

Submit a Letter of Intent

Mission & Purpose

The Consumers Energy Foundation is the charitable arm of Consumers Energy, Michigan's largest energy provider. The Consumers Energy Foundation helps communities thrive and grow by investing in what's most important to Michigan – its people, our planet and Michigan's prosperity.

The Prosperity Awards are the third of three \$500,000 signature grant rounds in 2023, totaling \$1.5 million. The winners of the 2023 Planet Awards were announced in April 2023. The winners of the 2023 People Awards were announced in July 2023.

The Prosperity Awards will provide as much as \$250,000 to two or more Michigan nonprofits or municipalities aiming to support economic development and improve the welfare of whole communities, with a particular focus on funding projects with long-term benefits. The 2023 Prosperity Awards are currently open for letters of intent. Let's make a positive impact in Michigan together!

Impacting Michigan's Prosperity through Economic Development

The Consumers Energy Foundation is dedicated to ensuring Michigan businesses and communities are growing and have world-class cultural resources. We're deeply involved in community development efforts across the State. This year, we are accepting letters of intent in support of our Neighborhood Revitalization and Arts & Culture priorities:

Neighborhood Revitalization: We believe that all Michigan residents deserve a safe, affordable community in which to live and work. That's why the Consumers Energy Foundation supports nonprofits and municipalities that champion programs aiming to transform communities into attractive neighborhoods, revitalize commercial corridors, encourage downtown development, reduce blight, and create safe and affordable housing.

Arts & Culture: We imagine a Michigan where every community is not only livable, but lovable, complete with attractive public assets and attractions that enrich the lives of residents and visitors alike. Arts and culture are integral to the vitality of the communities we serve, providing job and educational opportunities, attracting visitors, and creating vibrant communities in Michigan.

Foundation giving is separate from other company contributions and cannot be used to directly benefit the corporation. The Consumers Energy Foundation is funded by company donations, not included in customer rates.

FOUNDATION

Request for Letters of Intent – Deadline: 5:00 PM on August 11, 2023

The Consumers Energy Foundation invites Michigan nonprofits and municipalities to submit a letter of intent to express their interest in applying for a 2023 Prosperity Award. The Consumers Energy Foundation will evaluate all letter of intent submittals and select the top projects that meet the program and eligibility criteria. Organizations that make the list through the letter of intent process will be invited to submit a full application in late August. Preference will be made in support of projects that seek to secure permanent and quantifiable results. **The deadline for submitting a letter of intent is 5:00 PM on August 11, 2023.**

Award Requirements / Eligibility Criteria

The letter of intent is the first step in a two-step application process that will result in the award of up to \$250,000 in funding per recipient (\$500,000 total). If you are interested in requesting less than \$100,000 or our grant would be a small component of a large capital campaign, we ask that you submit a grant request using the regular application on our [website](#).

To be eligible, all applicants for the Prosperity Awards must meet the following criteria:

- Candidates must be a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization or municipality;
- Candidates must operate in Michigan, or have a project that benefits Michigan;
- The project must impact a territory that is [served by Consumers Energy](#);
- Candidates must submit letter of intent by 5:00 PM on August 11, 2023;
- Funds cannot be used to enhance or improve Consumers Energy property;
- Funds cannot be used for energy-related projects or costs;
- Consumers Energy Foundation must be the majority contributor to overall funding;
- Award recipients are expected to attend any required check presentation event or grant announcement at the Consumers Energy Foundation's discretion;
- Grantees must provide data illustrating positive impact on an annual basis until completion of the project or beyond; and
- Candidates must provide information on any ongoing maintenance requirements necessary to maintain project benefits and how those needs will be met.

Letter of Intent Process

To submit a letter of intent for a 2023 Prosperity Award, please visit: www.consumersenergy.com/community/foundation/prosperity.

If prompted, please sign in or create a login to begin. Select, "\$500,000 Prosperity Awards Letter of Intent" in the dropdown menu.

For more information about the Consumers Energy Foundation, please visit: www.consumersenergy.com/foundation.