



MCCo Energy Efficiency Grant Fund

Procedure & Criteria

Effective Date: January 26, 2012

Date of Last Revision: October 11, 2017

Program Intent

The purpose of the EEF is to create a self-sustaining financing mechanism for MCCo Members to utilize when implementing energy efficiency projects in their facilities. The fund will complement MCCo's Energy Audit and Utility Assessment project that was approved by the Executive Committee on September 29, 2011. Understanding that the success of an energy audit depends on the implementation of the recommended efficiency projects, MCCo is eager to provide such an implementation tool to support its Members in their energy efficiency endeavors.

The overarching goal of both the Energy Audit and Utility Assessment project and the Energy Efficiency Grant Fund is to reduce MCCo's energy costs by reducing the energy consumption of the Member Institutions, the end users. Participating Member Institutions will be required to sign a Grant Participant and Energy Savings Agreement which includes the project description, grant amount, repayment schedule and energy savings reporting requirements.

Application Process

Applications are accepted from Member Institutions continuously throughout the year. Final project application approval is granted by the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees on a monthly basis.

Final Award Approval

The Executive Committee reserves the right for final approval of all projects utilizing the EEF.

Award Amount

Generally, funds are available to Members on a proportional basis to their economic and energy impact on MCCo. A member institution may be awarded an amount larger than their proportional allocation if the proposed project satisfies all eligibility criteria and funding is available.

CORPORATE MEMBERS

UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS OF CLEVELAND
CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
THE CHURCH OF THE COVENANT
THE MUSICAL ARTS ASSOCIATION

THE CLEVELAND BOTANICAL GARDEN
THE CLEVELAND HEARING & SPEECH CENTER
THE CLEVELAND MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSN.
THE CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF ART

Funding Exclusions

Funding will not be provided for capital renewal projects, routine maintenance, institutional overhead, capital campaigns, fund-raising, memberships, lobbying, scholarships, and seminars.

Program Eligibility

The following eligibility criteria were developed to provide the baseline for approval of an application for the program.

Applicant Eligibility: The grant funds can be used for any project or group of projects that supports sustainability or energy conservation efforts that result in energy savings for a Member Institution. The application must demonstrate operational savings and cost-effectiveness.

Project Eligibility Criteria:

1. Projects with simple paybacks of 5 years or less (Prerequisite), however projects with longer payback periods can be grouped with shorter payback projects so that the average simple payback is less than 5 years.
2. Conservation measures that reduce demand for MCCo provided utilities.
3. Conservation measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions or pollutants.
4. Strategies that reduce peak demand for MCCo utilities such as load shedding, curtailment, and staggered start.
5. Sustainability projects such as behavioral change or education pieces. Priority given to projects that prove the project can self-sustain itself.

Application Requirement

A complete application will include both the MCCo EEF Project Proposal form along with detailed supporting calculations that show the cost of the project, expected annual energy savings and simple payback period.

Disbursement of Funds and Project Period

Project funds should be disbursed no later than 6 months following approval of the project application. If funds are not disbursed by this time, the applicant may be required to re-apply. Projects should be completed within twelve months following disbursement of funds unless an exception is granted. If an extension is required for any reason, then a written request to the Fund Administrator outlining the current project status and proposed timeframe must be submitted for consideration. An extension request does not guarantee approval for extension.

Energy Efficiency Fund Repayment Schedule

Repayment of grant awards begins upon completion of the project. In order to replenish the fund and catalyze additional efficiency projects, MCCo will include a flat 1.5% administrative fee on all grant awards. Repayment of grant awards will be made in accordance with the projected energy savings and simple payback period for each project. The total project grant amount will be divided by the number of months in the simple payback period to calculate the monthly repayment installment amount which will be added to the Member Institution's monthly utility bill.

MCCo Project Management

As an additional service to Member Institutions, MCCo may be able to provide project management assistance if requested.

Energy Efficiency Fund Management

MCCo's Vice President of Operations will coordinate activities related to the program. The Vice President of Operations in conjunction with MCCo's finance staff will review applications, verify payback analysis, and submit the application for review by the President and approval by the Executive Committee.