

Student Environmental Initiatives Fee Guidelines
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Statement of Purpose

Student Environmental Initiatives funds shall be administered as established by the Student Environmental Initiatives Committee Charter with the purpose of identifying, researching, and recommending specific uses of funds generated by the Student Environmental Initiatives portion of the Facilities Services Fee. That portion of the fee shall be used to support environmental stewardship and sustainability, fund the implementation of clean and renewable energy technologies, and the improvement of energy efficiency and conservation at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Committee Requirements

The Student Environmental Initiatives Committee will manage the funds according to the guidelines outlined below. Additional tasks include:

Meet at least three times per semester, or more as the committee deems necessary;
The committee shall review proposed projects; vote on, approve, and/or disprove recommended projects;
Compose a portfolio of projects to be published to the University community in an annual report;
Research applicable rebate and governmental programs in an effort to gain additional funding;
Maintain a means for the Campus community to propose projects for consideration.

The chairperson will be responsible for calling meetings, designating special meeting times when necessary, creating agendas for meetings, notifying members of the Committee of all meeting times at least 72 hours in advance, keeping attendance records, holding any Subcommittees and their Chairs accountable for their assignments, and maintaining order during meetings.

One person from the committee will serve as secretary. The chairperson will appoint the secretary. The Secretary shall maintain organization of records and detailed meeting minutes. The Secretary shall submit minutes to the Committee within one week of meetings. Once approved, all meeting minutes shall be sent to all members and if possible published on the Sustainability website.

Projects

Projects and proposals should fall under the following categories, but not limited to:

Energy and Utilities (electric, gas, water, etc.)
Local and/or regional generation (Renewables – solar, wind, etc.)
Alternative Fuel (Hybrid vehicles, Bio-diesel projects, etc.)
Environmental Education
Other (Environmental, Recycling, etc.)

Examples of acceptable projects may include:

Automated off-hours computer and lighting shutdown equipment
On-site photovoltaic systems
Geothermal heating and cooling systems
Increased thermal insulation in buildings and systems
Other load-reduction or energy-control technologies
Application fees such as AASHE, LEED certification, when it is applicable;
Purchasing renewable energy with preference to that provided by Tennessee Valley Authority

Committee actions shall be posted to The University of Tennessee, Knoxville sustainability website.