

# RENEWABLE ENERGY TRUST (RET)



The Denver Foundation

## GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Thank you for your interest in the Renewable Energy Trust, a donor-advised fund of The Denver Foundation. RET funds support renewable energy projects for Colorado non-profit organizations and public entities. The installed renewable energy projects help nonprofit and public organizations offset their energy costs, allowing energy savings to be reinvested in many community programs.

RET projects also help educate and inform the public about the benefits of renewable energy, and reduce the carbon footprint of the facility where they are installed. The program is funded through contributions from Xcel Energy residential and business customers either with lump-sum donations or through a premium on energy bills.

Grants from the fund typically range from \$15,000 - \$40,000.

## ELIGIBILITY

The Renewable Energy Trust Customer Advisory Panel makes recommendations for project grant funding. Submission of a grant application does not guarantee funding by the Renewable Energy Trust. The Renewable Energy Trust's grant funds are limited and subject to availability.

When considering or completing an application, please keep in mind the eligibility criteria listed below.

- The grant recipient is a public or not for nonprofit organization.
- The project will not be used for commercial or individual benefit.
- The geographic location of the project is within Xcel Energy's service area in Colorado, with a priority given to electric customers.
- The amount of project funding from sources other than the Renewable Energy Trust.
- The total cost of the project and the cost effectiveness of the renewable energy system.
- The environmental value or community benefits of the project.
- The project's ability to increase public awareness or education about renewable energy.
- The project's ability to increase public awareness of the Renewable Energy Trust. The project's ability to interact with other existing energy efficiency and renewable energy efforts.
- The project's ability to create workforce development and/or volunteer opportunities.
- Those that have received a RET grant must wait one year to apply again.

## THE DENVER FOUNDATION

### MISSION

We inspire people and mobilize resources to strengthen our community.

### VALUES

- Leadership
- Equity
- Inclusiveness
- Accountability

### ABOUT

The Denver Foundation is the largest and most experienced community foundation in the Rocky Mountain West.

For more than 90 years, Denver residents have trusted the Foundation to steward charitable funds to meet today's needs and tomorrow's opportunities.

It's a growing legacy and a community-wide effort to build a better future for everyone.

At The Denver Foundation, we've been taking care of the future since 1925.

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## DUE DATE

Applications must be submitted online between April 1 and May 15, 2020. The grant deadline is 5:00pm MST on May 15, 2020.

## APPLY ONLINE

- Applications should be submitted online. You will need to register on The Denver Foundation's [grant application portal](#) before completing your online application. Click on these [FAQ's](#) for more information about the portal and links to registration.
- Registration takes approximately one business day to process in our system. We strongly urge any organization interested in submitting an online application to complete the registration process no later than May 8, 2020 for the May 15, 2020 deadline.

## Application Requirements

You will be required to complete the below questions in the online application. To enable Xcel Energy and the Renewable Energy Trust's Customer Advisory Panel to adequately evaluate your proposal, please answer each question thoroughly.

- How much funding are you requesting from the Renewable Energy Trust?
- Briefly describe your public or not-for-profit organization including mission statement, goals, and objectives.
- Please attach a copy of the organization's IRS determination letter indicating tax-exempt status, issued within the last five years.
- Please provide the name, mailing address, and phone number of the organization.
- Provide the name, title, phone number, and email address of a contact person for this project.
- Describe your project including the type of renewable energy technology (photovoltaic, wind, geothermal, etc.).
- Submit the contract bid document.
- Where will this project be located?
- Is this project new construction or a remodel/retrofit project?

- What is the estimated power output/capacity in kilowatts (kW) of the proposed project? Please specify AC or DC. You may attach additional technical equipment specifications, if applicable.
- Will the project be connected to Xcel Energy's electric system?
- Do you plan to net meter (interconnect and sell excess electricity generated to utility)?
- What is the total project estimated cost? You will be required to attach a proposed budget for the project that funding is being requested for.
- Are you applying for Xcel Energy's Solar Rewards Program incentives? If so, how much?
- Please attach a list of other funding sources and amounts for this project.
- Do you have any funding deadlines? If so, provide the date.
- What is your proposed project construction schedule/timeline?
- Provide the name, address and phone number of your contractor and list his/her qualifications to install and maintain this project. You will also be required to submit the contract bid document.
- Describe how this project will increase the awareness or provide education about renewable energy to the general public, your membership, students, the community, etc.
- Describe how this project will increase public awareness of the Renewable Energy Trust.
- How many people do you anticipate will be exposed annually to your education efforts?
- Describe how this project fits in with your overall energy efficiency and renewable efforts.
- Describe any other potential benefits from this project.

**Applications must be submitted online by 5:00pm on May 15, 2020.**

## CONTACT

For questions about the proposal or the RET program related to your specific project, email the RET program manager at [RETprogram@xcelenergy.com](mailto:RETprogram@xcelenergy.com).