



News from the Emergency Management Committee Chair (4/15/22)

The Committee's Next Policy Hearing

WHEN: Monday, April 25, 2022, at 2:30 p.m.

WHERE: State Capitol, Room 444

HHS Extends COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Through July

[*California Medical Association reports*](#) because of the new hike in Omicron subvariant BA.2 cases, U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra extended the COVID-19 public health emergency determination for an additional 90 days, effective April 16. This is the ninth extension since the original declaration.

This means that all waivers will continue through at least the end of July. The travel mask mandate has also been extended until May 3, 2022.

Congress also recently extended the current COVID-19 pandemic telehealth waivers for five months beyond the end of the public health emergency.

California Lifts Five-Day Quarantine Rule for People Exposed to COVID-19 but Show No Symptoms

[*The San Francisco Chronicle reports*](#) people exposed to others infected with COVID-19 no longer have to quarantine as long as they show no coronavirus symptoms, according to an updated quarantine guidance released by California public health officials.

Previously, individuals who were exposed to COVID-19 were recommended to quarantine for at least five days after exposure, even if they didn't have symptoms. Everyone who gets exposed, regardless of vaccination status, should get tested within three to five days of their exposure. Close contacts to those exposed individuals should wear masks for 10 days, particularly in indoor settings and when close to people at higher risk of getting seriously ill with COVID-19, state public health officials said.

State public health officials also amended the definition of a close contact to be someone sharing the "same indoor airspace" with a person infected with COVID-19 for "a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period" during the infected person's infectious period. Indoor

airspace can refer to a residence, a hospital waiting room, an airplane, and other indoor spaces, officials said.

California Department of Public Health officials updated the guidance on April 6. Local and county health jurisdictions can still require stricter quarantine rules.

The updated quarantine guidance does not apply to people who live or work in high-risk settings, including emergency medical services personnel, state health officials said. Those individuals will continue following recommendations set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, state health officials said.

“This allows us to continue protecting our most vulnerable populations and the workforce that delivers critical services in these settings,” state public health officials said on their web page [outlining isolation and quarantine guidance](#).

What COVID-19 Restrictions Are Still in Place in California?

[ABC 23 reports](#) Kern County public health announced 121 new cases and three new COVID-related deaths on Tuesday. There are now more than 2,300 deaths tied to COVID-19 in the county since the start of the pandemic.

And because COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations throughout Kern County are continuing to drop, Adventist Health Kern County has officially de-mobilized its COVID-19 incident command center.

Throughout the last two years, Adventist Health had used the approach to plan and coordinate emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Adventist Health Kern County Employees were told that ICC briefings will end until further notice. However, the use of personal protective equipment will stay in place.

And as the world slowly returns to pre-pandemic life, 23ABC took an in-depth look into which COVID-19 restrictions are still in place in California.

According to AARP, as of April 1st, proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test is no longer required to go to indoor events with more than 1,000 people.

State employees and healthcare workers must show proof of COVID-19 vaccination or submit to testing once a week.

Employees who work in high-risk areas like jails and long-term care facilities were required to get a booster dose by March 1st.

School staff also must be vaccinated or get tested weekly.

And face masks are also required for people two and older in health care and long-term care facilities, emergency and homeless shelters, and jails and prisons.

50,000 Bay Area Renters Waiting for California COVID-19 Emergency Rental Relief

[KTVU reports](#) hundreds of thousands of Californians are still waiting for emergency COVID-19 rental assistance, despite the program closing to new applicants at the end of last month.

[State data shows](#) less than half of the households that applied for rental relief have seen funding. While nearly a half million have completed an application, about a quarter million are still considered "under review."

The state program was launched in March 2021 to help tenants and landlords facing financial hardship during the pandemic. However, KTVU found some applied as far back as last summer, and still not received any help.

[Policy Link](#), a nonprofit focused on racial and economic equity, [analyzed the state data](#) finding nearly 100,000 Bay Area renters have applied for emergency rental relief but more than half, at least 51,000 are waiting for applications to be processed.

One in three applicants reported to the state of getting an eviction notice or facing threats when they applied to the state program.

Policy Link estimates [at least 194,000 households](#) are on the verge of getting kicked out or losing their homes, as seen in data published by the [National Equity Atlas](#).

It comes despite lawmakers extending eviction protections through the end of June.

California Attorney General Rob Bonta [sent warning letters](#) at the end of March to eviction attorneys that said tenants cannot be thrown out for unpaid rent unless they failed to apply for the program or were denied.

Several landlords told KTVU they did apply with their tenants months ago but have yet to see any money. While the program is not first come, first serve, it is based on need and vulnerability.

The California Department of Housing and Community Development [manages the statewide program](#), which never existed before.

Deputy Director Geoffrey Ross admitted it has been a learning experience and a work in progress.

He said legislative changes earlier this year have allowed processing to increase significantly.

The state said about 8,000 applications and \$80 million were approved each week beginning in early February, compared to 12,000 applications and \$112 million a week now.

Ross said any eligible applications for utilities and rental assistance submitted on or before March 31 will be paid in a matter of days or weeks.

"We are now moving as fast as we can," Ross said. "We're looking at getting through every one of those applications in the next 12 weeks."

To read further details on the issues tenants are facing, [visit the full article](#).

The Dos and Don'ts of Going to the ER

[USA Today reports](#) during this past winter's COVID-19 surge, fueled by the highly transmissible Omicron variant, a lot of front-line and customer-facing industries were impacted by widespread infections.

Local emergency medical service (EMS) systems were hit especially hard. Communities were told to call 911 only for "true life- or limb-threatening emergencies." But this gave those of us

who work in the EMS and the ER a pause. We thought: “Isn’t this the way the 911 system is supposed to be used?”

[ERs across the country](#) are seeing a rapid return to pre-pandemic volume. My ER in Burbank, California, has had some 200-plus patient days recently.

As we head deeper in spring and then summer – traditionally the busiest time for ERs – and in the context of reiterating the importance of using your local ER appropriately, it is time to present some practical “dos and don’ts.”

To view the full list of “dos and don’ts,” [visit the full article](#).

Sacramento Shooting Gets More Complicated

[CalMatters reports](#) as investigations into the April 3 Sacramento shooting that left six dead and 12 injured are intensifying, so, too, are the political and policy implications of the nation’s deadliest mass murder so far this year.

On Tuesday, Sacramento police [announced they are seeking a fourth suspect](#) in connection with the shooting — and said “evidence indicates” the suspect, Mtula Payton, was among at least five gunmen involved in what detectives believe was a gang shootout.

Another suspected shooter, according to police: Smiley Martin, who’s received most of the attention in the case thus far due to the revelation that he was released in February from prison, where he spent just four years despite a 10-year sentence.

To read more on why Martin’s prison stint was so brief, and further details surrounding the growing complicity of this case, [visit the full article](#).

Mass Shooters Often Share a History of Domestic Violence

[The Los Angeles Times reports](#) the investigation of the mass shooting in downtown Sacramento’s nightlife district is still underway, but the two brothers, Dandrae, and Smiley Martin, arrested on firearms charges in connection, share backgrounds with gunmen in other bloodbaths: a history of domestic violence, Los Angeles Times columnist Anita Chabria writes.

The problem, Geller says, is that the courts don’t take domestic violence cases seriously. Case in point: Dandrae Martin was given probation in a plea deal after being charged with nine counts for an assault in a Phoenix hotel. The allegations included hitting a woman “all over her body,” attempting to choke her twice and urinating on her in front of the couple’s 1-month-old and 2-year-old children.

The case — as is not uncommon, Chabria says — overlapped with sex trafficking: Martin beat the woman to force her to prostitute herself through ads he had set up on the now-closed internet site backpage. The plea deal was approved, even though the attack was in violation of a restraining order from a California court, Chabria wrote.

Dandrae’s brother Smiley Martin also was accused of assaulting a woman whom he’d previously been accused of pimping, and according to a detective’s testimony, beat her until her face was so bloody a witness couldn’t see her eyes.

Chabria acknowledges that domestic violence cases are tough; Smiley was recorded in his jail cell dictating testimony to the woman, who denied injuries on the witness stand.

In the end, the two brothers ended up serving substantial sentences because of previous or subsequent crimes. Chabria points out that Dandrae's sweet deal had nothing to do with sentencing reforms or liberal California prosecutors such as Chesa Boudin or George Gascón. The crime happened in Maricopa County, Arizona, a conservative jurisdiction once home to right-wing firebrand sheriff Joe Arpaio.

Smiley Martin also is awaiting a [\\$7,500 settlement check](#) from Sacramento County in connection with alleged law enforcement wrongdoing. Martin sued the county saying a guard allowed rival gang members to attack him, then threatened him when he filed a complaint. The county said the decision to settle was strictly economic.

Chabria says we need to move away from the "he said, she said" trope that has trivialized domestic violence.

Authorities Search for Person Who Shot 9-Year-Old Girl at Victorville Mall

[KTLA reports](#) authorities searched for a gunman who shot a 9-year-old girl inside a mall in Victorville Tuesday evening.

The shooting happened around 7 p.m. at the Mall of Victor Valley located at 14400 Bear Valley Rd. The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department said the girl was shot inside the mall and was transported to the hospital in stable condition.

The shooter has not been located, the Sheriff's Department said, and a description of the suspect was not immediately available.

Video from the scene showed a heavy law enforcement presence surrounding the shopping center, which was evacuated and then searched by authorities. Following the shooting, the mall was closed for the remainder of the evening.

The shooting was believed to be an isolated incident and not an active shooter situation, the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department said. Sheriff's officials said additional information would be released Wednesday.

Due to increased police activity near the mall, the Victor Valley Transit Authority temporarily suspended service for some of its routes in the area.

California Man Accused of Shooting Girl, 9, in Victorville Mall Waives Extradition

[KTLA reports](#) the man accused of firing his gun inside a Victorville mall Tuesday evening and hitting and injuring a 9-year-old girl made his first appearance in court after being arrested in southern Nevada.

Marquel Cockrell, 20, waived his extradition and will be returned to California to face charges.

Cockrell, a shoe store co-owner, fired multiple rounds at two shoplifters inside the Mall of Victor Valley in Victorville, California when a girl taking photos with an Easter Bunny was struck, Victorville police said in a statement.

“Cockrell’s shots missed the shoplifters and instead hit the 9-year-old female victim,” police said.

The girl was airlifted to Loma Linda University Medical Center for treatment.

Cockrell was taken into custody by Nevada State Police around 9 p.m. and booked into the Clark County Detention Center on an extraditable warrant, for attempted murder, in the amount of \$1 million.

California has 30 days to extradite Cockrell.

Live Coverage: Russia Invades Ukraine

[CNN reports](#) on live coverage of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. The live coverage is continuously updated and covers a wide variety of issues surrounding this invasion. [Click here](#) to view the most up-to-date coverage.

Maps: Tracking the Russian Invasion of Ukraine

[The New York Times reports](#) the Russian military moved into the center of the southern city of Mariupol this week, a significant advance in a crucial, bloody battle that has continued for almost seven weeks. The advance split Ukrainian forces in two, with one group near the port and another in the eastern industrial district.

Seizing Mariupol is crucial for Russia. The city occupies a strategic location between Crimea, which Russia annexed in 2014, and areas of the Donbas region in eastern Ukraine that are controlled by Russia-backed separatists. If Russia takes control of the city, troops fighting there could be redeployed to Donbas, which is now Russia’s central focus in the war.

Despite being outnumbered, Ukrainian troops continue to hold some key areas of Mariupol. Valeriy Zaluzhnyi, the commander in chief of Ukraine’s armed forces, said on Facebook on Monday that Ukrainian forces were continuing to “hold the city, durably and sustainably.”

But given recent Russian gains, analysts at the Institute for the Study of War, a Washington research group, believe that Russian forces are likely to capture Mariupol in the coming week.

Mariupol has been under siege by Russian forces for more than 40 days. Civilians who remain in the city lack access to water, food or electricity, and they face almost constant aerial bombardment. Almost no area of the city has been left unscathed, according to an analysis of satellite imagery by Masae Analytics, a company that assesses damage to buildings.

The New York Times is constantly tracking the movement of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. [Click here](#) to see updates as they are posted.

Local Bulletproof Vests to be Sent to Ukraine for War Effort

[Bakersfield.com reports](#) decommissioned bulletproof vests from Bakersfield and Kern County will soon be sent to Ukraine for use in the country’s war against Russia.

The California Office of Emergency Services recently picked up 148 ballistic vests and seven helmets used by the Bakersfield Police Department and Kern County Sheriff’s Office in late March. The collection came as part of a larger effort involving several local governments across the state.

Cal OES expects to send the supplies overseas in the next few days.

“One vest going over there could save a life,” said Bakersfield City Councilwoman Patty Gray, who helped spearhead the endeavor locally. “So, I just felt really passionate, that if I can bring this together, that those bulletproof vests could save lives, of just civilian people that are having to pick up their guns, and they are not even properly trained to be in a war.”

Since Russia invaded Ukraine in late February, the country has been swept up in a fierce defense to maintain its independence. The war has been characterized by the willingness of much of its population to take up arms against the invaders.

“They are just regular men, young men, up to the age of 60 that are grabbing their weaponry and heading out into the streets to fight the enemy. And they don’t have the equipment that they need,” Gray added. “They are going out of their homes without helmets, without vests, without anything.”

She enlisted the help of Kern County Supervisor Mike Maggard to include the county in the donation drive. He said he thought the idea was a great one.

“It’s heartbreaking to watch the people of Ukraine courageously resist the attack that they are under,” he said. “It’s hard to find a practical way of helping them in their plight. And the vests represented a perfect opportunity to do something that would actually help them.”

The decommissioned vests are expected to be used by first responders when they eventually reach Ukraine, although their ultimate purpose has not yet been determined. Cal OES and the National Guard have been communicating with the Ukrainian Consulate in San Francisco to coordinate the donations, which also include medical support and trauma supplies.

With the supplies, Bakersfield and Kern County join municipalities across the country who have stepped up to help Ukrainians in their moment of need. Cities like Detroit and Cleveland have also collected bulletproof vests for the war-torn country.

In Kern County, the warranty on the vests has expired, and local law enforcement agencies have resupplied officers with new equipment. But the vests are still functional and can be useful for defensive purposes.

Gov. Gavin Newsom and Major Gen. David Baldwin met with Ukrainian Consul General Dmytro Kushneruk last month to discuss the state’s ties with Ukraine and potential partnerships.

At the time, Newsom said California stood united in its support of Ukraine.

“Throughout this crisis, the state and nonprofits, businesses, the faith community and individuals across California have stepped up in solidarity with the Ukrainian community, a heartening reminder of our common humanity. We’ll continue to support the brave people of Ukraine and reaffirm our commitment to fundamental rights and freedoms around the world,” he said in a statement.

California Utility Giant PG&E Pays \$5 Million Settlement Over Kincaide and Dixie Wildfires

[CNN reports](#) Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) will pay \$55 million as part of a settlement with multiple Northern California counties scorched by wildfires that were sparked by faulty utility

equipment, according to releases from the California utility giant and the Sonoma County District Attorney's Office.

Criminal charges over the 2019 [Kincade Fire](#) will be dismissed and none will be sought in the 2021 [Dixie Fire](#), the agreement said, according to PG&E.

In exchange, the company will strengthen wildfire mitigation plans, and pay not only the residents directly affected, but the six counties in which those residents reside: Butte, Lassen, Plumas, Shasta, Sonoma, and Tehama.

The Kincade Fire burned more than 77,000 acres in Sonoma County and destroyed 374 homes, prompting the county's largest evacuation in history. It was caused by a broken jumper cable on a transmission line, Cal Fire officials determined. Four people were injured.

PG&E previously agreed to pay a \$125 million fine, according to a settlement with the California Public Utilities Commission. In April 2021, Sonoma County District Attorney Jill Ravitch had charged PG&E with five felonies and 28 misdemeanors over the Kincade Fire.

The Dixie Fire charred close to a million acres in the summer of 2021, making it California's second-largest fire in history. Spanning five counties, the fire burned for more than three months, claiming one life and more than 1,300 homes after a power line came in contact with a tree.

The bulk of the payout – \$35 million – will go to non-profit organizations including schools, volunteer fire departments, and community groups, PG&E and the Sonoma County district attorney said. Additionally, Sonoma County will receive \$7.5 million in civil penalties, and the other five counties will get \$1 million each.

As part of the settlement, PG&E will hire 80 to 100 new wildfire safety positions in Sonoma County and at least another 80 across the other five counties to beef up vegetation management and equipment inspections.

PG&E can expect an independent monitor to ensure compliance for the next five years, and the utility may not pass the costs onto customers.

The company, which announced last year it would work to [bury 10,000 miles of power lines](#), said in February it hopes to get 175 miles underground this year and 3,600 by 2026. The company said [it has 25,500 miles of distribution lines](#) in areas in or near high-fire risk.

Cal FIRE/Riverside County Fire Department to Continue Training COD Students

[Patch reports](#) the Board of Supervisors Tuesday authorized Cal Fire/Riverside County Fire Department to continue a field training program for students from College of the Desert seeking certification as emergency medical technicians, offering internships that could lead to employment with Cal Fire and other agencies.

In a 5-0 vote without comment, the board affirmed the fire department's request to enter into a five-year compact with the Palm Desert-based campus, effective July 1 and concluding on June 30, 2027.

A prior agreement was in place from 2016-21, according to documents posted to the board's agenda.

The College of the Desert maintains an accredited Emergency Medical Service Program, and the final element of that is a "field internship where students assume the role of EMT under supervision of a preceptor," according to the fire department.

The internship allows agency personnel to observe how interns assess and treat patients in a pre-hospital setting, as well as interact with patients' loved ones, co-workers and other emergency workers, "displaying respect, politeness, discretion and teamwork," documents stated.

"The Riverside County Fire Department, in cooperation with Cal Fire, will greatly benefit in the mentoring and training of these students as potential employees," the agency said. "College of the Desert provides a substantial pool of emergency medical technician — basic, advanced and paramedic — graduates ... Firefighters with emergency medical technician qualifications are in the highest demand and need for all fire departments statewide."

There is no county cost associated with the field training program, and all liabilities are assumed by the college, officials said.

FEMA Grant Funds New Emergency Warning System in Fire-Ravaged Paradise

[CBS 13 Sacramento reports](#) a new emergency warning system is coming to the fire-ravaged Butte County town of Paradise thanks to a \$2 million FEMA grant.

The grant comes nearly four years after the Camp Fire nearly destroyed the town. The goal is to get construction started this summer.

The mayor of Paradise said this is something the community really pushed for, so if disaster strikes again, they have something they can count on.

"These are the wins as a town that we need to have," Mayor Steve Crowder said. That win is keeping Paradise strong with a new system giving the community advanced notice of emergencies.

"It's a huge joy in Paradise to have that peace of mind for our citizens," Mayor Crowder said.

Twenty-one sirens will be scattered throughout the town. Each one will have a display board much like those Caltrans signs that can relay emergency information.

"The idea is to cover the entire town limits—that's why 21 of them," Mayor Crowder said. "I'm pretty confident that we'll cover at least 95% of the town with them."

The new resource also comes as we approach the critical fire season. With construction slated to start this summer, the next step is hiring a contractor.

"I can't wait until we hit the finish line," Mayor Crowder said.

Other California counties have these early warning systems in place, too, including Sonoma, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

ICYMI: Funding Opportunities Ending Soon

- **2022 Best Practice Initial Child Interview Video Training (VQ) Program RFP;** *health & human services; law, justice, and legal services*
 - Funded by: Governor's Office of Emergency Services

- Deadline: Friday, April 22, 2022
- Total Estimated Funding: \$200k
- **Full Grant Guidelines:** [linked here](#)
- **California Civil Liberties;** *education; libraries and arts; parks & recreation*
 - Funded by: CA State Library
 - Deadline: Monday, April 25, 2022
 - Total Estimated Funding: \$1.25 million
 - **Full Grant Guidelines:** [linked here](#)
 - **Online Application:** [linked here](#)
- **Equity and Special Populations Technical Assistance and Evaluation Program Year 2021-22 Solicitation for Proposal;** *disadvantaged communities; employment, labor, & training; housing, community and economic development; law, justice, and legal services; veterans & military*
 - Funded by: Employment Development Department
 - Deadline: Monday, April 25, 2022
 - Total Estimated Funding: \$1.2 million
 - **Full Grant Guidelines:** [linked here](#)

Funding Opportunities

Family Homelessness Challenge Grant Round 1

[The CA Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency](#) will fund innovative applications that accelerate efforts by local jurisdictions and continuums of care to address and end family homelessness by making families' experiences of homelessness rare, brief, and one-time.

Applicants shall present an innovative proposal that includes a self-identified prioritized objective that complements, augments, or strengthens a community's efforts to address and end family homelessness.

Background: The California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) was created in 2017 to oversee the implementation of Housing First policies, guidelines, and regulations to reduce the prevalence and duration of homelessness in California. The Council's mission is to develop policies and to identify and coordinate resources, benefits, and services to prevent and work toward ending homelessness in California.

Eligible Applicants:

- Local Jurisdiction – means a city, including a charter city, a county, including a charter county, or a city and county, including a charter city and county.
- Continuum of Care – as defined in Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Eligible Population to Serve: • FHC-1 funds may only be used for proposals serving family households with dependent minors that are experiencing homelessness. o Family households with dependent minors may include but is not limited to pregnant parents, parenting youth, households engaged in reunification and/or child welfare services. o Homeless is defined in

Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as that section read on May 1, 2018.

Available Funds for This Round: \$30 million will be distributed across a minimum of two rounds of funding. This RFA is for Round 1 of funds totaling \$15 million (FHC-1). Awards for FHC-1 will be determined through this competitive RFA process.

Subsequent Rounds of Funding: Grantees that are awarded Round 1 funds, remain in compliance with FHC-1 requirements and demonstrate reasonable, sufficient progress toward their self-identified, prioritized objective may apply for the second round of funding (FHC-2). Only FHC-1 grantees are eligible to compete for FHC-2.

The deadline to apply for this funding is Saturday, April 30, 2022. Total estimated funding available is \$15 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#). To view the online application, [click here](#).

Alzheimer's Disease Research Awards

[The Department of Public Health](#) is funding research in connection to the study of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias with a focus on understanding and addressing the greater prevalence of dementia in women and communities of color and also focus on populations historically underrepresented in research including the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ+) community.

Applicants are invited to submit research applications, focusing on understanding and addressing the greater prevalence of dementia in women and communities of color and also focusing on populations historically underrepresented in research including the LGBTQ+ community for studies in the following topic areas:

- a) Caregiving: The economic and social impacts of caregiving. Examples: 1. Improving the delivery of social support and health care services for Alzheimer's disease patients and their families and caregivers; and 2. Understanding and alleviating the financial, emotional, and physical impact of caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia.
- b) Prevention: The identification of risk factors and targets for preventive healthcare and public health messaging. Examples: 3. Identifying risk and preventive factors for Alzheimer's disease such as sleep patterns; chronic diseases such as high blood pressure, heart disease and diabetes; and the impacts of exercise and nutrition; and 4. Developing and/or using appropriate risk assessments, diagnostic tools, and effective interventions to prevent and treat Alzheimer's disease and related dementias among California's diverse population.
- c) Early Diagnosis and Detection: Research and evaluation of tools for early diagnosis and detection of Alzheimer's disease. Examples: 5. Detection of dementia by primary care practitioners and specialists through the use of brain imaging, or standardized clinical tests of memory and thinking abilities; 6. Innovative methods of linking research findings and technological advances with clinical practice, medical education and new medical settings; and 7. Evaluating best practice clinical guidelines or toolkits.
- d) Long-Term Services and Support Systems/Health Services: Investigate pathways for reducing disparities in access to health services for persons with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias utilizing Long-Term Services and Supports Systems/Health Services. Examples: 8.

Increasing the quality of dementia care in health care delivery systems; 9. Improving access to Long-Term Services and Support Systems/Health Services, as well as home and community-based services, through improved care coordination; and 10. Researching effective health care system strategies and technologies that aid in reducing incidents of re-hospitalization and emergency department use.

e) Populations Suffering from Health Disparities: Identifying and understanding upstream determinants of health that result in disproportionate health outcomes; and prevalence of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias among California's diverse population. Examples: 11. Investigating the racial, ethnic, gender, sexual orientation/identity, and socioeconomic differences and their impacts on risk and treatment outcomes for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias; and 12. Increasing the quality of dementia care in health care delivery systems, particularly as it relates to cultural and linguistic competency.

California (CA) public or private nonprofit academic institutions are eligible to apply. Applicants and all other associated co-applicants and subcontractors must be California-based, and all relevant project activities must take place in CA. Academic institutions and principal investigators participating in a Consortium Research Award are also subject to these requirements. Note that this RFA does not accept applications proposing drug trials.

Applicants and all other associated co-applicants and subcontractors must be California-based, and all relevant project activities must take place in California.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Wednesday, May 4, 2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$8.8 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).

Rural Fire Capacity

[The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection](#) has created the Rural Fire Capacity Grant Program to provide funding to organize, train, and equip fire departments in rural areas and rural communities to prevent and suppress fires.

Cost-share funds will be awarded to local governments to provide assistance to rural areas in upgrading their capability to organize, train, and equip local forces for fire protection. Awards will be limited to a minimum of \$500 and a projected maximum of \$20,000.

Further assistance may be provided through loans from other sources of Federal funds for purchase of major items of equipment and facilities.

Proposed projects should be compatible with existing protection of state, county, and local areas. Communities or agencies imposing strict boundary limits, i.e., excluding rural residents will not be considered in this program.

The use of funds for new fire engines and other vehicles are not allowed. However, the cost of the conversion of vehicles obtained through the Federal Excess Personal Property Program (FEPP) to water tenders, engines, brush trucks, and equipment trucks may be funded under the RFC grant.

Training of local fire forces in both wildfire and structural fire techniques is a primary goal of this grant. The program should include a basic training program of at least 40 hours. In addition, an advanced training course of at least 40 hours should be developed.

Communications, for alarm systems and dispatch capabilities, should be considered an integral part of the rural fire department. Funds are available for the development and purchase of radio equipment for dispatching centers, vehicles and alert monitors, and pagers.

Requests for construction projects of any type are NOT fundable.

Requests for HAZMAT, extrication, rescue, medical aid, and other non-fire training costs or materials are NOT fundable.

Funding for departments must meet at least one of the following qualifications:

1. A single fire department serving a rural area or a rural community with a population of 10,000 or less.
2. Area fire departments (fire districts, townships, etc.) may serve an aggregate population of greater than 10,000 as long as the service area of the fire department includes a rural area or a rural community having a population of 10,000 or less. The RFC funding must be used to benefit the rural population.
3. A single county or town with a population over 10,000 which is served by two or more fire districts operating entirely within the bounds of the county or town may qualify as long as the service area of a given fire department includes a rural area or a rural community or the population of the fire department's jurisdiction is 10,000 or less. The RFC funding must be used for the rural area.
4. A single community with a population greater than 10,000 and having a single fire department with one or more fire stations may qualify. The fire department must have a service area that includes a rural area or community that does not exceed 10,000 population. Also, a single community with a population greater than 10,000 which also provides fire protection to an adjoining rural community of 10,000 or less population by contract may also be eligible provided the RFC funding is used entirely to support the rural community.

A single community fire department serving a population greater than 10,000 and not providing protection to a rural area or to a rural community is not eligible for RFC financial assistance.

Matched funds can be provided in anyway except the use of other 13Federal grant dollars.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Wednesday, May 4, 2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$1.5 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).