

NV Energy Foundation Guidelines

NV ENERGY, CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE POWER OF GIVING

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NV Energy is an investor-owned corporation, whose operating subsidiaries are engaged in energy and utility services. Through its Foundation, NV Energy distributes charitable contributions throughout its northern and southern Nevada service territory as well as its northeastern California service area. The Foundation supports NV Energy's charitable efforts and those of its employees. Through direct grants, scholarships and volunteerism, the Foundation actively supports improvements in the quality of life in the communities NV Energy serves.

Recipients of Foundation grants must be nonprofit organizations with a 501(c)(3) status from the IRS and be located within NV Energy's service territory. Grants are focused on five philanthropic areas: Education, Youth, the Environment, Arts and Multi-Cultural Outreach and Health and Human Service.

PHILOSOPHY

The Foundation is committed to supporting the diverse communities in which NV Energy operates. We take this commitment very seriously by actively participating in communities in three ways: philanthropy, civic leadership and volunteerism. Giving back to the communities in which we operate makes them better places to live and work, and in turn makes them better places to do business.

We support our local communities 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. As active participants in the communities in which we serve, we seek to understand and support emerging issues that are important to all of our stakeholders.

CHARITABLE FOUNDATION PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The objectives of NV Energy's charitable giving program are to:

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

CATEGORIES OF SUPPORT

Through the Charitable Foundation, NV Energy administers grants that support projects for five major areas: Education, Youth, the Environment, Arts and Multi-Cultural Outreach and Health and Human Services. We look for innovative ideas that fall outside the ordinary charitable budget, yet promise to increase outreach efforts in a meaningful way. The Foundation encourages projects that demonstrate a partnership between nonprofit agencies and our employees.

EDUCATION

The Foundation seeks to develop strategic partnerships with educational institutions and other 501(c)(3) organizations that have demonstrated a history of delivering effective educational programs that produce measurable results.

YOUTH

We support youth oriented programs and organizations, including those that focus on strong prevention and/or intervention activities and which empower young people to gain self-confidence, personal independence and personal growth.

ENVIRONMENT

We are committed to supporting programs and organizations that foster a safe and sustainable environment and address concerns such as renewable resources, energy conservation, air, land and water quality, wildlife habitat, open space, parks and trails and waste recycling.

ARTS AND MULTI-CULTURAL

The Foundation supports programs and organizations that expand access to public participation and awareness in the arts, including those that place special emphasis on bringing arts and cultural opportunities to underserved populations in both urban centers and rural towns.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

We fund health and human services programs that concentrate on improving the overall health and quality of life indicators in the communities we serve.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

NV Energy supports regional, measurable quality of life indicators. For example, Truckee Meadows Tomorrow in the Reno/Sparks region gives a list of quality of life indicators for organizations to reference (Visit <http://www.truckeemeadowstomorrow.org/> for more information on community quality of life initiatives.) Quality of life indicators define measurable program outcomes, and we encourage organizations applying for grants to identify regionally specific quality of life indicators their organization or program supports, and the accompanying measurement of program success.

FOUNDATION COMMITTEE AND 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 Community Relations offices in northern and southern Nevada. The Foundation encourages early application submission, since a limited number of applications are accepted in each grant cycle.

- The Foundation Committee reviews requests bi-monthly
- Requests are reviewed on the basis of Foundation guidelines
- The Committee 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
- Eligible requests are given full consideration. Applicants are usually notified of a decision within 60 days
- Funding in any annual cycle does not guarantee continued annual funding support
- Requests must be in writing, addressed to the Foundation Administrator
- We do not accept e-mail, telephone or fax requests
- Table requests and smaller event sponsorships are funded from a limited pool of Community Relations dollars outside of Foundation funding

Direct table and event sponsorship requests to:

Northern Nevada

Community Relations Manager, NV Energy
P.O. Box 10100
Reno, NV 89520

Southern Nevada

Community Relations Manager, NV Energy
P.O. Box 98910
Las Vegas, NV 89151

The Foundation Board reserves the right to give special emphasis to specific categories of funding from time to time or to change or withdraw this program without notice. NV Energy Foundation Board will determine the interpretations and administration of the provisions of the program.

FUNDING GUIDELINES, EXCLUSIONS AND APPLICATION PROCESS

Before applying, please review the funding guidelines and exclusions. Requests for support can only be considered for organizations, programs and activities that meet the basic criteria provided in the funding guidelines.

All grant requests must include:

- Organization name, address, telephone number, fax number, website address, e-mail contact information and contact person
- A brief description of your organization, its mission or purpose, population served and geographic area of service.
- A copy of your organization's IRS certification of 501(c)(3) nonprofit status
- A list of any NV Energy 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
- A description of how your funding request specifically addresses the need(s) in question
- Link your request to an established community quality of life indicator your program supports (see <http://www.truckeemeadowstomorrow.org/> for examples of community quality of life indicators)
- A description of the measurement you will use to determine the program's success
- Complete budget for the project
- Any plans to promote this program and grant. If so, please describe your public relations and media plan
- Type of acknowledgement NV Energy would receive for making a contribution

EXCLUSIONS

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
- Advertising
- Out of service area donations
- Other foundations
- Political and partisan organizations or events
- Sports events or tournaments
- Trips or tours for individuals or groups
- Talent or beauty contests
- Sports leagues

If your contribution request meets the guidelines of the NV Energy Foundation and does not fall within one of the areas of exclusion, please submit your proposal for consideration. Proposals are accepted and reviewed on an ongoing basis. Decisions on proposals are generally made within two months of submission.

The completed proposal should be directed to:

Northern Nevada

Administrator
NV Energy Foundation
P.O. Box 10100
Reno, NV 89520-3150
Telephone: 775-834-5741

Southern Nevada

Administrator
NV Energy Foundation
P.O. Box 98910

Las Vegas, Nevada 89151-0001

Telephone: 702-402-5741

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Board carefully reviews all circumstances in which there exists the possibility or appearance of conflict of interest, including the legal requirements that forbid staff, Foundation Board Members and their families from profiting financially from any philanthropic grant or activity. 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.