

2023 West Central Electric Cooperative Electrical Distribution Systems Scholarship Application

I. General Description

West Central Electric Cooperative, Higginsville, Missouri, will accept applications from students interested in pursuing a degree in Electrical Distribution Systems at an accredited institution in Missouri, Kansas or Iowa. This program provides for students a scholarship as well as on-the-job training. General provisions of the scholarship are as follows:

II. Eligibility Requirements

- A. Applicant should reside in the West Central Electric Cooperative service area.
- B. Applicant shall be expected to participate in an interview with the cooperative general manager and/or staff representatives in April of the application year.
- C. Applicant should be a student in good academic standing with a minimum 2.5 high school cumulative GPA, or GED with 260 minimum score.
- D. Applicant should be admitted as a full-time student to the school of choice, and be accepted into that institution's Electrical Distribution Systems Program.
- E. Applicant should attend school commencing during the Fall semester immediately following receipt of the application.
- F. Applicant is required to complete a summer internship at West Central Electric Cooperative.

III. Selection Criteria and Award of Scholarship

- A. To be considered, applicants must submit a complete application by the scholarship **application deadline of April 1, 2023**. The criteria used to evaluate applications for award will be based upon the following:
 - Academic achievement
 - Civic involvement
 - Leadership
 - Ability to communicate clearly-defined personal goals through personal goal statement (on application)
 - Financial need
 - Interview conducted by the general manager and/or cooperative staff
- B. **Selection Priority:** This is a one-time annual scholarship awarded to full-time students attending an accredited EDS program. West Central Electric Cooperative will determine the number of awards based on need and the number of applicants as well as the availability of funds. In the event a student is unable to fulfill the requirement of full-time enrollment for the fall semester in the year the scholarship is awarded, the scholarship may be transferred to the next available alternate.
- C. **Scholarship Award:** The scholarship provides up to \$5,000 annually to begin in the fall semester upon the student's verified enrollment. The scholarship may be used for the cost of tuition, fees, books, tools, and/or other costs associated with a student's education. The scholarship is renewable each semester if the recipient meets the continued expectations of the scholarship, up to \$10,000 maximum per recipient.

IV. Application

Deadline for application to assure consideration for the next following academic year is **April 1, 2023**. Please submit the following to be considered:

- Letter of acceptance to an accredited institution and admittance to the school's EDS program.
- High school transcript, college transcript or official GED score report.
- Complete scholarship application, including personal goal statement.
- Two letters of character reference.
- Applications may be printed and mailed along with transcript or GED report and letters, or you may apply online at www.westcentralelectric.coop under the heading "Youth Programs." If you apply online, please mail your high school transcript or GED score report and your letters of reference. Applications

submitted via email must arrive by **4:30 p.m. April 1, 2023**. Please also either email your photo as a .jpg to heather@wcecoop.com or mail a photograph along with your transcript and letters.

- Applications may be mailed to West Central Electric Cooperative, Inc., Attention: Heather Hoflander. P.O. Box 452, Higginsville, MO 64037.

V. Expectations of the Scholarship Recipient

- A. Recipient must maintain 3.0 GPA per semester. There will be a one (1) semester probation should the student's grades fall below a 3.0 GPA. Failure to return to a 3.0 could mean loss of scholarship. Applicant will provide the cooperative with a transcript at the end of each semester.
- B. Recipient must attend all classes and work as scheduled. Excessive school attendance absences may result in suspension or termination of the remainder of the scholarship benefits.
- C. Recipient must comply with the institution's student policies and rules. Failure to abide by such policies and rules may result in suspension or termination of the remainder of the scholarship benefits.
- D. Recipient must contractually agree to work at West Central Electric Cooperative for four years following completion of the degree. A copy of the employment contract is attached as Exhibit A. The receipt of this scholarship is expressly contingent upon the successful applicant executing said employment contract, Exhibit A. Failure to complete the contract would mean reimbursement of the scholarship based on incomplete term. Employment after graduation will be solely at the discretion of West Central Electric Cooperative management. The employment contract may be changed or terminated at any time due to employee misconduct or if a position is not available.
- E. In the event the student initially awarded the scholarship is unable to fulfill the requirement of full-time enrollment for the fall semester, the scholarship may be awarded to the next available alternate.
- F. Release of Information: In submitting the application, the applicant grants permission for the scholarship committee to review high school and college transcripts and to contact character references. Submission of the application also grants permission to promote and publicize the scholarship and recipient(s).
- G. Recipient must submit an official transcript to West Central Electric Cooperative at the conclusion of each semester to verify eligibility and GPA.

VI. Winners' Notification

Recipients of the scholarship will be notified by **May 1, 2023**.

**2023 West Central Electric Cooperative
Electrical Distribution Systems Scholarship Application**

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email address: _____

Parents' names: _____

Birthdate: _____

High school graduate? (Y/N) _____ GED? (Y/N) _____ ACT or COMPASS score: _____

Schools attended:	Date Started	Date Ended
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High School _____		
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Date of graduation: _____	Grade point average (4-point scale): _____	
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	Date Started	Date Ended
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College _____

Number of semesters completed: _____ Grade point average (4-point scale): _____

1. Submit a statement relative to your educational and vocational goals. You might include what your plans and aspirations are for the future, and what values you hold to be important to your development. (You may use an extra sheet if necessary.)

4. Please provide any additional information related to scholarship criteria that you want the selection committee to consider when reviewing your application. Please attach additional pages if needed.

Character Reference #1

Name: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Character Reference #2

Name: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

*****To be completed after scholarship is awarded*****

EXHIBIT A -- EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

I, _____, currently
residing at _____ do hereby
agree to work four (4) uninterrupted years for West Central Electric Cooperative. The term of the employment will begin following a three-month summer internship and the satisfactory completion of the Electrical Distributions Systems Program at an accredited institution. This employment will be considered full-time employment with full benefits and privileges as provided to all employees. The pay rate will be competitive and will be determined at the beginning of full-time employment. Failure to complete the contract would result in reimbursement of the scholarship based on incomplete term. Employment after graduation will be solely at the discretion of WCE management. WCE reserves the right to not hire or terminate employment at any time.

Should I, _____, fail to complete the agreed term or violate company policies which result in termination, I agree to repay the total scholarship cost awarded to me prorated as follows: The total cost divided by 48 months, then multiplied by the months of employment not completed. If employment is terminated due to employee misconduct, I will be required to repay the total scholarship.

Agreed: Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

SS#: _____

Approved: Name: _____

Title: _____

West Central Electric Cooperative

Witness: Name: _____

Address: _____