

## Smart Energy Decisions Educational Grant Program

Since 2017, Smart Energy Decisions (SED) Educational Grant program has provided hundreds of grants to qualified buyer executives from large electric power users interested in attending SED events.

The following information on SED's Educational Grant program is provided for compliance departments who need details on how the program works.

SED makes the Educational Grants available through a blind pool which is funded by a portion of sponsorship fees collected from all event sponsors. The Grants are used directly to pay for airfare, hotel room night and food costs related to the event of qualified buyer executives. The blind pool ensures that no single sponsor is funding the educational grant for any individual buyer executive. Further, as Smart Energy Decisions will not bid as a supplier on any buyer executive projects, SED does not have a supplier relationship with attending buyer executives. The use of a blind pool of funds and the fact that SED is not soliciting business from buyer executives, combine to provide an Educational Grant program that meets with the approval of most compliance departments.

<u>Grant Option 1:</u> Full Grant Program – SED Grant covers the costs for the buyer executive's airfare, hotel and meals during the event.

<u>Grant Option 2:</u> Complimentary Registration and Hotel – Buyer executive works with SED operations team to coordinate travel times and pays for their own airfare. SED Grant covers executive buyer's conference registration and hotel (room & tax).

<u>Grant Option 3</u> – Complimentary Registration – Executive buyer works with SED operations team to coordinate travel times and pays for their own airfare and hotel costs. SED Grant covers executive buyer's event registration costs only.

The unique educational content and peer networking at SED events provide an invaluable experience whether an executive buyer accepts the educational grant or not. SED's Grant program is simply provided to address the reality that travel budgets are tight and stretched thin.

There is absolutely ZERO obligation for an executive buyer to do business with any of the suppliers participating in the event. SED's only requirement is that executive buyers come ready to learn, attend the general sessions and case studies, network with peers and meet with suppliers that they select during the one on one meetings segment of the event.

Please let us know if you have any questions. We hope you'll be able to join us and participate in our Educational Grant program.