

Energizing Spaces Grant Guidelines

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What is Energizing Spaces?

Energizing Spaces powered by ENMAX wants to engage your community by bringing energy-efficient solutions into your community spaces. Energy-efficiency is about more than saving dollars and cents; it's about creating sustainable community hubs that can enhance their communities for many years to come.

You can apply for funding to replace or install energy-efficient appliances, rink/outdoor/security lighting, or string lights.

There are three streams of funding.

- Appliances Application- Up to \$ 10,000
- Outdoor/ Rink Lighting Application- Up to \$ 10,000
- String Lighting Application- Up to \$ 500

Who is eligible?

To be considered eligible for Energizing Spaces funding, you must:

- Be a member of the Federation of Calgary Communities in good standing
- Have written board approval to participate in the program
- For stream specific eligibility criteria, please refer to specific grant application pages on the website.

What is the qualifying and evaluation criteria for projects?

- **Replacement of Old Inefficient Lighting/Appliances:** Replacement projects will be given priority based on the age of the appliance or lighting. Appliances and outdoor lighting fixtures that are 10 years or older are considered inefficient. New appliances will be considered based on community need and potential impact.
- **Community Need and Potential Impact:** Projects must reflect the needs of the community using the space and infrastructure. Consideration will be given to organizations and communities that would significantly benefit from the grant.
- **Community Accessibility and Engagement:** Projects should be designed to engage and be accessible to the broader community or vulnerable groups in need. Priority will be given to projects that promote inclusivity and active community participation.
- **Energy Saving Initiatives:** Projects must align with an existing energy savings plan. Priority will be based on the actions taken by the community organization toward energy efficiency, highlighting the organization's commitment to sustainability.

Final decision will be made based on committee discussions.

Applications should make a case for how this grant will engage or impact your community. For example, what programs or people will benefit; how it fits with your current sustainability initiatives, etc. We are keen to hear stories that demonstrate overall community impact with this grant funding.

Timelines

- Application opens: **February 2, 2026**
- Application deadline: **May 3, 2026**
- Results announced: **Mid June 2026**
- Project must be completed by: **June 15, 2027**
- Final submission of documents and reports: **June 25, 2027**

Please Note:

- We reserve the right to move deadlines when necessary and feasible. Any changes in the agreed project timeline should be communicated and approved in writing.
- Only one application for any one of the streams of funding will be considered per organization. For instance, if you are applying for appliance, you could apply for multiple appliances within one application but cannot apply for both appliance and outdoor/ rink lighting.

Eligible/ Ineligible Costs

- Appliances
 - Purchase and delivery cost of the appliances are eligible for reimbursement.
 - Installation of appliances are not eligible for reimbursement.
- Outdoor/ Rink Lighting
 - All the installations will be done by a contractor appointed by the Federation of Calgary Communities. Organizations will have no bills; we pay our appointed contractor directly.
 - Installation of infrastructure, like poles, are not covered by this grant.
- String Lighting
 - Purchase and delivery of lights is eligible for reimbursement
 - Installation of lights is NOT eligible for reimbursement.

Things to have ready for your application

- Approval and consensus from your board.
- Financial reports.
- For appliances:
 - Get 2 quotes from different vendors for the same appliance with all the specifications mentioned. Appliances should be EnergyStar rated
 - If replacing an appliance, please tell us how old the appliance is. Visit appliance411.com to find an appliance's age.
- Quotes for the string lights proposed.
- Photos. Please add a photo of old appliance or lighting (if applicable). If new, please show us the type of appliance or lighting you are proposing, where it will go, or a similar project that has inspired you.
- For existing lighting projects, please tell us about the existing lighting, including its wattage, type, number of bulbs, and an estimated daily usage of the lights.