Attention Teachers & Local School Administrators!

Apply for your 2026-2027 Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grants

Does your school or classroom need new materials?
Can your students benefit from new programs and educational resources?

Clinton County Electric Cooperative is again coordinating our grant program with Touchstone Energy for our local private and public Pre-K-12 teachers and administrators. Eight grants of $500 will be provided for innovative, unfunded projects or materials. Qualifying projects are those that improve the learning environment or increase educational resources for the school.

Grant applications are due by **November 6, 2026.** Grant awards will be announced on **December 7, 2026**. An impartial panel of judges will determine which projects will be awarded the grants. For grant applications and guidelines, please visit our website at www.cceci.com or contact Katy Singler at 1-800-526-7282.

Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

Touchstone Energy®
Cooperatives

Touchstone Energy® Fact Sheet

Touchstone Energy Cooperatives is an alliance of more than 760 local, member-owned electric cooperatives across the country committed to providing superior service to all members, large and small. Touchstone Energy–the national brand of electric cooperatives–has core values that consumers have long associated with cooperatives: integrity, accountability, innovation, and genuine commitment to their communities.

Touchstone Energy cooperatives use the resources of a national network and take advantage of economies of scale to enhance their unique relationships with their local member-owners. They provide high standards of service to all customers–residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural.

Touchstone Energy -

* Communicates electric cooperatives' unique characteristics in a changing marketplace where these values and differences matter more each day
* Emphasizes the significance of each electric cooperative's local presence and unique ties to the community, but offers the advantages of a nationwide network to bring added value and benefit to all consumers
* Represents electric cooperatives' unique characteristics in a changing marketplace where these values and differences matter more each day.
* Produces award-winning advertising and communications materials
* Places television ads on various networks, including CNBC, CNN, The Weather Channel, A&E, Discovery and Direct TV and print ads in national publications, including Time, Newsweek and U.S. News and World Reports
* Teams up with respected national partners like Discovery Channel School, the American Football Coaches Association and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to provide programs that local cooperatives can use to enhance the quality of life in the communities they serve
* Delivers valuable employee education programs that equip employees with the skills to communicate the cooperative difference and provide top-notch customer service
* Provides the tools to evaluate and improve consumer satisfaction
* Offers an array of services and programs to enhance cooperative relationships with business and residential customers

For more information, contact your local Touchstone Energy cooperative or visit www.touchstoneenergy.com.

Attention Teachers and Administrators!

Have a project you'd like funded?

Touchstone Energy
Classroom Empowerment Grants

Touchstone Energy®
Cooperatives

Enter **Touchstone Energy's Classroom Empowerment Grant Competition** and your submission could win up to $500 to fund classroom and educational enhancement projects!

Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grants are being funded by **Clinton County Electric Cooperative,** (CCEC) for the 2026-2027 school year. See the enclosed fact sheet for more information about Touchstone Energy or log on to www.touchstoneenergy.coop. To apply for a grant, send a **double-spaced typewritten request (not to exceed 3 pages)** that includes the following:

1. A description of the project and what it will accomplish
2. The estimated cost of the project
3. An explanation of why outside funds are necessary to complete the project
4. Whether funding options have been pursued, and if so, how
5. When project will be completed
6. The number of people affected by the project
7. If the project's goals are measurable, and how
8. How the project ties in Touchstone Energy's four core values of integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community

Although electric-oriented projects aren't required, extra consideration will be given to projects that are electric oriented. Photos and supporting data are optional. Grant applications must be received at CCEC **by November 6, 2026**. For questions, please call Katy Singler with Clinton County Electric Cooperative at (800) 526-7282 or e-mail at singler@cceci.com. Entries will be evaluated by an impartial panel of judges. Awards will be announced on or before December 7, 2026.

Clinton County
Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

Touchstone Energy®
Cooperatives

Touchstone Energy
2026/2027 Classroom Empowerment Grant Application

Applicant's Name _____ Title_____

School Name _____

School Address _____

Daytime Phone Number ( ) _____ E-mail _____

Local Touchstone Energy Cooperative _____

Project Submitted _____

Eligibility is limited to schools located in Clinton County Electric Cooperative (CCEC) service areas. Teachers and administrators of Pre-K-12 public and private schools may apply. For more information about Touchstone Energy, see the enclosed fact sheet or log on to www.touchstoneenergy.coop. CCEC reserves the right to photograph the grant winners and use the photos for publicity purposes. Projects must be completed by the time school is out for the summer. 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 before the end of the 2026-2027 school year.**

Deadline: This application form and typewritten request must be received by your local electric cooperative by mail, e-mail or fax **on or before November 6, 2026**. Please include the following information in the written request: a description of the project and what it will accomplish; the estimated cost of the project; an explanation of why outside funds are necessary to complete the project; whether funding options have been pursued; when project will be completed; the number of people affected by the project; if/how the project's goals are measurable; and how the project ties in Touchstone Energy's four core values of **integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community**. Awards will be announced on or before December 7, 2026.

To submit any applications or for further information, contact:

Katy Singler
singler@cceci.com
Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc.
PO Box 40
Breese, IL 62230
618-526-7282

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

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____
(Teacher or Administrator)

If I receive the grant, I pledge to follow all completion requirements and provide written proof of completion before the end of the 2026-2027 school year. If the proof of completion is not submitted by the end of the school year, the grant monies will be returned in full to CCEC.