MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Sunday, September 27, 2026

MTSU Sustainable Campus Fee Funding Request Form

The Sustainable Campus Fee (SCF) supports projects that advance sustainability at MTSU. This form allows students, faculty, and staff to propose initiatives that contribute to a greener campus through energy efficiency upgrades, infrastructure improvements, education, research, and efforts to enhance campus biodiversity.

There are 5 sections to the application: Section I: Contact Information, Section II: Project Category, Section III: Project Description, Section IV: Project Cost, and Section V: Project Performance Information (For applicable projects).

The Sustainable Campus Fee is administered through a partnership with the Office of Student Affairs, the Center for Student Involvement & Leadership, and the Center for Energy and Sustainability (CES).

Date Sunday, September 27, 2026

Request Number ***SCFR27000068***

1. Name Russell Miller

Email Russell.Miller@mtsu.edu **Phone Number** (615) 948-8957

SECTION II: Project Category

Please note that all proposed projects will have to comply with MTSU campus guidelines and recommendations.

1. Select the category that best describes the project. (Select One - See Descriptions Below)

Energy Conservation/Efficiency

CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

Energy Conservation/Efficiency - (e.g. installing LED light bulbs, adding insulation to walls, replacing old appliances with energy-efficient models, installing programmable lighting, etc.)

Renewable Energy - (e.g. implementing projects to harness naturally replenishing sources like wind, water, and sunlight to generate electricity - like solar-powered picnic tables, etc.)

Sustainable Transportation - (e.g. installing covered bike racks, replacing fuel vehicles with electric vehicles, etc.)

Alternative Fuels - (e.g. setting up electric vehicle charging stations, implementing hybrid or electric vehicles, purchasing electric or propane power equipment, etc.)

Recycling - (e.g. purchasing recycling bins, improving signage, recycling difficult materials, etc.)

Waste Reduction - (e.g. establishing a reuseable to-go container program, reducing food waste, installing waterbottle filling stations, etc.)

Water Conservation - (e.g. purchasing rain barrels, creating a rain garden, switching to low-flow water fixtures, installing low-flow water valves, etc.)

Biodiversity - (e.g. planting pollinator garden, tree planting, installing bird boxes, etc.)

Education - (e.g. hosting a sustainability fair to raise awareness about green practices, hosting bike repair and/or safety workshops)

Research and Innovation - (e.g. researching the effects of microplastics, solar feasibility study, etc.)

SECTION III: Project Description

Please include as much detail as possible in this section. The more information you provide, the better equipped the adjudication committee will be to fully understand your request and make an informed decision.

To expand a text box, click and drag the two diagonal lines in the bottom-right corner. This allows you to adjust the size and view of your content as you type.

1. Project Title

DSB Heating Hot Water Pump 1 VFD Installation

2. Scope: Work to be accomplished

Purchase and install a variable frequency drive in place of the motor starter. Run additional control wires to allow for expanded automation system control of them.

3. Scope: Benefit Statement

VFDs can adjust the speed of the motors to allow for more efficient operation and conservation of energy by only running them as fast as they need to run to serve the building. They also allow for soft start and stop of the equipment which reduces wear and tear and extends service life.

4. Location of Project

DSB Heat Exchanger mechanical room

5. Participants and Roles

Facilities Services and Energy Services

6. Student Participation in the project and/or Student Benefit from the project

More reliable operation of the system reducing downtime and increasing serviceability.

7. Future Operating and/or Maintenance Requirements

VFDs require periodic inspection for proper operation. They operate for years with minimal maintenance required and should reduce the maintenance necessary for the motors they are attached to by increasing the life of components such as couplings and bearings.

8. Additional Comments or Information Pertinent to the Proposed Project

Any supporting documents or attachments will be on the pages following the SCF Request.

Note, all projects are expected to be completed by December 31, 2026.

SECTION IV: Project Costs

1. Project Cost Estimate 12000

2. Source of Estimate

Middle Tennessee Mechanical quote with additional cost added for integration to the automation system

3. Has previous funding from this source been awarded?

No

If Yes, please explain how this request differs from previous funding request.

SECTION V: Project Performance Information

If your project is expected to reduce energy consumption (e.g. through lighting upgrades or HVAC improvements etc.), please provide an estimate of potential savings. Feel free to contact the Center for Energy and Sustainability for help making these calculations at ces@mtsu.edu.

1. Estimated Annual Energy Savings (Estimated in kW, kWh, Btu, etc.)

18,000 kWh

2. Annual Energy COST Savings ($)

$1,710

3. Annual Operating Cost Savings or Other Cost Savings. Specify in dollar amount, if applicable. ($)

4. Matching or Supplementary Funding (Identify and explain, if applicable)

Acknowledgment

I acknowledge that a project summary and photo must be submitted, if I am awarded funding and upon completion of the project.

Supporting Documentation or Attachments if provided.