

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 1<sup>st</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup>. Applications must be postmarked by these dates, or turned in to Central Electric Betts Road Service Center located at 25487 403<sup>rd</sup> 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, with annual budget allocation ranges for each category:

A. Community Service (20% to 40%)

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 (10% to 30%)

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 10% to 30%)

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 (5% to 15%)

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.

E. Emergency Energy Assistance (5% to 15%)

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.

F. Disaster Relief (5% to 15%)

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.

G. Emergency Expenditure.

Notwithstanding the above, the Trustees, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of 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 person(s), family, unit, group, organization, charity, emergency assistance fund or like 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 though the organization is located elsewhere.

III. Funding Restrictions.

1. Contributions will generally be made only to non-profit organizations that have been granted tax-exempt status under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3).
2. Contributions will generally not be made for:
  - a. Lobbying, political and religious organizations;
  - b. Veteran, fraternal and labor organizations;
  - c. Fund-raising dinners, raffles and other events;
  - d. Individuals (except school scholarships and disaster relief);
  - e. Capital fund campaigns;
  - f. National fund drives; and
  - g. 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 detailed budget demonstrating how grant funds will be spent on this project or program and sources and uses of existing program funds.
3. Submit copy of the IRS tax exempt letter if appropriate.

Central Electric Cooperative will notify applicants of grant approval status as soon as possible following each Board of Trustee meeting.

**Central Electric Cooperative, Operation Round Up® Fund**  
**25487 403<sup>rd</sup> Ave, PO Box 850, Mitchell SD 57301**  
**Phone: 605-996-7516 or 1-800-477-2892 | Email: cec@centralec.coop**

**Application for Organization/Agency**

Please complete this application by providing all requested information. Incomplete applications may be returned without consideration by the Board of Trustees.

Organization Legal Name	
Address, City, State, ZIP	
Primary Contact Name	
Primary Contact Phone	
Primary Contact Email	

Using the checkboxes below, please indicate the project funding category. You may choose more than one funding category if applicable.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service<br><input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development<br><input type="checkbox"/> Education and Youth<br><input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Energy Assistance<br><input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Relief<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other Emergency Expenditure |
|---|--|

Amount of Grant Request	Enter the amount being requested, up to \$5,000.
Total Project Cost	Provide an estimate of how much the project will cost. If you have a written estimate, please include it with your submission.
Has this organization received an Operation Round Up grant from Central Electric Cooperative in the past?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (This does not disqualify the request. Please provide additional details below regarding past grants awarded.)

Project Summary	Describe the project and how the funds would be used. Please attach any additional documents that support the request.
Explain how the project will benefit the community and area residents.	
How many individuals, families or groups has the organization served within Central Electric Cooperative's service area in the past year?	
Have you provided a copy of the organization's financial statements for the prior year?	<input type="checkbox"/> No (Financial statement required. Your application may be denied if proper documentation is not provided.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
If awarded, would the organization request tax-exempt funding?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Attach a copy of IRS Form 501(c)3 letter.)

Please provide details regarding other funding sources being considered for the project. This may include private donations, fundraisers, financial institutions or other organizations.		
Funding Source	Status (Approved, Denied, Pending)	Amount

Please provide up to four business references that are familiar with your organization.			
Business	Address	Contact Name	Phone Number

The information contained in this statement is for the purpose of obtaining funding from Central Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s Operation Round Up® Fund. The undersigned understands that the information provided herein is used in deciding grant funding, and the undersigned represents and warrants that the information provided is true and complete and that Central Electric Cooperative, Inc. may consider this statement as continuing to be true and correct until a written notice of a change is provided. **Central Electric Cooperative and the Board of Trustees for Operation Round Up® are authorized to make all inquiries deemed necessary to verify the accuracy of the statements made herein.**

As a condition of receiving and accepting these funds, the undersigned agrees that all funds will be used for the project approved and as stated on the application. Any funds not used shall be returned to Central Electric Cooperative Operation Round Up® Fund.

I agree to the terms stated above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date