

MISSION & PROGRAM AREAS

The Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation invests in clean energy development and land preservation efforts, working with communities and residents to improve environmental quality in Illinois.

*The Foundation funds projects in three core program areas: improving **energy efficiency**, developing **renewable energy** resources, and preserving and enhancing **natural areas** and wildlife habitat throughout Illinois.*

VISIT www.IllinoisCleanEnergy.org

The Foundation's web site – www.IllinoisCleanEnergy.org – has other useful information for organizations seeking funding, including lists of past grants awarded, more information on the grant application process and announcements about new program initiatives that may be launched during 2007. It also has information on other grants for which K-12 schools may apply, such as funding for energy efficient design of new or substantially renovated facilities or for installation of solar or wind power generation systems.



Illinois Clean Energy
community foundation

2 N LaSalle St • Suite 950 • Chicago IL 60602
312.372.5191 • fax 312.372.5190
www.IllinoisCleanEnergy.org



Illinois Clean Energy
community foundation

2 N LaSalle St • Suite 950 • Chicago IL 60602



Illinois Clean Energy
community foundation

2007 Energy Efficient Lighting Upgrade Grants



FINAL YEAR

for

K-12 School Program

2007 ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHTING UPGRADE GRANT PROGRAM FOR K-12 SCHOOLS

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Is 2007 the final year for this program?

Yes. The program ends in 2007. The last-ever application deadline for K-12 school lighting upgrade grants is **February 16, 2007**.

Why is the program ending?

For several reasons - most importantly because **the program has served a large share of eligible schools and accomplished its goals.**

Since the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation launched this grant program in 2002, it has awarded more than one thousand grants to support installation of energy efficient lighting in more than two thousand K-12 school buildings. These grants have reached schools in 97 of Illinois' 102 counties. With such broad participation, many eligible school districts already have taken advantage of the program and demand for these grants is declining.

The main goal of the program from the outset was to shift the use of high efficiency, high quality lighting in K-12 schools from being perceived as too difficult or costly into a commonplace, cost-effective best practice adopted by schools throughout our state. That has largely been achieved.

A secondary goal was for schools to educate others in their communities about the benefits of high efficiency lighting. That also has occurred, with more than eleven hundred public libraries, park district facilities, child care centers, and college and university buildings working with the Foundation to install such lighting since the schools' grant program began.

This is by far the largest grant program the Foundation has offered since it began operation in 2001. More than \$32 million has been awarded so far and the total will almost certainly exceed \$35 million by the time the program ends in 2007. As this program phases out in 2007, the Foundation is preparing to launch new programs to expand the use of energy efficiency in other important sectors.

Are other grant programs still open to schools?

Yes. After this program ends in 2007, the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation will continue to accept grant requests from public and nonprofit K-12 schools for other types of grants, including energy efficient design of new and substantially remodeled facilities and installation of power-producing wind turbines and small-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) systems.

What are the benefits of upgrading to efficient lighting systems?

- Improve lighting quality in the classroom for students and teachers;
- Reduce operating and maintenance expenses; and
- Save energy, leading to less pollution in Illinois communities.

Who is eligible to apply for a grant through this program?

Public school districts and private, non-profit K-12 schools in Illinois may apply for grant funding through this program.

What lighting upgrades qualify for this program?

Grants may pay for energy-saving upgrades to the lamps, ballasts, fixtures and/or controls in existing **indoor lighting systems in existing K-12 school buildings.**

- **Types of equipment:** Common eligible upgrades include replacement of T12 fluorescent lamps and magnetic ballasts with T8 lamps and electronic ballasts, replacement of high bay gym luminaires, and replacement of exit light fixtures with LED units. Replacement of incandescent bulbs with screw-in compact fluorescent lamps is **not** an eligible upgrade. Contact the Foundation with questions about equipment eligibility.
- **New upgrade projects only:** Lighting upgrade projects may be no further along than the lighting evaluation and design stage. Projects where installation is underway or complete do **not** qualify for this program.

How is the size of the grant award determined?

Grants are **up to \$600 per kilowatt (kW)** or 60¢ per Watt of reduction in electricity demand that the lighting upgrade, **as installed**, yields. Grants will be limited to:

- No more than \$40,000 per year for any one school building; and
- No more than \$120,000 per year for any one school district.

When are grants paid, and what is the exact amount?

After a school district's grant request has been approved by the Foundation and it signs the formal agreement accepting the grant, it may proceed with installation of the lighting upgrade. The grant will be paid by the Foundation to the district **after the installation is completed** and the work has been accepted as satisfactory through submission of a brief final report on the project. **The exact amount of the grant payment is based on the actual electricity demand reduction achieved through the completed lighting upgrade.**

GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

How does a school district apply for a lighting upgrade grant?

A district completes and submits an **application form** along with the supporting documentation listed on that form by **February 16, 2007**. Requests for school lighting upgrade grants **must** be submitted on the Foundation's application form and **must** include all required attachments.

Where can one get an application form or ask questions?

Application forms may be downloaded and printed from the Foundation's web site: **www.IllinoisCleanEnergy.org**. You also may request an application form or ask questions by calling the Foundation at (312) 372-5191.

What is the deadline to apply?

February 16, 2007. All eligible, complete requests for K-12 school lighting upgrade grants will be reviewed by the Foundation as a group. To be considered in 2007, complete applications for school lighting upgrade grants **must** be received by the Foundation **no later than close of business on Friday, February 17.**

What is the timing for grant decisions and project installation?

Grant decisions will be made by early **May 2007** and installation of lighting upgrades may take place anytime after, including during summer 2007.

Will all grant requests be approved?

No. This is a competitive process and a limited amount of funds are available for this program. The Foundation anticipates receiving more school lighting upgrade grant requests than it can accommodate. If that occurs, the Foundation will give preference to cost-effective projects that achieve high levels of permanent electricity demand reduction per dollar granted.

Can a district re-apply?

Yes. School districts that applied for a lighting upgrade grant in previous years but did not receive one are encouraged to re-apply in 2007 if they have not yet upgraded their lighting. School districts that have previously received a lighting upgrade grant may apply again in 2007 for additional lighting upgrades, but should be aware that preference may be given to districts or schools that have not yet received a lighting upgrade grant from the Foundation.

Are grant recipients required to use specific vendors?

No. Grant recipients exercise complete control over the process of selecting any vendors, contractors or consultants involved in the lighting upgrade project.