

COOL CONGREGATIONS Challenge



Interfaith Power & Light

Entries Due
December 15, 2017

Entry Guide

Entry Deadline & Method

December 15, 2017

Find entry form at:
www.coolcongregations.org

Be Prepared with the Following

While the Challenge entry form is fairly short, we recommend that you come to the website entry form prepared with the following: contact information for your congregation and point person, short narratives (250 words or less) describing your project, challenges and creative solutions, estimated cost savings and carbon reductions, and a photo capturing the essence of your entry.

NOTE: If you're entering the project planning category, please be prepared to include your congregation's baseline energy use (before improvements). We provide handy calculators at coolcongregations.org. Include your project plan.

Entry Categories

Examples

1. Cool Congregations Planner	Audits	Planning documents
2. Energy Saver	Lighting Windows & Doors	Heating & Cooling Systems Insulation & Inserts
3. Renewable Role Model	Solar Geothermal	Wind Solar Water Heating
4. Sacred Grounds Steward	Native Landscaping Bike Racks Recycling & Composting	Water Conservation Wildlife habitats Organic Gardening
5. Community Inspiration	This includes congregations working within their communities to assist in adapting to or coping with climate change. It also includes congregations inspiring members to reduce their footprint at home.	

Cool Congregations Challenge is a program of Interfaith Power & Light. Enter at coolcongregations.org

Entry Guidelines & Eligibility

Projects of any size must be completed by **December 15, 2017** to qualify.

Congregations may enter up to three categories, but must fill out a separate entry form for each category they wish to enter. **Visit coolcongregations.org to enter. There is no fee to enter.**

The Challenge is open to congregations of any size or denomination interested in becoming more energy efficient and sustainable.

Projects can take place anywhere as long as they are run through a congregation. That means inside the sanctuary or other buildings, on the grounds, in congregants' homes, or in the community.

Congregations may enter, or individuals and teams may enter on behalf of a congregation.

Awards

Five cash prizes of \$1,000 each to the five first place winner in each category.

Certificates suitable for framing awarded to prize winners and runners-up.

Prize money will be awarded to congregations only, and not to individuals.

Judging Process & Criteria

Winners will be chosen by an interfaith panel of faith and lay-leaders, including others with expertise in congregational energy efficiency and sustainability. Each entry will be judged on a combination of factors:

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| • A well-defined project, measurable objectives for climate benefit | 40% |
| • Creativity and resourcefulness in executing the project | 20% |
| • Congregant and/or community engagement in project or planning | 20% |
| • Inspiration factor. Will this project inspire others? | 20% |

The percentage awarded in each category will serve as a guideline and the judges will apply their knowledge and experience to evaluate and select the finalists and winners.

Announcement of Winners

Winners will be announced via email, web and media by the end of February 2018. Winners and runners-up will automatically be considered for [Certified Cool Congregation](#) status.

Questions?

Entry questions not answered here can be sent to kari@theregenerationproject.org. You may also call IPL at (415) 561-4891. Please allow up to 48 hours for an answer. Thank you!