New Community Application to the Network
2025-26

CA Green Business Network - New Community Overview:
The California Green Business Network (CAGBN) is pleased to accept, mentor, support and (when available) provide funding to communities starting a local green business program in California. This new community application ensures that programs are aware of what is valuable when starting a new program and are prepared to support a strong local program and contribute to an active state-wide network. We welcome any and all communities and we further welcome areas in which there is a significant need to bolster the green economy. (Specifically in regions that are deemed disadvantaged according to the CalEPA Enviroscreen 4.0 Tool.)

This questionnaire will help determine whether your community has completed the necessary steps and early assessment to determine if the program will be a success. Please answer the questions with as many specific details as possible. If you have any questions about the questionnaire or starting a new program, please contact Lacey Raak.

To use this questionnaire, please make a copy of the document, add your jurisdiction name, and answer the questions below. Then send to the emails linked above.

New CAGBN Program Questionnaire:

1. What is the name and geographical reach of your proposed program? Regional, County, or City?

2. Is your community listed on an environmental justice list or is your community economically disadvantaged? Use the Cal Enviroscreen tool to determine if your municipality falls in this category and please provide the CalEnviroScreen Score (for example: 96-100%).

3. Please list the stakeholders (agencies and individuals) you have involved in the early design of your program in the following categories: Pollution Prevention, Materials Management/Recycling, Energy Conservation, Wastewater/Stormwater and Water-Use Efficiency.

4. What type of direct funding will be used for your program and how much? (WIll your jurisdiction dedicate additional funding to maintain the program. This could be through grants to businesses, etc.)

5. What type and how much leveraged funding will be used, such as in-kind staff time?

6. Do you agree to use the California Green Business Database (GreenBizTracker) to collect the data necessary to track metrics?

7. Will you ensure that businesses certified by your agency are in compliance with regulatory laws and meet the essential criteria set forth by the California Green Business Network to ensure statewide consistency?

8. Members are provided opportunities to connect with other programs (such as webinars and online knowledge-base sharing as well as an annual conference). Do you anticipate a member of your program will be able to participate in Network activities?

9. Are you willing to become a contributing member of the California Green Business Network? It is recommended that you review and become familiar with the by-laws of the Network and ask any questions you may have before submitting this application.

   By-Laws can be found at: drive.google.com/file/d/1SQjUntt5ublIOO7pbdIQ8rDlShltd9Py/view?usp=sharing

   Note specifically the requirement to have local programs participate on the board of directors on a rotating basis. Each program in the network takes a turn participating on the Board.

10. What are your plans to ensure that the Green Business Program has longevity and becomes a long-standing, well-supported, and high participation program for your community?

11. Please list any Community-based Organizations that you intend to work with and describe their experience in working with businesses in your region:

    - Community-Based Business Assistance Organization:

    - What experience does the CBO have working with English as second language speakers, hosting workshops, and working with the business community?

12. Do you have interest from the business community in the proposed region?

13. What type of industry sectors do you anticipate working with (auto-repair, small manufacturing, retail, etc.)?

14. Are there business associations that you have discussed the program with?

15. Are there any pilot businesses that have agreed to participate?

16. Approximately how many businesses do you envision providing technical support and/or certification support to annually? (There is no minimum or maximum to be a member of the Network, but it is helpful to set internal goals).

17. Do you anticipate helping your businesses celebrate by hosting mixers, recognition events with elected officials, etc.

Program Administration Details:

Local Contact (Who will manage and oversee the implementation of the program?):

_____

Name Title

Administrative Contact: (Who should be sent the annual member dues Invoice?):

_____

Name Title