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Powering the Future: 17 scholarships, \$2,500 each

At EnerStar, we believe empowering the next generation is the key to a brighter future. That's why electric cooperatives across Illinois are committed to investing in our youth through scholarships that honor the legacy of our cooperative family and fuel the dreams and goals of tomorrow's leaders.

The Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives will award 17 scholarships, each worth \$2,500, to outstanding students from the electric cooperative family through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

"This isn't just about financial aid – it's also about empowering students," said EnerStar's Angela Griffin. "Illinois' electric cooperatives are always seeking ways to bring about positive change in our communities. Supporting our youth through scholarship programs is a powerful way we help shape the future."

Here's a brief rundown of the scholarships available.

- Ten scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors whose parent(s) are Illinois electric co-op members, giving these students a bright start on their educational journey.
- The Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship is reserved for a student whose parent is an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director, honoring the legacy

of service within our cooperative family.

- Five scholarships are dedicated to students enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college, who are also children of an electric cooperative member in Illinois.



- The LaVern and Nola McEntire Memorial Lineworker's Scholarship is designed for those ready to light up the world by pursuing a career in linework and are enrolled or plan to enroll at Lincoln Land Community College's lineworker program. This scholarship supports students of co-op members, relatives of employees or directors, and those who have served or are currently serving in the armed forces or National Guard.

The general scholarship application deadline is Dec. 31, 2024, and the lineworker scholarship is due by April 30, 2025. For more information or to apply, visit the community section at www.enerstar.com.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

11597 Illinois Highway 1
Paris, IL 61944
800-635-4145
Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Youth to Washington

APPLY TODAY TO REPRESENT ENERSTAR IN D.C.

For more than 60 years, the electric cooperatives of Illinois have given tomorrow's leaders the opportunity to learn from today's public officials, and EnerStar is on the hunt for two outstanding students to represent our co-op at **Youth Tour** this year. EnerStar's **Youth Tour** is actually two separate events: **Youth Day** in Springfield and the Youth to Washington trip.



YOUTH TO WASHINGTON – JUNE 16-23, 2025

Those individuals selected will also travel by charter bus for an all-expense, week-long tour of Washington, D.C where they will create lasting memories and visit all the Washington must-see sites including Gettysburg, George Washington's Mt Vernon, Smithsonian museums, Arlington Cemetery, and much more!

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants should be high school freshmen, sophomores or juniors during the 2024-2025 school year. In addition, the students must reside in the EnerStar service territory and receive their electricity from EnerStar.

Visit www.enerstar.com to find the application in the Community Section.



YOUTH DAY IN SPRINGFIELD – TBD, 2025

Each year, nearly 300 outstanding students get an up-close, first-hand look at democracy in action when they meet their elected representatives during Illinois Electric Cooperatives Youth Day.

Give a HUG Home Utility Gift



Need a thoughtful holiday gift idea or looking for an anonymous random act of kindness option?

- Call us at 800-635-4145 to buy an energy gift certificate!
- Purchase a HUG Card, and the amount will be deducted from the recipient's next bill.
- We'll send you a gift certificate to give to your recipient or we can send it anonymously.
- No action is required from the recipient.

Area nonprofits awarded CoBank Sharing Success Grants

CoBank is one of EnerStar's lending partners

EnerStar Electric Cooperative is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a 2024 CoBank Sharing Success matching grant totaling \$20,000. The co-op has successfully secured funds every year since 2012. The grant is intended to help cooperatives support causes and organizations that are important to the communities they serve. This year, the cooperative directed the funds toward organizations that serve at-risk and in-need youth throughout the co-op's service territory.

This year's recipients are the Marshall Area Youth Network, the Martinsville Santa's Helpers, Paris' People Encouraging Remarkable Kids, and Hopes and Dreams, Inc.

With the support of the CoBank grant, the cooperative has awarded a total of \$185,000 to area nonprofit organizations. Sharing Success grants have been awarded to schools, volunteer fire departments, food pantries, quality-of-life projects and more. For more information about the grant and past recipients, please visit enerstar.com/sharing-success-grant.

CoBank, a nonprofit, cooperatively owned bank, plays an important role in supporting rural America by providing financial services to agribusiness and rural electricity, water and communication providers in all 50 states. Their matching contributions to the charitable organizations of their cooperative members, on a dollar-for-dollar basis up to \$5,000, further demonstrate their



EnerStar Electric Cooperative is pleased to announce the 2024 CoBank Sharing Success grant recipients, which included Marshall Area Youth Network, Santa's Helpers (Martinsville), Hopes & Dreams (Edgar County) and PERK – People Encouraging Remarkable Kids (Paris and Kansas) received grant funds to help at-risk and in-need youth. In total, \$185,000 in grants have been awarded since 2012.

commitment to community. The charitable organizations they support, including schools, churches and government organizations, must be established as a nonprofit under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Service code.

"EnerStar, as a not-for-profit electric cooperative, is guided by seven cooperative principles, which include 'Cooperation among Cooperatives' and 'Concern for Community,'" said EnerStar's Angela Griffin. "We are very proud to be a part of this program and to witness fellow nonprofits thriving with the financial assistance the grant offers."

Per CoBank's grant application, this grant is specifically designated for 501(c)(3) nonprofits, schools and governmental entities within the communities that EnerStar serves. If you know of a worthy organization that meets the grant's criteria, please contact Griffin at 1-800-635-4145.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

VETERAN'S DAY Monday, Nov. 11, 2024

THANKSGIVING Thursday, Nov. 28 and Friday, Nov. 29, 2024

Who Owns What?

Electric Co-op Owned Equipment vs Member-Owned Equipment

This graphic depicts equipment owned by the co-op (in gold) and the member (in blue). If a storm damages any equipment owned by the co-op, we are responsible for repairs. If a storm damages any member-owned equipment, the member is responsible for repairs. Members should hire a licensed electrician when making any repairs to member-owned equipment.

