

OPERATION ROUND-UP® FUND GUIDELINES
CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Purpose

The Cooperative's Fund will be funded by Operation Round-Up® voluntary contributions from members of Central Electric and from other sources of funds available to the Fund, as set forth in the Cooperative's Policy governing Operation Round-Up® (the "Policy"). Operation Round-Up® contributions will be used primarily in the local area served by the Cooperative for charitable and educational purposes, including emergency energy assistance as set forth in the Policy. The following are guidelines for the committee/Board of Trustees to follow in making expenditures of Fund monies.

The Board of Trustees will review and distribute funds each June and December.

Application Deadlines are May 1st and November 1st. Applications should be postmarked by or turned in to the Central Electric Betts Road Service Center located at 25487 403rd Ave, Mitchell, S.D. by the close of the normal business day on or prior to the application deadlines.

I. Major Funding Categories

Although there are many worthy charitable and educational projects and community needs in the Cooperative area, the limited availability of funds requires us to establish funding priority categories as follows:

A. Community Service

1. Programs, projects and organizations that are important components of a community's overall quality of life, with emphasis on public safety, health care, self-sufficiency and basic human needs.
2. Programs and projects that enhance the cultural environment of communities in the Cooperative area.

B. Economic Development

1. Programs and projects designed to promote greater economic stability by helping to expand and diversify local economies, with emphasis on business retention and expansion, new business development and tourism.
2. Programs and projects that encourage cooperation among regional and community economic development organizations.
3. Community leadership programs designed to improve problem-solving skills and empower people to become self-reliant in identifying solutions to local economic and social problems.

C. Education and Youth

1. School scholarships and other programs and projects with an emphasis on math and science education and cooperative educational programs.
2. Programs that are designed to combat critical social problems affecting our children and youth, with an emphasis on children and teens at risk.
3. Programs and projects that promote wellness and encourage youth participation in athletics and physical fitness activities.

D. Environment

1. Programs and projects that promote community recycling and natural resource preservation.
2. Community-based environmental quality education programs.
3. Environmentally sensitive agricultural research programs and projects.

DI. Emergency Energy Assistance

1. Community Action Programs, and other local and statewide fuel funds established by an energy provider, within the State of South Dakota or any other entity that collects and distributes money for low-income emergency energy assistance and meets the minimum criteria, including income eligibility criteria, for receiving money from the Federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program and the Program's Incentive Fund for Leveraging Non-Federal Resources.

DII. Disaster Relief

Programs and projects to provide disaster relief for food, clothing, shelter, medical care, clean-up and repairs and reconstruction in an emergency following an accident, a severe storm or other causes.

DIII. Emergency Expenditure

Notwithstanding the above, the committee/Board of Trustees may make expenditures on an emergency basis in accordance with this Policy and the Guidelines in any amount to any organization which the Trustees determine is in keeping with the purpose and spirit of this Policy.

II. Geographic Focus

Contributions will be focused geographically within the area served by the Cooperative and adjacent areas. Organizations will provide programs and benefits to people who live in this geographic area are eligible for funding consideration, even if the organization is located elsewhere.

III. Funding Restrictions.

1. Contributions may be made to groups, clubs, and non-profit organizations.
2. Contributions will generally not be made for:
 - a. Lobbying, political or religious organizations;
 - b. Individuals;
 - c. Capital fund campaigns;
 - d. National fund drives; and
 - e. Advertising.

IV. Evaluation Factors

1. The following factors will be considered in the evaluation of all funding requests:
 - a. Potential benefit to area residents and the entire community;
 - b. Level of community support for the program or project or the organization requesting the funds;

- c. Fiscal and administrative capability of the organization to deliver a quality service or program; and
- d. Results that are predictable and can be evaluated.

V. Project Timing

- 1. Whenever possible, requests for funding should be for projects that will be completed within twelve (12) months following the grant application. Requests for funding for projects that have already been completed will be given less priority.

VI. Requirements

- 1. Complete the application form.
- 2. Provide a detailed budget demonstrating how grant funds will be spent on this project or program and sources and uses of existing program funds. (Please attach any material cost estimates or written bids.)

Central Electric Cooperative will notify applicants of grant application status as soon as possible following each Board of Trustee meeting, roughly one month after the grant deadline.