



Energy Office Mini-Grant Program

The US Department of Energy has awarded funding to the SC Office of Regulatory Staff-Energy Office (Energy Office) to competitively fund several high-impact demonstration projects in the areas of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation.

Are You Eligible?

Eligible applicants include:

- State agencies
- Local governments
- Public colleges, universities, and technical colleges
- K-12 public schools
- 501(c) (3) non-profit organizations

Purpose

These highly visible demonstration projects should serve as an example to encourage awareness of emerging technologies or innovative approaches to energy efficiency, renewable energy, or clean transportation.

How Much Can I Apply For?

The maximum award value will be \$10,000. Cost sharing is not required, but leveraging of funds is encouraged in order to maximize the energy-related benefits of a project.

The Application Process

After each year's program is announced in July, applications should be submitted using the application form provided on the Energy Office website at ENERGY.SC.GOV/Grants. Supporting materials and technical analyses should also be included.

Application Submission

A completed application with an authorized signature and supporting documents can be emailed to Rick Campana at rcampana@ors.sc.gov.

Printed applications and supporting documents may be mailed to:

*Rick Campana, Energy Office
1401 Main Street, Suite 800
Columbia, SC, 29201*

Project Spotlight



Landrum High School

Landrum High School was able to replace metal halide fixtures with LED fixtures on the exterior of the school with a mini-grant from the Energy Office. This resulted in \$1,569.03 in savings each year for the school. In addition to energy cost savings, the increased visibility allows students and faculty to feel safe during extracurricular events. The school also featured the project on the Cardinal News Network, a weekly news program produced by students, as well as on flyers placed in prominent areas throughout the town.

Review and Award Process

Applications will be reviewed by the Energy Office and the Energy Advisory Council. Once a project is selected for funding, the Energy Office will send recipients a grant award agreement. Funds will be disbursed via reimbursement after completion and monitoring of the project by the Energy Office.

Selection Criteria

Applications are reviewed based on the following general criteria:

- Expected energy savings and simple payback period
- Visibility of the project
- Ability to complete the project within the specified timeframe
- Applicant's contribution to the project, including the applicant's proposed post-installation evaluation of impact
- Educational and/or demonstration value of the project

If the application is for a clean transportation project, the following general criteria also apply:

- Avoided consumption of petroleum products
- Reduction in vehicle miles traveled
- Compatibility with current or future infrastructure, community interest, or policies/goals
- Expected useful life of the project and impact

All projects must be completed by May 14, 2021.

Project Spotlight



Sustaining Way

Just off the Swamp Rabbit Trail in the historic Nicholtown community of Greenville, South Carolina, Annie's House is strategically located in an under-served community and is intended to demonstrate community-based approaches to sustainability. The non-profit organization was able to pay a portion of the cost to install a 4.77 kW photovoltaic system on the house's south-facing side with a mini-grant from the Energy Office. This resulted in \$549.60 in savings each year for Sustaining Way.



Questions?

Send your questions about the solicitation or application process to:

Rick Campana (rcampana@ors.sc.gov)
or (803) 737-5229.

Reporting

Following the project's completion, recipients must submit a closing report along with their final request for reimbursement that includes:

- Square footage retrofitted or affected by the project, if applicable;
- Number of individuals impacted, if applicable;
- Estimated annual energy savings;
- Estimated lifespan of any equipment; and
- Qualitative information about system performance, publicity, public involvement, etc. This may include photos, news stories, and/or other narrative descriptions.

Timeline

