2026 Awards Overview

CALIFORNIA CIVIC MEDIA PROGRAM

The California Civic Media Program awards support news organizations serving communities across California. The 2026 awardees represent an investment in news organizations producing original, fact-based journalism for communities across California.

AWARDS AT A GLANCE

351 applications

297 eligible applicants

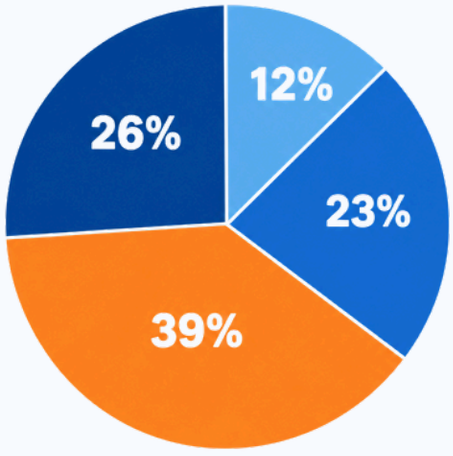
214 awarded newsrooms

72% of eligible applicants funded

$18.75M total awarded

$88,676 average grant size

DISTRIBUTION OF GRANT SIZE



- $20K to $50K **12%**
- $50K+ to $100K **23%**
- $100K+ to $200K **39%**
- $200K+ to $250K+ **26%**

AWARD DISTRIBUTION

Pro Rata
184 awarded applicants
$16.25M total awarded

Needs-Based
125 awarded applicants
$2.5M total awarded

AGAINST THE FIVE LEGISLATIVE GOALS

Where the money landed, measured against what the statute asked for.

1	A robust press corps	The money followed journalists: approximately **1069 journalists captured**.
2	Access to information	**115 newsrooms** report only at the city or neighborhood level.
3	Sustainability of existing and new newsrooms	All business models represented: **for-profits were 72% of applicants** for 71% of dollars; **non-profits 26%** of applicants and 28% of the dollars.
4	Underserved communities	Applicants that indicated that they targeted a specific population were funded at **78%.**
5	Social integration and inequality	Newsrooms serving immigrants and refugees were funded at **81%**, and those serving limited-English proficient readers at **85%.**

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STATEWIDE REACH

Awards by Jobs First regions

All 13 Regions received at least **$415K**, exceeding the **$250K** minimum.



1	North State	8 awards
2	Redwood	6 awards
3	Capital	19 awards
4	Sierra	5 awards
5	Bay Area	61 awards
6	North San Joaquin	8 awards
7	Central San Joaquin	8 awards
8	Central Coast	18 awards
9	Kern County	7 awards
10	Los Angeles County	35 awards
11	Inland SoCal	18 awards
12	Orange County	4 awards
13	Southern Border	17 awards

WHO THE AWARDS REACH

газета 新聞 noticias

103 awarded newsrooms reported publishing in a language other than English.

20+ languages represented.

NEWSROOMS OF EVERY SIZE AWARDED

Applicants reported total staff, separate from the pro rata count.

0 – 9 Staff	198 applied →	140 awards	65%
10-19 Staff	58 applied →	41 awards	19%
20-49 Staff	26 applied →	23 awards	11%
50-99 Staff	9 applied →	7 awards	3%
100+	5 applied →	3 awards	1%

Figures are subject to change based on verification; list updated as of 11/02/2026
Some newsrooms received awards from both Pro rata and Needs-based
One newsroom did not report staff size.