



2025-2026 AFA WAV Discretionary Grant Program Questions and Answers

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- 1. When will applications be reviewed and recommended for approval from PAPCO and the Commission?**
 - a. Alameda CTC hopes to review applications throughout February and provide PAPCO with a recommendation as early as March 2026.
- 2. Can cities apply for funding? Who can be considered an Access Provider?**
 - a. Yes, cities, transit agencies, or non-profit organizations are eligible to apply.
 - b. Eligible applicants include Access Providers, which are organizations or entities that can directly provide WAV service or contract with a separate organization to provide on-demand WAV service that does not follow a fixed route or schedule.
 - c. A city can apply for funding and serve as the Access Provider if they are directly providing or contracting with a separate organization to provide on-demand WAV service.
- 3. Does WAV service have to be within 12 hours or 24 hours?**
 - a. As the LAFA for Alameda County, Alameda CTC must screen applications based on the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) program requirements and prioritize funding to providers that can demonstrate an ability to deliver trips within 24 hours (time between trip request and passenger pick-up time). However, if there are no applicants who can provide such on-demand service, the AFA can accept applications from other providers so long as those providers' services do not follow a fixed-route or schedule.
- 4. What are eligible expenses for the AFA WAV Grant?**
 - a. Based on the CPUC guidelines, an eligible expense is a reasonable, legitimate cost that improves WAV service. These are listed in the budget spreadsheet but include things such as vehicle, partnership, marketplace, or operational costs.
 - b. For example, AFA funds can be used to purchase Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles.
- 5. Can AFA WAV grant funds be used for trips to/from places outside of Alameda County?**
 - a. The funds can only be used for trips that originate in Alameda County.
 - b. For example, if someone requests a trip from Oakland (Alameda County) to San Francisco (San Francisco County), the AFA funds can be used to San Francisco. However, the AFA WAV funds cannot be used for a return trip.

6. What is the funding source for the 2025-2026 AFA WAV Discretionary Grant Program?

- a. The Access for All (AFA) Program is funded through a \$0.10 Access Fee collected by the CPUC on transportation network companies (TNCs, e.g., Uber and Lyft) rides taken each year.
- b. The funds for the 2025-2026 AFA WAV Discretionary Grant Program are from Access Fees collected in Q3 2023 through Q2 2024 in Alameda County.

7. How much money will Alameda County get each year for the AFA WAV program?

- a. The amount depends on the number of TNC trips that occur within the county. This number is currently unknown.

8. When do funds need to be expended by?

- a. Ideally funds will be expended by June 30, 2027. Flexibility will be considered given this is the first year of Alameda CTC's AFA WAV Grant Program.

9. How do Alameda CTC's LAFA funds interact with the State SAFA funds?

- a. In February 2025, CPUC selected GCAP Services, Inc. (GCAP) to serve as the Statewide Access Fund Administrator (SAFA) for California counties that are not being served by Local Access Fund Administrators (LAFA). CPUC awarded funding to GCAP that covered accumulation of Alameda County Access Fees from the start of revenue collection up to the 2025-26 fund year.
- b. Alameda CTC was named LAFA for Alameda County in June 2025 and has received the funding for the 2025-26 fund year for the current local call for projects.
- c. GCAP released their SAFA Call for Projects in November 2025 for a 2026 Calendar Year grant program. Alameda CTC's Call for Projects is on a different schedule and will run through the 2026 – 2027 Fiscal Year.

10. What are some of the performance measures required for quarterly reporting?

- a. Access Providers receiving funding are required to report project/program data on a quarterly basis (within 30 days after the end of each quarter) to Alameda CTC.
- b. Templates for the progress reports are available on the [CPUC website](#) and are linked in the [AFA Notice of Call for Projects and Program Guidelines](#).

11. Does the applicant need to currently be following the CPUC safety protocols (background check, insurance, driver training, controlled substance and alcohol testing, etc.)?

- a. For the application we are asking applicants to submit a completed [Safety Protocol Declaration Form](#) affirming compliance with each of the requirements and that each requirement is in effect during the term the carrier operates as an Access Provider.
- b. If the applicant is currently not an Access Provider, this declaration affirms you will have the necessary safety documentation in place if awarded the grant funds.

12. Is there a minimum matching requirement?

- a. There is not a required match. However, consideration will be given for an applicant's ability to leverage external funding.