



Tern Foundation
2010-2011 Tern*SOLAR* Challenge Grant Program
Inquiry Guidelines

Tern Mission

Tern Foundation supports programs and organizations that embrace creativity and collaboration as a means to positively impact local communities. We provide funding—and nurture innovative opportunities—in the areas of arts and culture, peace education initiatives, and environmental sustainability and conservation.

Tern*SOLAR* Challenge Grant Program

Tern's premiere environmental initiative, Tern*SOLAR*, provides funding assistance for solar panel system installations on Cape Cod together with energy efficient design/building, offered to nonprofit organizations that engage creatively and strengthen the communities they serve.

Structured as a challenge/matching grant, the funding provides an opportunity to engage and educate Cape Cod communities on the many benefits of energy efficiency with solar power as a renewable energy option.

A key objective of the Tern*SOLAR* challenge grant program is to leverage the success of funded projects over time by promoting them as learning opportunities to increase energy efficiency and sustainable design practices, ultimately to help preserve the natural environment and ecosystems on Cape Cod.

Who is Eligible?

Qualified nonprofit organizations on Cape Cod are eligible if they meet the following criteria:

- The organization is advancing a mission that aligns with Tern Foundation's mission.
- The organization must own the building and/or land where the solar panels will be installed.
- The organization has shown a commitment to energy efficiency with respect to the building where the solar panels will be installed.
- The organization has researched the feasibility of solar panels for their location.
- The organization will own the solar panel system (vs. lease) upon installation.

What are the Grant Amounts?

Grants range from \$7,500–\$10,000 per recipient, per year. Tern Foundation will match (dollar for dollar up to the amount of the grant awarded) the funds raised by the recipient organization's matching fundraising campaign. Tern will consider two-year grants for recipients.

What is the Application Process?

Applications are by invitation only, but we are very interested in learning about your solar project. We encourage you to send a Letter of Inquiry, signed by the individual who will be in charge of the solar project. The Letter of Inquiry should include the following:

- Your organization's mission and how it aligns with Tern Foundation's. Include a concise description of your programs/services and describe how you engage creatively and collaboratively with your target audiences and community.
 - A clear description of the solar project for which you need funding, including existing or planned key energy efficient aspects of the building (in addition to the solar panels).
 - A short bio (name and qualifications) of the individual who will be leading the matching grant fundraising campaign.
- If your organization meets the eligibility criteria outlined on the first page, please email (PDF file only) a Letter of Inquiry to Lisa Linnehan, Co-Director: info@ternfoundation.org

What happens after Tern receives the Letter of Inquiry?

Shortly after we receive your Letter of Inquiry, we will contact you to confirm receipt, and to indicate whether or not we would like to arrange a site visit to meet with you and discuss your solar project.

Thank you for your interest in the TernSOLAR Challenge Grant Program!