



Operation Round Up Funding and Application Guidelines

EQUS was the first co-operative in Canada to obtain permission to use the Trademarked name and implement an Operation Round Up program, modelling it after the concept created by Palmetto Electric Cooperative in 1989. Since its inaugural year (2016), EQUS and the Operation Round Up Committee has distributed over \$235,000 to project, initiatives, and programs in the EQUS Service Area.

The goal of the program is to provide a one-time or limited time investment into a project, initiative, or program that benefits the rural communities that EQUS serves. The EQUS Service Area spans 26 municipal districts and counties from as far north as the County of Barrhead No. 11 and as far south as the U.S. border. Those applying for Operation Round Up funding must demonstrate how their project will make a positive impact on one of three priority recipients: seniors, children, and youth.

Applications must be received on or before the application due dates to be considered. Application deadlines will be published in various EQUS communications (website, newsletter, social media, etc.). Applicants will be notified in writing once a decision is reached.

Funding application cycles are as follows:

- Quarter 1: January 1 to March 31, application accepted with funds disbursed in April.
- Quarter 2: April 1 to June 30, applications accepted with funds disbursed in July.
- Quarter 3: July 1 to September 30, applications accepted with funds disbursed in October.
- Quarter 4: October 1 to December 31 applications accepted, with funds disbursed in January

Operation Round Up is not intended to fund day-to-day operating expenses, such as employee wages, insurance costs, or overhead expenses. Projects that can use Operation Round Up Funds to leverage additional funds or investments from other private or public sector sources will be given priority consideration.

All requirements outlined in the application must be completed in order for the application to be considered. Neither EQUS nor the Operation Round Up Committee will be responsible for notifying applicants if requirements are not met. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

The Operation Round Up Committee reserves the right to request additional information deemed necessary from the applicant to make an effective funding decision. The applicant has the option of providing the requested information or withdrawing their application at that time. Applications may also be tabled and reviewed during a future cycle in order to gather additional information from the applicant.

Applicants may only apply for funding once each calendar year, per project, for a maximum of two consecutive years, unless indicated otherwise by the Committee.

Successful applicants will also be required to provide a project report within 90 days of the funding release date, or within 30 days of the funded project/program completion (whichever occurs first). This report will confirm how the Operation Round Up funds aided in the success of the project. An itemized expense outline, including receipts whenever applicable, and/or substantiation of the successful project completion is also required in this report. A portion of the full funding amount may be held in reserve for certain projects and released only upon receipt of the final project report.