

Scholarship Instructions

If you do not have Adobe Reader software, it is a free download available here:

<https://get.adobe.com/reader/>. (If you do not want to install McAfee Security Scan Plus and True Key™ by Intel Security, uncheck their boxes prior to downloading.)

1. **Open the application file using Adobe Reader, and save it.**
2. **Complete the first two pages using Adobe Reader.**
3. **Save the file again, then print all pages.**

Take the application to a teacher **and** your guidance counselor to complete the faculty portion. It is preferred those sections are typewritten; however, they may be handwritten if necessary.

Applications and letters of recommendation must be received by Darke Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. by February 15, 2018. Scholarship interviews will be held on February 26, 2018. Applicants will receive additional information in the mail prior to that date.

Scholarship Rules

PURPOSE:

In order to carry on an educational and training program that encourages Ohio's rural youth to further their education and gives them an opportunity to become more aware of careers in the rural electric program, the following scholarship awards program is offered by Ohio's Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (OEC).

SCHOLARSHIPS:

The local cash scholarship awards are as follows:

First place	\$ 2,000
Second place	\$1,000
Third place	\$1,000
Fourth place	\$1,000
Fifth place	\$1,000

One finalist winner of this scholarship will advance to the statewide level and **must be available to interview on April 17, 2018 in Columbus, OH.** Statewide finalists will compete for additional scholarships that will be awarded at the statewide level.

The statewide cash scholarship awards are as follows:

Place	Prize	Honorable Mention Prizes	
First place	\$3,600	11 th	\$1,200
Second place	\$2,600	12 th	\$1,200
Third place	\$2,100	13 th	\$1,200
Fourth place	\$2,000	14 th	\$1,200
Fifth place	\$1,900	15 th	\$1,200
Sixth place	\$1,800	16 th	\$1,200
Seventh place	\$1,700	17 th	\$1,200
Eighth place	\$1,600	18 th	\$1,200
Ninth place	\$1,500	19 th	\$1,200
Tenth place	\$1,400	20 th	\$1,200
		21 st	\$1,200
		22 nd	\$1,200
		23 rd	\$1,200
		24 th	\$1,200

RULES:

To be eligible for the OEC scholarships, the following provisions will govern the acceptance of applicants from the local cooperatives:

Applicants must be the child or legal ward of a permanent residential electric cooperative member receiving service for the duration of the 2017-2018 academic year (August 2017 - June 2018). Children/wards of electric distribution cooperative commercial members are not eligible unless their parents are also permanent residential electric cooperative members.

1. Applicants must be graduating seniors who have all basic credits for college or proper vocational or technical school entrance. A “proper vocational or technical school” is defined as a post-secondary institution where credits can be transferred to a state accredited four-year college.
2. Applicants in both divisions must have a cumulative grade point average of **3.0** or above on a 4.0 scale or an equivalent standing on a nontraditional scale.

Winners must be accepted and then enrolled in an accredited college or proper vocational/technical school of students’ choice when they receive the award. Winners who are accepted and then enrolled in an accredited school of nursing, working toward a degree, are also eligible.

3. Members of the immediate families and persons residing in the households of trustees, managers, distribution cooperative employees and OEC or affiliated organizations (Buckeye Power, Inc., RESCO, etc.) employees are not eligible to participate in the competition.
4. Applications must be submitted (typed to be accepted) on forms furnished by and submitted to **Darke Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.** Cooperatives will choose one finalist to advance the state level. Applicants who have not submitted applications to their local cooperative by its deadline will not be eligible to compete at the state level.

5. Application information must be confined to the official nomination form with only grade transcripts, teacher recommendations, and a recent photo attached. Teacher recommendations must be no longer than 500 words.

Applicants who receive “full-ride” scholarships (i.e., scholarships that cover the cost of tuition, room, board and books) to the schools of their choice are not eligible for scholarships from OEC. Applicants who win an OEC scholarship and subsequently receive a full-ride scholarship following the Children of Members scholarship competition, must contact OEC immediately to forfeit this scholarship.

6. 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. In the event students are unable to fulfill their enrollment obligation under this program, the awards are forfeited.
7. Finalists are not permitted to bring any outside materials to their interviews (e.g., electronic presentations, props, handouts, etc.).
8. These rules (dated hereon) supersede all previous rules for this scholarship.

JUDGING:

The judges, following personal interviews with each nominee, will score up to a maximum of 40 points for scholastic record, 30 points for personal achievement, school and community activities, 15 points for personal interview with the judges relating to poise, personality and appearance, and 15 points for cooperative knowledge.

Cooperative knowledge questions will be based on the Online Orientation course located at www.ohioec.org/orientation. Students are recommended to complete this course prior to judging. The course takes approximately one hour to complete.

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS CRITERIA:

All co-op applications advanced to OEC must meet the OEC criteria.

MAIL OR DELIVER THE APPLICATION AND ATTACHMENTS TO:

Darke Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

1120 Fort Jefferson Rd.

P. O. Box 278

Greenville, OH 45331-0278

Attn: Scholarship Coordinator