



# **Mattress Collection Facilities Improvement Funding**

## **Application Solicitation**

**Updated Release Date:** January 2026

**Due Date:** Open until further notice

**Mattress Recycling Council California, LLC**

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[www.mattressrecyclingcouncil.org](http://www.mattressrecyclingcouncil.org)

## **BACKGROUND**

The [Mattress Recycling Council](#) California, LLC (MRC) is soliciting applications to establish new or improve existing California mattress (unit) collection locations. Based on the applications received in response to this request, MRC may provide funding for infrastructure improvements and/or equipment that will result in one or more of the following:

1. Improve the recyclability of discarded units by providing weather protection for collected units
2. Result in fewer units being landfilled
3. Decrease program transportation costs
4. Improve worker safety during mattress loading activities
5. Prevent potential program hazards such as facility fires and vandalism

## **ELIGIBLE RESPONDENTS**

- California solid waste facilities and other entities collecting units from the public at no cost for recycling may submit applications in response to this solicitation. Eligible entities may include private solid waste companies, transfer stations, landfills, recycling centers, non-profits, and government-owned or controlled entities. An eligible entity operating multiple collection sites may submit separate applications for each site.
- New mattress collection locations are eligible for funding if they are willing to become an MRC-contracted collection site for at least one year after receiving funds.
- Mattress manufacturers or retailers are eligible to apply for funding if they agree to accept units from the public for at least one year after receiving funds.
- Entities that received a previous collection site award may also apply for funding if the project is significantly different from other projects funded by MRC. Eligible respondents may submit up to one application per year for up to one award per site.
- MRC-contracted mattress recyclers are not eligible.

## **ELIGIBLE PROJECTS**

- Infrastructure
  - Improvements that:
    - Keep units clean and dry (cement pads or carport-type coverage)
    - Aid in loading units into 53' trailers (ramps, stairs, z-walls, etc.)
    - Help prevent vandalism, such as fencing and lighting
- Equipment
  - May include container cover retrofits, forklift attachments or other equipment used solely for the purpose of loading discarded units or keeping discarded units clean/dry
  - Applicants may combine multiple pieces of equipment into one application
  - MRC will not fund replacement parts or other maintenance costs

## **PROJECT REQUIREMENTS**

- Projects must result in expansion of, or improvements to collection infrastructure by keeping collected units dry or clean, resulting in fewer units being landfilled, and/or improving collection,

storage, safety, security and/or transportation efficiencies. An award recipient must demonstrate whether it achieved the intended benefits as a result of an award.

- MRC assumes no liability or ownership for infrastructure or equipment purchased with MRC funding.
- Respondent is responsible for obtaining all local and state permits for each project. MRC disburses funds after project completion.
- Respondents are encouraged, but not required, to discuss in its application whether it will provide funds to the project, referred to as matching funds.
- All projects must be completed within 12 months of contract execution. MRC may consider projects that take longer than one year to complete if an expenditure timeline is outlined.
- Any entity receiving funding must remain under contract to MRC to collect mattresses from the public for at least one year after receiving funds.

## **USE OF AWARD FUNDS**

### Eligible Costs:

- Direct, actual costs for infrastructure or equipment for use at mattress and box spring collection sites

### Ineligible Costs:

- Maintenance costs or replacement equipment or parts
- Costs incurred before contract execution or after the end of the project term
- Education and outreach materials
- Overhead or salaries
- Costs unrelated to the awarded project
- Costs related to mattress collection events or illegal dumping (separate funding sources available through MRC)

## FUNDING

Awards are limited to \$15,000 per eligible site, contingent upon the availability of funds. Additional funding is available on a case-by-case basis for high-volume collection locations requiring site modifications to accommodate a 53' trailer.

## SCORING CRITERIA

MRC reviews applications within 10 business days and ranks each from 0-100, according to the following criteria in the event that funds requested exceed funds available in any given year. Generally, MRC approves awards based on project eligibility in accordance with this solicitation.

POINTS	DESCRIPTION
5	<b>QUALITY OF APPLICATION:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Application is complete and clearly written</li></ul>
20	<b>RESPONDENT QUALIFICATIONS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Respondent has a successful history in its industry</li><li>• Respondent has implemented similar projects with success</li><li>• Respondent has the resources necessary to complete the project</li></ul>
50	<b>PROJECT IMPACT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Additional tonnage/units of mattresses recycled is significant; reduces landfilled units; projections are justified</li><li>• Program transportation costs are reduced by loading more units per container or trailer</li><li>• Program safety or security is improved</li><li>• Project description is robust; clearly demonstrates the need for new infrastructure/equipment</li></ul>
10	<b>PROJECT WORK PLAN</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Work plan is logical, efficient and includes measurable outcomes and explicit deadlines</li><li>• Speed to delivery is high</li></ul>
15	<b>PROJECT BUDGET/COST EFFECTIVENESS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Project costs are justified, cost effective</li><li>• Respondent provides matching funds</li></ul>

## APPLICATION GUIDELINES AND FEEDBACK

Applicants must complete the [application template](#) including:

- Respondent's name and contact information — at least 2 contacts
- A description of the respondent's industry history and experience with similar projects
- A project description that clearly outlines the impact in terms of additional units/tonnage diverted from landfill; improved recyclability of mattresses; and improvements to transportation, costs, safety, security or other efficiencies
- A project work plan
- A project budget, any matching funds from the respondent (optional), and a clear request for a specific amount of award funding – [template provided](#)
- MRC requires equipment quotes as supporting documentation; the chosen quote must match funds requested in the application and budget templates

Applicants can email comments and questions to Abbie Beane at [abeane@mrc-us.org](mailto:abeane@mrc-us.org). Applications that do not follow the application guidelines may be considered non-responsive.

Respondents should describe in detail any potential conflicts of interest with MRC leadership or employees, or former employment in the mattress industry, within their applications.

Award recipients must agree to MRC's Project Terms and Conditions and complete regular reporting requirements including photo documentation of project progress. MRC may conduct site visits and use project documentation for CalRecycle annual reporting and marketing purposes. Applicants and awardees must clearly identify confidential information, which may be subject to regulatory disclosure requirements of CalRecycle or other state entities. MRC will compensate award recipients on a reimbursement basis after its contract is executed and before the project term end. Eligible sites must be contracted to MRC to collect mattresses for at least one year after receiving award funds. If a recipient terminates the contract within one year of receiving funds, the recipient will return all funds to MRC within 30 days of contract termination. Award recipients must use MRC-funded equipment and/or infrastructure only for their approved purpose.