statewide median income of $80,440, and 80% of that number is $64,352. This number will be updated continually in the regulations as future ACS data becomes available, however, for the 2024 application, this is the information we will be using to determine eligibility.

* **How does being on the Fire Risk Reduction Communities list affect my insurance?**

If you have questions or concerns relating to insurance, please contact the Department of Insurance directly: [Department of Insurance, Safer from Wildfires Webpage](https://www.insurance.ca.gov/01-consumers/200-wrr/Safer-from-Wildfires.cfm).

# Please direct additional questions to LandUsePlanning@bof.ca.gov.