



Acquisition of Land or Conservation Easements Grant Program

Frequently Asked Questions

November 2025

When is my Letter of Intent (LOI) and my Full Proposal due?

The period to submit an LOI is January 5 – January 30, 2026.

The period to submit a Full Proposal is February 6 – March 27, 2026.

Does my project have to expand or buffer an existing preserve?

Not necessarily. However, projects that expand or buffer land that is already protected may rank higher than those that do not.

Can donated land be used as matching funds?

Yes.

Can land acquisition grants be used to reimburse my organization for land that has already been purchased?

Yes, so long as the closing occurs after the full proposal is submitted.

Could my project be awarded an amount that is less than what I applied for?

Yes.

What does “publicly accessible” mean to PSCC?

Land that is publicly accessible must be free to enter, and enjoy, during times set by the property owner. Restricting access to sensitive natural areas, or areas deemed dangerous, etc., is reasonable.

Is there a minimum acreage requirement?

No.

How long is the typical grant period?

Most successful Land Acquisition proposals are awarded 12-month grants, PSCC is open to considering requests for projects with a duration longer than 12 months provided that the applicant submits a detailed plan of work that is likely to be accomplished within the proposed time frame.

Does PSCC support the acquisition of multiple parcels with one grant award?

Sometimes. And usually only if the parcels are connected to the same natural area that has already been protected.

Does PSCC support the acquisition of farmland?

Yes, but only if the applicant has a plan to restore the farmland to natural area within a time frame deemed reasonable by PSCC. Grant funds may not be used to acquire farmland that will continue to be farmed indefinitely.

Do I need to have a willing seller before submitting a Land Acquisition application?

Yes. And it is preferable that you have an agreed upon price set by a signed contract or purchase agreement.

Do I need to commission an appraisal before submitting an application?

No. However, the appraisal cannot be more than 12 months old at the time of closing.

How will my grant funds be distributed?

Grant funds will be distributed electronically unless a physical check is specifically requested by the grantee.