

- Deadline for applications is the first of the month, prior to the Board meeting month; for example, September 1 is the deadline for requests that will be reviewed at the October meeting
- The Board can either authorize immediate funding, request additional information if needed to make a decision, or recommend that a written response be sent to the requesting agency declining funding
- All eligible requests are given full consideration. Applicants are usually notified of a decision within 60 days
- Table requests and smaller sponsorships are funded from a limited pool of Community Relations dollars outside of Foundation funding
- Funding in any annual cycle does not guarantee continued annual funding support
- We do not accept email, telephone or fax requests

The Foundation Board reserves the right to change or withdraw this program without notice. Nevada Power's Foundation Board will determine the interpretations and administration of the provisions of the program.

BEFORE APPLYING

Before applying, please review the guidelines and funding categories. If your organization does not meet these basic criteria, your request for sponsorship will not be approved.

GUIDELINES

All grant requests must include:

- Your organization's name, address, telephone number, website address, email contact information and contact person
- A copy of your organization's IRS certification of nonprofit status

- A list of any Nevada Power employees involved in your organization
- A list of principals, officers and members of your organization's Board of Directors
- A description of the need(s) you are addressing, the community or target population being served and a description of how the grant will be used
- How your funding request specifically addresses the need(s) in question
- A description of how you will determine the program's success
- Complete budget for the project

LIMITATIONS

We do not consider grant requests that support:

- Individuals
- Tickets for contests, raffles or other activities with prizes
- Religious organizations (unless the request specifically supports a program offered to the general public on a non-discriminatory basis and without regard to the recipient's religious affiliation)
- Film, television or video productions
- Capital campaigns, endowment funds, academic chairs or fellowships
- Debt-reduction campaigns
- Political and partisan organizations or events
- Sports tournaments
- Trips or tours for individuals or groups
- Talent or beauty contests
- Conferences
- Sports leagues

Due to Nevada Power's strong support of United Way of Southern Nevada, the Foundation does not award separate grants to social service agencies. We prefer to support them through our annual workplace giving campaign.

HOW TO APPLY

Please include the following information:

1. For what purpose is this contribution requested?
2. Describe your project and how it fits into the mission and goals of your proposal, being sure to include anticipated results (No more than two brief paragraphs, please).
3. How will you measure the effectiveness of this program? What measures are in place to gauge your results? How will you quantify its success?
4. Do you have plans to promote this program and grant? If so, please describe your public relations and media plan.
5. Give a brief description of your organization, its purpose, population served, and geographic area of service.
6. What acknowledgement would Nevada Power receive for making a donation?

If your contribution request meets our guidelines, please submit your proposal. Proposals are accepted and reviewed on an ongoing basis. Decisions on proposals are generally made within two months of submission, depending on the request.

The completed proposal should be directed to:

Administrator,
Nevada Power Company Foundation
P.O. Box 98910
Las Vegas, Nevada 89151-0001

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Beyond the legal requirements that forbid staff, Foundation Board Members and their families from profiting financially from any philanthropic grant or activity, the Board carefully reviews all circumstances in which there exists the possibility or appearance of conflict of interest. Our policies require staff and Board Members to disclose to their governing bodies the nature of any personal or family affiliation or involvement with any organization for which a grant is considered, even though such affiliation may not give rise to any financial or other conflict of interest.

Sierra Pacific Resources Foundation Guidelines

corporate
philanthropy



NEVADA POWER,
CONNECTING WITH THE
COMMUNITY THROUGH THE
POWER OF GIVING

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE POWER OF GIVING

Nevada Power is a subsidiary of Sierra Pacific Resources (SPR), an investor-owned corporation whose operating subsidiaries are engaged in energy and utility services. Nevada Power is the entity that distributes SPR Foundation’s charitable contributions in Nevada Power’s service territory, and the Foundation supports Nevada Power’s philanthropic efforts and those of its employees. Through direct grants, scholarships, and employee grant programs, the Foundation actively supports improvements in the quality of life in the communities Nevada Power serves.

Recipients of Foundation grants must be nonprofit organizations with a 501(c)(3) status from the IRS and be located within our service territory. Grants are identified through our “areas of focus” for philanthropic outreach.

PHILOSOPHY

The Foundation is committed to supporting the diverse communities in which it operates. We take this commitment very seriously by actively participating in community involvement in three ways — philanthropy, civic leadership and volunteerism. Giving back to the communities where we operate makes them better places to live and work, and in turn makes them better places to do business. We support the community through financial contributions as well as through community service. We measure our success through the eyes of our employees, our shareholders, our customers, our business partners and our neighbors.

CATEGORIES OF SUPPORT

Through the charitable Foundation, Nevada Power administers grants in support of projects that benefit four major areas: Education (K–12 and higher), the Environment, Seniors and Multicultural Outreach.

We look for innovative ideas that fall outside the ordinary charitable budget, yet promise to augment outreach efforts in a meaningful way. The Foundation encourages projects that demonstrate a partnership between nonprofit agencies and our employees.

EDUCATION (K–12)

The Foundation seeks to develop strategic partnerships with 501(c)(3) organizations that have a demonstrated history of delivering innovative and effective educational programs for children and youth that produce substantial and measurable results. Programs should provide direct services to an ethnically diverse population that encompasses underserved children and youth from early childhood to post–secondary education. We place special emphasis on educational efforts in the areas of Science and Math for K–12.

HIGHER LEARNING

We believe that life–long learning is critical to the well–being of our community and its economy. The education of our young people for the work force is essential to competitiveness and future leadership in all areas of society, as well as the future of our business.

Support may be in one of the following forms:

- Scholarships to accredited two– and four–year universities and colleges
- Youth mentoring programs
- Minority enrichment programs
- Life skills
- Workforce preparation
- G.E.D. programs linked with four–year colleges
- Grants aimed at special research or studies that have a direct or indirect benefit to the area of energy development or resource conservation
- Innovative teaching projects to increase student performance
- Teacher training activities
- College preparatory efforts

MULTICULTURAL OUTREACH

Diversity is a fundamental feature of interpersonal interactions and community structures. We support programs that develop a deeper understanding of diverse cultures and reach out to the disadvantaged. Through community education, we hope to broaden public exposure to identify community needs, use local resources to address such needs, and work to foster social and economic justice.

THE ENVIRONMENT

We are committed to supporting programs and organizations that address, through education, environmental concerns such as Green Power, air and water quality, wildlife habitat, open space and waste recycling. Grants under this area will foster programs working for a safe and sustainable environment.

SENIORS

Programs that address the needs of an aging population, allowing them to continue as contributing family and community members are essential to our community.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Recognizing that not all programs and investments will prove to be successful, we award large grants (\$10,000–\$25,000), over a two–three year term. By funding only portions of projects, we try to minimize the risk of participating in unsuccessful endeavors. This practice of philanthropy allows us to monitor the status of projects and to withdraw from further funding, if a project fails to produce the desired impact or results agreed upon.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The Foundation Administrator maintains a close relationship with the grantee. This relationship is characterized as a partnership rather than oversight because there is a mutual interest in improving the quality of life in the community. Rather than just accounting for

the use of funding, we seek higher standards of outcome measurement. Assessment of the program’s performance allows us to make mid–course corrections.

FOUNDATION BOARD

The Foundation Board is led by our president, and includes key corporate leaders and a representative from our Employee Volunteer Council. The Foundation Board is responsible for management and governance of philanthropic activities.

The Board, which meets four times per year, sets Foundation budgets, policies and procedures, and approves all grants. However, to gain input and ideas from employees at every level and in all geographic locations, the Foundation relies on the Employee Volunteer Council (EVC), as an advisory committee. The EVC is composed of local employees. They make recommendations to the Foundation Board regarding local grants that fit the Foundation’s philosophies, meet local needs and advance the Foundation’s strategies.



CHARITABLE FOUNDATION PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The objectives of Nevada Power’s charitable giving program are to:

- Fund significant programs or initiatives that have lasting, positive impacts in the communities we serve
- Fund initiatives with measurable outcomes and a high degree of funding accountability
- Tie funding more closely to Nevada Power’s business purpose
- Strengthen relationships with nonprofit organizations and the community at large
- Include the potential for employee volunteer involvement
- Include the potential for collaborations with other organizations or businesses
- Provide higher visibility and recognition opportunities for Nevada Power
- Support quality of life indicators

FOUNDATION COMMITTEE REVIEW PROCESS

We establish and follow clear processes for receiving, reviewing and acting on grant applications that are consistent with our policies and purposes. Local grants are managed through our Corporate Communications office. The Foundation encourages early application submission, since a limited number of applications are accepted in each grant cycle.

- The Foundation Board creates a quarterly timeline for reviewing proposed requests
- Requests are reviewed on the basis of pre–published Foundation guidelines
- If selected, your grant request will be reviewed by Nevada Power’s Foundation Board, which meets in January, May, August, and October