

CONTRIBUTING
TO OUR

Communities



FirstEnergy
Foundation

The FirstEnergy Foundation,

headquartered in Akron, Ohio, is a charitable foundation that supports nonprofit, tax-exempt organizations within the FirstEnergy operating companies' service areas. Our funding priorities are:

- Help improve the vitality of our communities and support key safety initiatives
- Promote local and regional economic development and revitalization efforts
- Advance an educated workforce by supporting professional development, literacy, and science, technology, engineering and mathematics education initiatives
- Support FirstEnergy employees' community leadership and volunteer interests

The Foundation reflects our corporate philosophy of providing community support and is funded solely by FirstEnergy, an investor-owned, diversified energy services holding company.

Full-time employees can also maximize their giving through our employee Matching Gifts Program.

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Funding Process

Grant requests may be discussed with the local management of our operating companies and generating plants, or the staff of the FirstEnergy Foundation. The requests are then evaluated by the Contributions Committee of the Foundation and are budgeted annually. Special requests may be considered on an ad hoc basis.

Applications should be submitted on the FirstEnergy Foundation grant application form provided on our Web site, or by requesting a copy.

Generally, the minimum eligibility requirements for applicants include:

- Qualification as a non-profit, tax-exempt organization as defined by Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and that is not a public charity defined as a 509(a)(3)
- A copy of the IRS exemption letter must be attached to the proposal
- Located within the FirstEnergy operating companies' service areas, or where our facilities are located
- Compliance with the basic Standards in Philanthropy, as described by the National Information Bureau regarding board composition, purpose, program expenses, promotion, fundraising, accountability and budget

Limitations

Since the FirstEnergy Foundation is unable to support all worthwhile programs, it generally does not consider funding for:

- Organizations that are not tax exempt under the U.S. Internal Revenue Service Code 501(c)(3)
- Direct grants to individuals
- Political or legislative activities
- Organizations that receive sizable public tax funding
- Organizations already supported by federated campaigns, such as United Way
- Fraternal, religious, labor, athletic, social, or veterans' organizations – unless the contribution is earmarked for an eligible program or campaign open to all beneficiaries, including those not affiliated with the host organization
- National or international organizations
- Research
- Equipment purchases
- Loans or second-party giving, such as endowments, debt retirement, or foundations
- Elementary and secondary schools

The Foundation's Contributions Committee reserves the right to review all contribution requests and to revise eligibility requirements. Applications are reviewed and considered throughout the year. Please allow up to 12 weeks for processing. All decisions of the Committee are final.

Grant Application Forms

Application forms are available online on the FirstEnergy Foundation page which can be accessed at www.firstenergycorp.com/community or by contacting the Contributions Department at 330-761-4246.

Forms should be mailed to:
Mary Beth Carroll, President
FirstEnergy Foundation
76 South Main Street
Akron, OH 44308-1890

FirstEnergy Operating Companies:

Grants from the FirstEnergy Foundation are awarded by the contributions committee, which considers a number of factors, including the recommendations of the leadership of our operating companies: Jersey Central Power & Light, Met-Ed, Ohio Edison, Penelec, Penn Power, The Illuminating Company and Toledo Edison; and our generating plants.

