



## CLASSROOM GRANTS OPEN FOR APPLICATION



Egyptian Electric Cooperative is again offering Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grant opportunities to local administrators and teachers at schools within our cooperative's territorial footprint.

Ten (10) \$500 Classroom Empowerment Grants will be offered and awarded to public and private K-12 schools to help with projects that will improve educational opportunities for students. Prior applicants and recipients are eligible to apply. Please note the school or district does not have to receive electric service from Egyptian Electric Cooperative to qualify. The evaluation of the applications will be based on the projects that best serve the purpose of improving the

learning environment and/or increasing educational resources for the school. Classroom grant packets will be sent to all local school principals (that we have record of) in our area mid-September. Applicants can submit their applications to our office drive-thru, after-hours dropbox, by fax (888) 554-8181 or email to [bguthman@eeca.coop](mailto:bguthman@eeca.coop).

The grant awards will be announced on or before Friday, December 10, 2021. For questions regarding the Classroom Empowerment Grants, please contact Brooke Guthman at (800) 606-1505 or [bguthman@eeca.coop](mailto:bguthman@eeca.coop). It's that simple and straightforward, so please don't miss this opportunity! **33-03-0002**

### HOW DO TEACHERS OR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS APPLY?

- 1 Choose a new or existing project for your school or class
- 2 Review the official rules and complete the Grant Application Form found on page 4 of this magazine, on our website, [eeca.coop](http://eeca.coop) or in your school office
- 3 Choose a new or existing project for your school or class
- 4 Attach a typewritten request under three pages with the following information:
  - A description of the project and what it will accomplish
  - The estimated cost
  - An explanation of why funds, or additional funds, are necessary
  - Whether other funding options have been pursued and if so, status of those requests
  - Timeline of project; estimated start and completion
  - Number of students to be impacted
  - If the project's goals are measurable, how would success be measured
  - How does the project tie to our Touchstone Energy core values of: integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community
- 5 Submit the completed Grant Application Form, written request, and any other supporting documentation to our office by **4 p.m. on Friday, November 19, 2021.**



1732 Finney Road  
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Business hours/After hours  
800-606-1505

24/7 Automated Pay-by-Phone  
844-759-3977

Office hours 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. M-F  
[www.eeca.coop](http://www.eeca.coop)

### Board of Directors

- Paul Pyatt, President
- Paul Hicks, Vice-President
- Kevin Liefer, Secretary-Treasurer
- Rick Asaturian
- Kevin Bame
- Randall Campbell
- Mary Jo Homan
- Ken Jarrett
- Steve Prest



**Shane Hermetz**  
*General Manager*

### Choose your payment option!

- At our office lobby, drive-thru, drop-box, or payment kiosk
- Mail to: 1732 Finney Road, Murphysboro, IL 62966
- Set up recurring bank draft or credit card payments
- Use SmartHub portal, online or mobile app
- By phone at (844) 759-3977, using credit card or checking account
- Off-site kiosks located at 2301 N Reed Station Pkwy in Carbondale and 1306 N Market in Sparta

## Office & workforce status

One year later, we are reinstating efforts to minimize health risks for consumer-members and employees. Egyptian Electric Cooperative will continue to close the front office lobby for walk-in service. As local COVID-19 cases and exposures continue to increase, we will continue to rotate, reduce and stagger our work staff.

The cooperative drive-thru is anticipated to remain open during this time, although most services can be handled remotely. Members are highly

encouraged to conduct co-op business through our website, mobile app or over the phone. Our member services department is available daily and can be reached by email at [info@eeca.coop](mailto:info@eeca.coop) or by calling (800) 606-1505. Members may pay by phone 24/7 at (844) 759-3977, visit a kiosk location, MoneyGram Express Payment location or download the SmartHub mobile app from the device's app store. For all payment options, visit us at [eeca.coop](http://eeca.coop).

## Convenient Ways to Pay During COVID-19



**24/7 Pay-by-Phone**  
Call our automated phone system at (844) 759-3977 to make secure payment

**SmartHub**  
Download the app on your smart device or visit [www.eeca.coop](http://www.eeca.coop) to make a payment

**Moneygram**  
Bill pay now available at your CVS, Schnucks, Kroger or Wal-Mart!

**Payment Kiosk**  
Find one outside our office, or inside Wright Do-It Center in Sparta or the MarketPlace Shell, east of Carbondale

**Return to our Office**  
Visit our drive-thru during business hours, utilize our Payment Dropbox, or mail to: 1732 Finney Road, Murphysboro, IL 62966

## MEMBER PRIZES

Every month we will have three map location numbers hidden throughout our Egyptian Electric News section. If you find your location number, that corresponds to the one on your bill, call our office and identify yourself and the page that it is on and you will win a \$10 credit on your next electric bill.

## Sign up for Operation Round Up today!



- **Tax deductible contributions**
- **YTD contributions listed on your monthly bill**
- **Never more than \$11.88/year**
- **Or can choose an additional amount or make one-time donation**
- **Signing up is easy!**
- **Opt out at any time**



By signing up to round up your monthly bill, together we can financially support needs in our communities.

Egyptian Electric Cooperative collects member & employee contributions in our 501(c)3 charitable fund.



100% of the funds will go directly to organizations who support community service projects, at-need community efforts, economic development, education, safety and other local services.



## PASSWORD DOS AND DON'TS

A strong password can make all the difference in protecting your personal information. Follow these tips for stronger passwords.

### DO:

- Change the manufacturer's Wi-Fi password on your router.
- Use two-factor authentication.
- Use unique phrases (like lyrics to your favorite song) to remember passwords.

### DON'T:

- Don't use common words or numbers like "password" or "1234."
- Don't use personal details like your date of birth in a password.
- Don't use the same password for multiple accounts. **17-14-1025**

## October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

Do Your Part. #BeCyberSmart

## It's a matter of co-op principles

ACE Hardware, State Farm, REI, Land O'Lakes, and Egyptian Electric Cooperative all share something in common: we're all cooperatives.

We may be in different industries, but we all share a passion for serving our members and helping our communities to thrive. In fact, all cooperatives adhere to the same set of seven principles that reflect our core values of honesty, transparency, equity, inclusiveness, and service to the greater community good. October is National Co-op Month, so this is the perfect time to reflect on these principles that have stood the test of time but also provide a framework for the future. Let's take a look at the first three cooperative principles.

### *Voluntary and Open Membership*

Just like all co-ops, Egyptian Electric Cooperative was created out of necessity—to meet a need that otherwise would not have been met in our community. In 1938, a group of neighbors banded together and organized our electric co-op so everyone in our community could benefit. Neighbors came together to tackle

a problem they all had but couldn't solve alone. They worked together for the benefit of the whole community, and the newly established electric lines helped power economic opportunity in our community.

While this history may be forgotten, key parts of that heritage remain—the focus on our mission and serving the greater good. In this, we include everyone to improve the quality of life and economic opportunity for the entire community. Membership is open to everyone in our service territory.

### *Democratic Member Control*

Our co-op is well suited to meet the needs of our members because we are locally governed. Each member gets a voice and a vote in how the co-op is run, and each voice and vote are equal. Egyptian Electric's leadership team and employees live right here in the community. Our board of directors, who help set long-term priorities for the co-op, also live locally on co-op lines. These board members have been elected by neighbors just like you.

Our close connection to this community ensures we get a first-hand perspective on members' priorities,

thereby enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term investments. **13-36-0003**

### *Members' Economic Participation*

As a utility, our mission is to provide safe, reliable, and affordable energy to our members. But as a co-op, we are also motivated by service to the community, rather than profits. Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of Egyptian Electric Cooperative. At least part of that capital remains the common property of the cooperative. Members allocate surpluses for co-op programs, initiatives, capital investments and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

Because we are guided by seven cooperative principles, it's not just about dollars—it's about opportunity for all and being fair when engaging with our members. The cooperative way is a values-based business model.

Egyptian Electric Cooperative is a reflection of our local community and its evolving needs. We view our role as a catalyst for good and making our corner of the world a better place.




October is National Co-op Month.

### Defined by Principles

1. Voluntary & Open Membership
2. Democratic Control
3. Members' Economic Participation
4. Autonomy & Independence
5. Education, Training & Information
6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community



Egyptian Electric  
Cooperative Association

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## 2021 Classroom Empowerment Grant Application

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name/Principal: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Submitted Project: \_\_\_\_\_

**Eligibility** is limited to schools located in Egyptian Electric Cooperative service areas. Teachers and administrators of K-12 public and private schools may apply annually, even if they have been a recipient in years past. Ten \$500 grants will be awarded. Egyptian Electric Cooperative reserves the right to photograph the grant winners and use the photos for publicity purposes. Projects must be completed by the end of the Spring 2022 semester. Incomplete entries will be deemed ineligible and will not be judged. Recipients must provide written proof of completion detailing how the grant funds were used within six months of the project's completion.

**Submitting & Deadline:** This grant application form and type-written request can be submitted by mailing: Egyptian Electric Cooperative, Attn: Brooke Guthman, 1732 Finney Road, Murphysboro, IL 62966, emailing [bguthman@eeca.coop](mailto:bguthman@eeca.coop), or faxing to (888) 554-8181. The application must be received to our office no later than **4 p.m. Friday, November 19, 2021**. Awards will be announced no later than Friday, December 10, 2021.

**For additional questions**, please contact Brooke Guthman of Egyptian Electric Cooperative by phone, (800) 606-1505, or email, [bguthman@eeca.coop](mailto:bguthman@eeca.coop).

**Judging Process:** Applications will be reviewed by an impartial panel of judges. If necessary, applicants may be contacted for additional information.

*If I, \_\_\_\_\_, receive the grant, I pledge to follow all completion requirements and provide written proof of completion within six months of my project's end.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Teacher or Administrator)

**This form must be attached as a cover to the actual written grant request. Please read official rules with the application found on our website, [www.eeca.coop](http://www.eeca.coop), before completing this form.**