April 22, 2021

PROVIDENCE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
1539 East Howard Street
Pasadena, CA 91104

Dear President:

We write on behalf of the California Attorney General’s Office to invite applications for environmental grants from the Attorney General’s Office.

As you may recall, Volkswagen AG, Audi AG, Porsche, and their associated entities ("Volkswagen") engaged in an extensive emissions cheating scheme that misled regulators and consumers and put thousands of polluting diesel vehicles on California roads. California brought an enforcement action against Volkswagen and ultimately resolved its claims through a series of consent decrees in People of the State of California v. Volkswagen AG, et al. (Case No. 16-CV-03620). As part of the settlement with the California Attorney General’s Office, $10 million was designated to establish the Automobile Emissions Research and Technology Fund.

The Fund provides California local agencies and California public or non-profit colleges or universities access to grants for study, research, development and/or the acquisition of technology in the following areas: (1) modeling and monitoring of vehicle emissions and air quality impacts in California; or (2) public health and environmental impacts of vehicle emissions in California (including without limitation impacts on environmental justice communities, children, and other vulnerable populations). Each applicant may apply for a grant of up to $2,000,000, which will be disbursed at the discretion of the California Attorney General’s Office.

We are reaching out to you today to share our call for grant applications. We have included an application and instructions.

We anticipate a single disbursement cycle. Applications must be received by June 25, 2021. The California Attorney General’s Office may, in its sole discretion, invite submissions of additional applications after this date.

Applications must be submitted electronically to emissionsfund@doj.ca.gov. A confirmation email will be sent to the applicant once the application has been received. It is the applicant’s responsibility to follow up to confirm that the application has been received.
Application proposals should be no more than five pages, not including the application form and supporting documentation.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jon F. Worm

Jon F. Worm
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

For MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
Acting Attorney General
INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DISTRIBUTION FROM THE AUTOMOBILE EMISSIONS RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY FUND

On September 1, 2016, the United States District Court for the Northern District of California entered a Partial Consent Decree in People of the State of California v. Volkswagen AG, et al., Case No. 16-CV-03620. That Partial Consent Decree set aside $10 million of the money paid to the California Attorney General’s Office to use in its discretion to fund grants for certain projects. Accordingly, in connection with that Consent Decree, the California Attorney General’s Office has created the Automobile Emissions Research and Technology Fund (the “Fund”) to provide access to grants for study, research, development and/or the acquisition of technology in the following areas: (1) modeling and monitoring of vehicle emissions and air quality impacts in California; or (2) public health and environmental impacts of vehicle emissions in California (including without limitation impacts on environmental justice communities, children, and other vulnerable populations).

Each applicant may apply for a grant of up to $2,000,000.

The California Attorney General’s Office (“AG’s Office”) administers the Fund, and the grants shall be disbursed at the sole discretion of the California Attorney General’s Office.

NOTICE: The grant application, including supporting documents, communications with the AG’s Office, and reports to the AG’s Office, may become the subject of a California Public Record Act request (Gov. Code, section 6250 et seq.). Please do not include information in your application that should remain confidential, such as personally identifying information.

1. Schedule for Applications and Distributions

We anticipate a single disbursement cycle. Applications must be received by June 25, 2021. The AG’s Office may, in its sole discretion, invite submissions of additional applications after this date.

Applications must be submitted electronically to emissionsfund@doj.ca.gov. A confirmation email will be sent to the applicant once the application has been received. It is the applicant’s responsibility to follow up to confirm that the application has been received.

Applications should be no more than five pages, not including the application form and supporting documentation. Applications should include a section describing the appropriate metrics through which the grant’s effectiveness can be measured.

2. Distribution from the Automobile Emissions Research and Technology Fund: Authorized Grantees, Purpose, and Parameters
a. **Authorized Grantees and Amounts**

California local agencies, or California public or non-profit colleges or universities, are authorized to seek grants. No more than 20% of the $10,000,000 fund, or $2,000,000, shall go to a single recipient. The AG’s Office will provide additional consideration to grant applications that would support work that involves partnerships with environmental justice communities.

b. **Purpose**

Distributions to authorized grantees must be used for study, research, development and/or the acquisition and use of technology in the following areas: (1) modeling and monitoring of vehicle emissions and air quality impacts in California; or (2) public health and environmental impacts of vehicle emissions in California (including without limitation impacts on environmental justice communities, children, and other vulnerable populations). Applications should therefore explain how and to what extent the distribution will be used for these purposes. Special consideration will be given to projects involving partnerships with environmental justice communities. Distributions shall be used to augment, but not to supplant or cause any reduction in, the budget of the grantee.

c. **Parameters**

i. **Grant Conditions**

Grant funds may only be utilized for the purposes set forth in the award letter, and the award is subject to all conditions described in the award letter, these instructions, and the partial consent decree. Unexpended grant funds, and grant funds that have been expended for any purpose other than an authorized purpose, must be returned or refunded to the AG’s Office upon request or upon expiration of the grant term, whichever occurs first.

ii. **Funding should advance or support the goals in paragraph 2.b above**

The AG’s Office encourages applications that propose to use grant funds to directly advance or support the purposes set forth in paragraph 2.b above. Applications can be made to fund new or existing projects and for equipment that is needed for an ongoing project. If requesting funds for the purpose of purchasing equipment, applicants must certify that the equipment is either (a) needed for a new or existing project concerning the purposes set forth in paragraph 2.b above, or (b) will be used at least 50% of the time for a new or existing project concerning the purposes set forth in paragraph 2.b above.

iii. **Two-year projects**

To allow applicants to advance more complex and/or longer-term projects, applications may seek grants with a term of up to two years.

iv. **Modifications of approved applications**
The AG’s Office recognizes that circumstances may arise that would warrant a modification of the terms of a grant, or the purposes for which grant funds can be used. Approved applicants may apply to the AG’s Office at any time during the grant term for such a modification, which may be granted in the sole discretion of the AG’s Office.

\[v. \quad \text{Staff Expenses}\]

An application can be made to fund or partially fund new project-specific positions or limited term positions. Absent extraordinary circumstances, funds may not be used to pay for salary, benefits, overtime, or other compensation of already existing staff.

\[vi. \quad \text{Limitations on Travel or Training Expenses}\]

The AG’s Office disfavors requests to use grant funds for non project-related travel or training. Travel-related expenses, such as per diems, hotels, and rental cars, will be reimbursed at the applicant’s government or institutional rate. The AG’s Office generally will not approve disbursements to train non-full-time employees.

\[d. \quad \text{Factors that the Attorney General’s Office May Consider}\]

In addition to the considerations described above, in making decisions regarding which projects to fund, the factors that the AG’s Office may consider include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. the intended purpose of the project for which funds are sought and how it matches with the purposes set forth in paragraph 2.b above;
2. how, if at all, the project proposes to address environmental justice issues in areas disproportionately affected by environmental pollution;
3. the extent of engagement with non-profit, community-based organizations;
4. the specificity of the proposal, including the use of funds, expected costs and expenses, materials and personnel to be used, and the services, goods, or equipment to be provided through the project;
5. competing requests for funding;
6. the anticipated benefit to the public if the project is approved; and
7. whether the applicant has the demonstrated ability to safeguard and properly account for and report on the use of grant funds.

3. **Additional Grant Conditions**
Grants are subject to the conditions described in these instructions and the award letter, and to the following conditions:

a. The grant recipient will vigilantly safeguard the funds disbursed and maintain financial controls sufficient to protect such funds and ensure that the use of funds fully comports with the grantee’s application for the disbursement, and provide detailed written description of such financial controls upon request by the AG’s Office.

b. The funding requested will not be used to pay for regular staff of the agency or entity applying for this project.

c. The person submitting the application represents that his/her entity is authorized to accept funds under applicable law and that the budget of the applicant will not be reduced by the receipt of the grant funds. Grant funds shall be used to augment, and not supplant or cause any reduction in, the budget of the disbursement recipient.

d. Except as otherwise expressly agreed by the AG’s Office in writing, the funds will only be used for the purposes identified in the award letter.

e. The grantee will cooperate with the AG’s Office and its agents in providing all information and documents concerning the use of funds as the AG’s Office reasonably requests and will maintain sufficient records for auditing purposes to substantiate any expenditure.

f. Approval of a grant application does not constitute endorsement of the applicant’s project by the California Attorney General or the State of California.

g. Except as otherwise expressly agreed by the AG’s Office in writing, upon request, or upon conclusion of the grant term, the grant recipient must return all unused or improperly used grant funds to the California Attorney General’s Office, with the notation “Automobile Emissions Research and Technology Fund Reimbursement.”

h. If an application is for the production of any materials, the applicant agrees to permit the AG’s Office and other state and local government agencies within California to use those materials, without restriction, for their intended purposes.

i. Grant recipients must submit a report within 60 days of the earlier of (a) the end of the grant term or (b) completing the project for which the disbursement was awarded. These reports shall specify how disbursement funds were used and, if applicable, a description of the project’s outcome. Multi-year grant recipients must also provide yearly progress reports.
j. Grant recipients shall maintain all records related to the use of grant funds for a period of five years from the date of the final expenditure or return of grant funds, whichever is later. The grant recipient will provide the AG’s Office with access to all such records upon request.
APPLICATION FOR GRANT FROM THE AUTOMOBILE EMISSIONS RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY FUND ADMINISTERED BY THE CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY GENERAL’S OFFICE

I. NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT

Applicant:


Address:


Contact Person:


Phone:


E-mail:
II. STATUS OF APPLICANT (check and provide information as appropriate)

A. Is applicant a California local agency, or a California public or non-profit college or university?
   Yes _____  No _____

If no, the applicant is not eligible to receive a grant from the Fund.

B. Would the proposed grant support work being done in partnership with an environmental justice community?
   Yes _____  No _____

C. Identify the manager who will oversee the proposed project for which grant funds will be used and who will be the contact person for purposes of the grant application. Attach a resume and contact information for that manager.

III. APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL

In a separate document of no more than five pages, please describe:

A. The project for which the grant funds will be used.

B. Whether the applicant is partnering with any non-profit, community-based organizations, and if so, the nature of the partnership.

B. The term of the grant (up to two years).

C. How the project would advance the purposes of the Fund as set forth in the application instructions.

D. How the project would help address environmental justice issues in areas disproportionately affected by environmental pollution.

D. The perceived need for the grant.

E. The anticipated public benefit to be served by the grant.

E. The total amount requested from the Fund, including a detailed itemization of all expected costs and expenses expected to be paid with grant funds.

F. A detailed itemization of all expected costs and expenses that would be paid from sources other than the grant.
G. A description of how the applicant will ensure that grant funds will be used solely for purposes proposed in the application, as approved or modified by the Attorney General’s Office.

IV. REPRESENTATIONS BY APPLICANT REGARDING ACCEPTANCE OF CONDITIONS FOR DISBURSEMENT

A. The undersigned is the responsible person for this application, has been duly authorized by the applicant to act as its agent in connection with this application, and hereby certifies that the information in this application, including attached documents, is true. The undersigned further represents that the funding requested will not be used to pay for current staff of the applicant (unless the Attorney General’s Office expressly approves otherwise). If a project is accepted, the undersigned further represents that he/she will acknowledge in writing that the Applicant will comply with the terms and conditions of the grant.

B. The applicant will comply with any order of the Court in connection with the Fund and the grant received.

C. The applicant will safeguard any grant funds, maintain financial controls sufficient to protect such funds and ensure that the use of grant funds is consistent with the recipient’s grant application, and provide a detailed written description of those financial controls if requested by the Attorney General’s Office.

D. The undersigned represents that his/her office is authorized to accept grant funds under applicable state and local laws and that the budget of the office will not be reduced by the receipt of any grant. Any grant shall be used to augment, but not to supplant or cause any reduction in, the budget of the grant recipient’s office or unit.

E. The applicant understands that grant funds will only be used as approved by the Attorney General’s Office.

F. The applicant will submit a report to the Attorney General’s Office within 60 days of the end of the grant period or completion of the project for which the grant was awarded, whichever comes first. The report shall specify how grant funds were used, as well as provide a description of the progress and/or outcome of the project for which the grant was awarded.

G. For applications requesting funding for multi-year projects, the applicant shall notify the Attorney General’s Office in writing of the status of the project for which grant funds were disbursed annually on the anniversary date of the disbursement.
H. All correspondence with the Automobile Emissions Research and Technology Fund shall be directed to emissionsfund@doj.ca.gov.

I. The Applicant will cooperate with the Attorney General's Office and its agents in providing all information concerning the use of grant funds as the Attorney General's Office may request, and will maintain sufficient records for auditing purposes to substantiate all expenditures.

J. The applicant will comply with all additional requirements the Attorney General's Office imposes, including but not limited to completing and promptly returning any required form to acknowledge selection as a grant recipient.

K. Approval of this application does not constitute the Attorney General's or the State of California's endorsement of this project.

L. Except as otherwise expressly agreed by the Attorney General's Office in writing, within 60 days of the earlier of (a) the end of the grant term or (b) the conclusion of the project for which the applicant requested a grant, the Applicant will return any unused or excess funds to the Automobile Emissions Research and Technology Fund by check made payable to the California Attorney General's Office, at the above address, with the notation "Automobile Emissions Research and Technology Fund."

Applicant:

Signed: ____________________________

Title: ____________________________

Please submit the application to emissionsfund@doj.ca.gov as separate pdf files as follows:

1. The application form.
2. The proposal.
3. Supplemental materials, if any.
President
STANFORD UNIVERSITY
355 Galvez Street
Stanford, CA 94305