

**SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT  
SAFE CLEAN WATER CONSERVATION RESEARCH GRANTS  
PROJECT EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017**

**Minimum Grant Application Qualifications**

Each applicant must meet the following minimum grant application qualification elements to be considered for funding under the Water Conservation Research Grant Program.

1. All Water Conservation Research Grant Program RFP requirements have been met for submitting an application (including cover sheet, scope/project narrative, schedule and budget, resolution, and a response to each evaluation criterion.
2. Application submitted by an eligible applicant.
3. Eligible Projects must achieve a minimum score of 70 out of 100 to qualify for funding.
4. If a construction Water Conservation Research Project, application must include a maintenance and/or monitoring plan for the proposed Water Conservation Research Project.
5. Water Conservation Research Project includes a cost sharing match of at least 25% of total Water Conservation Research Project cost from applicant.
6. Application demonstrates Water Conservation Research Project will be completed by June 30, 2019.

**Evaluation Criteria**

The review panel will use the criteria provided below to evaluate proposals that satisfy the minimum grant application qualification elements and make its recommendation to the CEO. Recommendations will reflect the consensus findings of the review panel.

Criteria	Maximum points (100 points total)
1. Water savings and research plan	25
2. Water Conservation Research Project innovation or new features	25
3. Cost effectiveness	20
4. Market impact potential	15
5. Water Conservation Research Project preparedness	15

Water savings and research plan: looking for the following:

- Up to 10 points: a description of the potential water savings in gallons per day or acre feet per year. Include any other potential savings (e.g. energy, environmental, etc.); and
- Up to 15 points: a scientifically strong research plan that includes the following components: review of past literature (are there existing studies or reports that support the savings estimates?); clearly defined objective and hypothesis; identification of target audience; clear and logical research design (i.e. will you have a control group?); a description of your data collection methods (i.e. will it be metered or will submeters be needed?); and a description of the analysis that will be used.

Water Conservation Research Project innovation or new features: response should, at a minimum, answer the following questions: how is the proposed project and/or technology better and/or different than what currently exists? What new markets will it open and how will they be affected? What is the lifespan of the new technology and how reliable is it?

Cost effectiveness: goal is to fund projects that provide the largest water savings per

dollar awarded. Describe your project's potential water savings (Criteria 1) in the context of funds requested and total project costs. If applicable, include cost per acre foot or gallon saved.

Market impact potential: response should, at a minimum, answer the following questions: what audience or demographic will benefit from your project? What is the potential market size or impact size for your project?

Water Conservation Research Project preparedness: looking for a description of the Grantee's experience or skills that will allow them to complete the proposed project. Also, how thoroughly the project is planned including any preparatory work and understanding of potential obstacles and strategies to overcome them