

What are Non-Profit SMART Grants?

Non-Profit SMART Grants support Basin non-profits and First Nations to increase their energy efficiency, generate renewable energy, adapt to the impacts of climate change, and/or reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

This Program has two funding streams:

- **Stream 1** – Electric Vehicles & Charging Stations.
This Program Guide is for Stream 1.
- **Stream 2** – Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Improvements to Buildings.
The Program Guide for Stream 2 can be found [HERE](#).

How much will the Trust fund and what types of costs are eligible?

The cumulative maximum grant amount through Non-Profit SMART Grants for Stream 1 and Stream 2 is \$150,000 total per applicant.

Eligible projects for Stream 1 must fit at least one of the following categories:

Electric Vehicles

Eligible Project Costs

Purchase of a new electric or plug-in hybrid vehicle (collectively “EV”) for use in Basin communities.

- Eligible EVs must be:
 - included on the current [CleanBC Eligible Vehicle List](#) or the [EVAP Eligible Vehicle List](#);
 - replacing an existing fossil fuel vehicle currently owned by the organization or adding a new fleet vehicle that will reduce the use of staff owned fossil fuel vehicles; and
 - used only for the transportation of clients, staff, equipment, or materials related to core operations.
- Any vehicle features/model type must directly tie to operational requirements and demonstrated need, and the Trust reserves the right to approve the features/model type.

Maximum Grant Amount

Up to 75% of eligible costs to a maximum of \$75,000 towards the purchase of one EV.

Quotes including applicable fees, taxes, and shipping must be provided with the application.

Charging Stations

Eligible Project Costs

- Purchase and installation of up to two EV charging stations located at non-profit or First Nation community sites for fleet vehicle use.

Maximum Grant Amount

Up to 50% for installing up to two charging stations to a cumulative maximum of \$20,000.

Applications that demonstrate need and communities that do not have an existing charging station will be prioritized.

Quotes including supply and installation must be provided with the application.

Electric Vehicles & Charging Stations 2026 Program Guide

Who can apply?

You can apply if you are a registered non-profit with broad community impact or First Nation in the Columbia Basin region (ourtrust.org/map).

Eligible non-profit organizations include but are not limited to:

- Social service agencies, organizations or societies;
- BC Métis societies, associations and Chartered Communities;
- Food banks/food recovery initiatives;
- Libraries/reading centers;
- Seniors societies or associations;
- Community halls, visitor centres;
- Arts, culture, and heritage venues (theatres, galleries, and museums); and
- Non-profit societies that operate childcare facilities.

When is the deadline to apply?

Apply by **May 13, 2026, at 2:00 pm PT / 3:00 pm MT.**

What types of projects are not eligible?

Ineligible projects include projects that are intended for:

- personal use of staff/volunteers;
- uses that do not tie directly to operational requirements and demonstrated need;
- renting out to generate revenue (i.e. carshare);
- rideshare;
- relieving any level of government of its obligations; or
- use outside of the Basin.

Individual project eligibility is determined by the Trust at its sole discretion.

What types of costs are not eligible?

Ineligible costs include but may not be limited to:

- maintenance and administration costs;
- GST amounts that are subject to rebates; and
- costs that are incurred before funding approval (retroactive costs).

How does the Trust select projects for funding?

The Trust often receives requests for more funding than what is available and will prioritize requests from eligible applicants that demonstrate:

- the project meets the program eligibility listed above;
- significant and measurable project impacts that align with the program intent;
- readiness to move forward in the stated timelines;
- planning for long term maintenance and repairs; and
- confirmed financial commitments and local economic benefit.

The Trust strives to distribute Program funds across communities, organizations, and project types and will consider this as part of the adjudication of all applications.

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When will organizations hear the results?

We will contact you by email at the address you provide. Successful applicants will receive a Contribution Agreement for signature and funding will be provided after both parties have signed.

When can a project begin?

Funds can only be used for approved project expenses that occur **after** a Contribution Agreement has been signed.

What else to keep in mind?

Even if a project meets eligibility criteria, it may not be selected for funding as the Trust often receives requests for more funding than what is available. The Trust retains the right to determine project eligibility and the amount of funding allocated to each project; this may be all or part of what was requested.

Depending on the nature of the project, applicants may have to obtain specific permits and approvals prior to receiving Trust funds.

Ready to apply?

1. Email nonprofitSMART@ourtrust.org or call 1.800.505.8998 if you have questions or to discuss your project idea.
2. Start your application. Use the [application worksheet](#) to develop it offline, if preferred.
3. Complete the [online application before the deadline](#).