



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Puente Fire Relief RFP

1. How do I submit an application (including excel budget spreadsheet and relevant support document attachments)?

All applications with excel budget must be submitted by email to ebettsbarahona@mypuente.org. For additional documents (i.e. documentation to support question #6), if files are too large to include as direct email attachments, please upload them to a file-sharing site such as google drive or dropbox, ensure the sharing settings allow others to view and download the file, and then include the link to that shared folder in your email message. Please note, **the application deadline has been extended to Monday, May 10th, 2021.**

2. If items/materials were damaged in fire, is it required to replace the exact item, or can you apply for funds to use for something else that would be more beneficial to the business at this time. For example, if outdoor kitchen event space burned down, but business does not want to recreate that, can they apply for the value of the kitchen space to be used towards something different?

If there is a compelling reason to use the funds for a different item or project from what was damaged, the business/organization may apply to do so. However, there must be a demonstrated need for why that item or project is relevant to the business and needed. Please explain in detail why the new item/project is more relevant or needed than the original item.

3. How should replacement costs be calculated? Can applicants apply for the market value to replace the damaged materials? For example, if a shed was built 15 years ago, but would be more expensive to replace today, what amount should applicant request?

Applicants are encouraged to request the current market value for replacement of items/materials. This is the value that should be included in the budget spreadsheet. Within the budget narrative, please indicate the original cost of the item/materials and that the budget line item reflects the updated market value to replace said item.

4. Indirect damage: how much is allowed/relevant. For example, if a business did not have any direct fire damage, but due to electricity loss during fires had property damaged/lost, is this an allowable expense?



Businesses/organizations are permitted to apply for funds to cover indirect losses, so this is an allowable expense if it was due to the CZU lightning complex fires (even if it was not direct fire damage). However, businesses who suffered direct fire damage will be prioritized in the funding process.

5. Prevention/preparedness: if a business did not have direct fire damage, but had equipment failures due to power outage during fires and they require that (now damaged) equipment to conduct fire preparedness activities, is that an allowable expense?

Yes, indirect damage or losses are an allowable expense, including for prevention/preparedness. However, businesses who suffered direct fire damage will be prioritized in the funding process.

6. Multiple businesses with same owner and operating out of the same site/location. Can one business owner apply for separate grants for multiple businesses (not multiple locations of same business but separate businesses)?

Multiple businesses in same location under the same owner can be eligible only for one grant. We encourage you to submit the stronger application.

7. Can businesses/organizations request funds for items/projects already expended (i.e. reimbursement)? If so, how should that be noted in the budget and application?

Yes, we recognize that given the timeline of this RFP being released, some businesses and organizations may have already incurred expenses for fire recovery and prevention. These expenses are allowable in the grant, as long as they took place after the August CZU lightning complex fires and fall within other guidelines for allowable costs. Please note any reimbursement items/projects in the application document written budget narrative and refer to the item by line item number or title as it shows up on the excel budget document.

8. Is there an advantage if I submit my application early?

No. Applications are not being reviewed on a rolling basis, so there is no advantage to submitting your application before the deadline. All applications submitted before the deadline will be reviewed together in one review process. However, if your application is ready before the deadline, you are welcome to submit it at any time.