



Columbia Rural Electric Association

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

\$2,500 Jeff Meredith Memorial Scholarship Program Application

Application to any recognized lineman school offering a recognized Electrical Lineworker Program (ELP) which prepares an individual to work for utility and power line construction companies as an entry-level Lineworker.

Applicant Information

Last Name	First	M.I.	Date
Street Address		Apartment/Unit #	
City	State	ZIP Code	
Phone	E-mail Address		

Overview:

There is one Columbia REA Jeff Meredith Scholarship available each year. This scholarship project is intended to increase your knowledge and understanding of cooperative electric companies. You are required to produce a report describing Columbia REA and why you are interested in being a lineworker. You are encouraged to produce a report that is interesting, factual, free of grammatical errors and well presented. In addition, you must meet all of the below listed requirements. If you are the successful recipient, \$2,500 will be paid to your school account upon confirmation of your enrollment at a recognized ELP as per Columbia REA Policy 206A. Applicants must complete a recognized ELP within 24 months of enrollment in the lineworker program (ELP) to be eligible. This scholarship is non-transferable to a future ELP. The selected recipient of the scholarship will be notified by mail. Applicants not selected will also be notified by mail.

Requirements:

1. Permanent place of residence must be within the Northwest area (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska and Montana).
2. Anyone whose permanent place of residence is located within one of the CREA districts as established by the Board of Directors of Columbia REA will be given preference.
3. At the time of application, the applicant must be a high school graduate or a graduating high school senior.
4. Applicant must meet the admission requirements, be accepted into and complete a recognized ELP within 24 months of enrollment.
5. A typed 350 word essay (12 pt Arial font) in applicant's own words, single spaced.
 - IN THE REPORT** - Discuss the following:
 - Knowledge of electric cooperatives and specifically Columbia REA.
 - Why you are interested in line work?
 - How did you learn about the lineman trade?
 - Provide a statement explaining your knowledge of utilities and the linemen trade.
 - Describe tools, equipment, and safety requirement that you are familiar with in relation to this trade.
 - Describe your knowledge of a Journeyman Lineman Apprenticeship Program within the northwest.
6. Applicant will provide an official copy of high school transcripts or GED, a list of community involvement, and a minimum of two letters of recommendation.
7. This completed application form must be the cover sheet of the report.
8. If student fails to complete and graduate from the ELP within 24 months from enrollment, the \$2,500 scholarship funds shall be returned to Columbia REA.

The completed application must be sent to: Columbia REA, Attn: Charlotte Bouta, 2929 Melrose Street, Walla Walla, WA 99362 post-marked no later than **February 23, 2017** for the following ELP school enrollment.

This scholarship carries NO guarantee of employment with Columbia REA.

Applicant's Statement

I certify that this report is in my own words and is not plagiarized or copied from any other sources.

Signature	Date
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Jeff Meredith Memorial Scholarship Program Overview

I Objective

To provide continuing support by assisting the applicant with educational opportunities, and to heighten awareness of the rural electric program. Specifically, to prepare individuals to work for utility and power lines construction companies as entry-level line workers wherein the pool of qualified line workers will be enhanced.

II Eligible Candidates

Permanent place of residence must be within the Northwest area (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska and Montana). Anyone whose permanent place of residence is located within one of the CREA districts as established by the Board of Directors of Columbia REA will be given preference.

III Qualification

- A. It is not necessary for the candidate or their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) to be a member of Columbia REA.
- B. At the time of application, the candidate must be a high school graduate or a graduating high school senior, or hold a GED.
- C. Applicant may use the scholarship at any recognized electric lineman training school.
- D. Applicant must be enrolled or planning to enroll in a recognized lineman training school offering an Electrical Lineworker Program (ELP) which prepares students to work for utility and power line construction companies as entry-level line workers.
- E. Applicant must meet the admission requirements and be accepted into and successfully complete a recognized ELP within 24 calendar months of the award.

IV Procedures

- A. Applicant must submit a typed minimum 350 word essay (Arial font 12 pt) in applicant's own words, and be single spaced. Discuss the following:
 - Knowledge of electric cooperatives and specifically Columbia REA
 - Why you are interested in line work?
 - How did you learn about the lineman trade?
 - Provide a statement explaining your knowledge of electric utilities and the linemen trade.
 - Describe tools, equipment, and safety requirements that you are familiar with in relation to this trade.
 - Describe your knowledge of a Journeyman Lineman Apprenticeship Program within the Northwest.
- B. Applicant will provide an official copy of high school transcripts or GED, a list of community involvement, and a minimum of two letters of recommendation.
- C. The completed application form must be the cover sheet of your report.
- D. The completed application must be sent to Columbia REA no later than the designated deadline.

V Limitations

- A. \$2,500 will be issued to the recipients account at school upon confirmation of recipient's enrollment at a recognized ELP, including:
 - 1. Letter of acceptance from the ELP; and
 - 2. Affirmation by the CREA review committee
- B. Unused scholarship funds will be retained by Columbia REA, and could be awarded at a later year are approved by the CEO.
- C. Scholarships are not transferable to another individual.
- D. Students must maintain applicable eligibility requirements. If student fails to complete and graduate from the ELP within 24 months from enrollment, the \$2,500 scholarship funds shall be returned to Columbia REA.

VI Selection Criteria

- A. General selection criteria will include the following considerations:
 - 1. Eligibility
 - 2. Presentation and content of assigned essay
 - 3. School and/or Community Involvement
 - 4. Two letters of recommendation
 - 5. Membership preference

- B. The Selection Committee will evaluate all eligible and complete applications. After each member of the Selection Committee provides scores for each application, the Selection Committee scores will be averaged for each candidate. The applicant with the highest average scores will be awarded the scholarship. The following point scale will be used by each member of the Selection Committee to evaluate the applications:

Description	Possible Points
Member Preference	10
School and Community Involvement	25
Letters of Recommendation	15
350-Word Essay	50
Total Possible Points	100