

OEC Technical / Trade School Scholarship - 2023

PURPOSE:

Ohio's Electric Cooperatives (OEC) offers this scholarship to help cooperative members, and/or dependents of cooperative members, pursue Technical / Trade School certificates.

ADVERTISING/APPLICATIONS:

This scholarship is advertised in *Ohio Cooperative Living* magazine every March and April. Applications and rules are available online from March 1 – April 30 of each year.

SCHOLARSHIPS:

Applicants will be eligible to win up to a \$2,000 scholarship.

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

The following provisions govern the eligibility of applicants for the OEC Technical / Trade School Scholarship:

1. Applicants may be high school graduates enrolling in a Technical / Trade School program, current Technical / Trade School enrollees, and/or students enrolling in a post-undergraduate Technical / Trade School program. Applicants must plan to attend and/or currently attend an accredited Technical / Trade School school program.
2. Applicants must be: permanent residential members of an Ohio electric distribution cooperative, and/or their dependent children/legal wards.
3. Ohio electric distribution cooperative employees who are permanent residential members of an Ohio electric distribution cooperative, and/or their dependent children/legal wards **may** also apply.
4. Commercial electric cooperative members and their dependent children/legal wards are not eligible unless they are also permanent residential electric cooperative members.
5. Applicants must have cumulative grade point averages of **2.5** or above on a 4.0 scale or the equivalent standing on nontraditional scales. High school GPAs shall be used for applicants who have not yet begun a program, while Technical / Trade School GPAs shall be used for applicants currently enrolled in programs.
6. Applicants who have received “full-ride” scholarships (tuition, room, board, and books) to the schools of their choice are not eligible for OEC scholarships.
7. Applicants who have won scholarships from OEC and/or affiliated organizations in other scholarship competitions (not including local co-ops) are not qualified to win this competition.
8. All scholarships must be accepted in the first academic year after proof of enrollment* is received by OEC. However, an extension of one year may be granted for just cause in the judgment of the president of OEC. If applicants cannot fulfill their enrollment obligation under this program, awards are forfeited.
9. Application information must be confined to the official nomination form. The only attachments permitted are high school transcripts, proof of enrollment* in a program, typed essay responses, and one 500-word letter of recommendation from an instructor.

10. Applicants are advised to write the two required essays as document files, then spell check, grammar check, and word count them before uploading them. Applicants shall refer to <https://www.ohioec.org/TechnicalScholarship> to complete the cooperative knowledge essay. The two required essays are:
 - One detailing their educational and career goals; and
 - And a second that discusses cooperative knowledge per the online orientation
 - Applicants must complete the essays without outside assistance
11. The online application for OEC’s 2023 Technical / Trade School Scholarship is available here: <https://forms.gle/7YxU7fLJiuB7tYcKA>****. Scholarship applications must be received by OEC by April 30 each year.**
12. *Accepted proofs of enrollment include: an official course schedule, or an official program transcript. Both must include the schools’ names or urls, **and** the applicants’ names.

*** This link may require the applicant to create a free [gmail.com](https://www.gmail.com) email account. If a website blocked message appears, try reloading/refreshing the page.*

JUDGING:

All qualified applicants will be judged by the following criteria: a maximum of 30 points for scholastic record (academic criteria should include GPA and quality of academic classes); a maximum of 30 points for personal achievement, school, and community activities; and a maximum of 40 points for the written essays.

Judges may give priority to fields of study deemed more relevant to electric cooperatives.