



MY CO-OP

# 2024 Rock Energy Scholarship Application NOW OPEN



*Scan the QR  
code for 2024  
Rock Energy  
Scholarship  
Information.*

## ROCK ENERGY SCHOLARSHIP

Rock Energy Cooperative again is offering scholarships of \$1,000 to graduating high school seniors who enroll at an accredited school. Students whose parents or guardians are active members of REC are eligible.

Our scholarship committee will judge applicants based on general merit, cooperation, leadership abilities, financial need, and class ranking.

Since 1989, Rock Energy has awarded more than \$167,000 in financial aid to deserving students.

The online application is available at [www.rock.coop](http://www.rock.coop). Just go to the Community & Youth tab and click on Scholarships. Or, you can just click on the QR code (to the left). The deadline for submitting applications is Jan. 10, 2024. Applications must be completed online at [www.rock.coop](http://www.rock.coop).

If you have any questions, please contact Jonas Berberich at 866-752-4550, or [jonasb@rock.coop](mailto:jonasb@rock.coop).

## ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperative Memorial Scholarship Program

The Illinois Electric Cooperative (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program awards seventeen \$2,000 scholarships annually to deserving Illinois students in the "electric cooperative family" entering college to assist them with their educational costs. For more information about these Illinois scholarships, scan the QR code to the right.



# Energy Assistance Available For Low-Income Households

The Illinois Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps eligible low-income households pay for winter energy services. Fortunately, Rock Energy Cooperative works with LIHEAP, which benefits numerous residents in Illinois households each year.

Additional information about energy assistance and the assistance guidelines in Illinois can be found below and on page 18C.

## Weatherization Services

When you apply for energy assistance, the local agency also will see if you qualify for the Weatherization Assistance Program, which helps fund energy-efficiency, home improvement projects. If you are eligible for weatherization services, an energy auditor will look at your home to see what can be done to make it more energy efficient. Weatherization services differ with each home, depending on how it was built and its condition.

For general information about LIHEAP, call 877-411-9276, or visit [www.illinoisliheap.com](http://www.illinoisliheap.com).

## Where to Apply

To apply for assistance, you'll need to complete an application and provide information on each household member and their income, as well as records of your heating costs.

For more information and application details, please call your local office:

- **Winnebago County** (South Beloit, Rockton, and Roscoe residents only): 815-389-0914 or 815-624-7788, Rockton Township, 1315 N. Blackhawk Blvd., Rockton.
- **Boone County**: 815-544-3144, United Way of Boone County, 220 W. Locust St., Belvidere.
- **Stephenson County**: 815-232-3141 or 800-883-1111, Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency, 27 S. State Ave., Freeport.
- **McHenry County**: 815-338-7752, McHenry County Housing Authority, 1108 N. Seminary Ave., Woodstock.



## LIHEAP Details

LIHEAP heat and electric assistance is a one-time benefit payment per heating season that is intended to help pay a portion of a household's heat and electric costs. The benefit amount depends on household size, income, and energy costs.

In most cases, the benefit is applied as a credit directly to the household's Rock Energy account. You do not need to duplicate your efforts by applying for assistance with both your local agency and Rock Energy. We will send you a letter about one month after receiving your application that will include details on your assistance status and dollar amounts.

You are eligible for heating assistance if your household's combined income is at or below the levels shown on the chart below.



## 2023 Federal Poverty Guidelines for 200% of Poverty for 2024 Program Year



Scan the QR above to view the LIHEAP Income Guidelines.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	ONE MONTH INCOME	ANNUAL INCOME
1	\$2,430	\$29,160
2	\$3,287	\$39,440
3	\$4,143	\$49,720
4	\$5,000	\$60,000
5	\$5,857	\$70,280
6	\$6,713	\$80,560
7	\$7,570	\$90,840
8	\$7,775	\$93,298

# Installing A Generator? Make Sure To Think "**Safety First**"

If you're considering the purchase of a generator, there are several factors that need to be carefully considered, so it's very important that both the Rock Energy Natural Gas and Electric Departments are notified of a generator installation in case your electric service needs to be upgraded.

If the electric service needs to be changed, you will need to get an electrical permit to make sure any changes, such as a transfer switch installation, meet all electrical codes. If the utility service needs to be disconnected in order to install any equipment for the generator, contact Rock Energy to do this. An electrician is not permitted to disconnect service. Rock Energy will reconnect service after the electrical inspector approves the changes that were made.



## GENERATOR INSTALLATION VIDEO

For more information, scan the QR code and watch Rock Energy's Generator Installation Safety video.



Make sure to keep these important items in mind when it comes to generator installation:

- Before you purchase a generator, make a list of essential appliances and devices you'll want to power during an outage, then total the required wattage. This will help you to determine your backup power needs in order to select the right generator size.
- Improperly installed generators can create back feed, which is dangerous to our crews and the community. Before using the generator, disconnect the normal source of power coming into your home.
- Be aware that safety requirements may differ based on the type of generator you purchase. Thoroughly read the operator's manual and know how to shut off the generator quickly.

If you have any questions about generator installation, please call Rock Energy at 866-752-4550.

## REC Director Nominations Open

The Rock Energy Cooperative Nominating Committee will be selecting candidates to run for board of director positions that will be on the ballot at the 2024 annual meeting, which will be held Monday, April 8, 2024, at the Eclipse Center in Beloit, WI.

### Districts up for election are:

- **DISTRICT 1:** Dunkirk, Albion, Porter, and Fulton in Wisconsin
- **DISTRICT 3:** Johnstown, Bradford, and Darien in Wisconsin
- **DISTRICT 5:** Turtle, Clinton, and Sharon in Wisconsin Roscoe, Manchester, Leroy, Chemung, Alden, and Hebron in Illinois

Active members who are interested in running for a position on the REC Board of Directors must permanently reside in one of the areas up for election and meet all other qualifications.

For more information, please contact the co-op at 866-752-4550 or email [questions@rock.coop](mailto:questions@rock.coop) by November 30, 2023.

## Happy Thanksgiving

Rock Energy Cooperative offices will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 23, and Friday, Nov. 24, in observance of Thanksgiving. We will reopen at 7:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 27.

Members can make payments in the drop boxes at both offices throughout the holiday weekend and at the payment kiosk outside our South Beloit office, 15229 Willowbrook Rd.

Even though our offices are closed, standby crews are available. If you need to report a power outage or natural gas incident, please call 866-752-4550.

## Shane Larson, CEO

P.O. Box 1758, 2815 Kennedy Rd., Janesville, WI 53547  
P.O. Box 126, 15229 Willowbrook Rd., South Beloit, IL 61080  
866-752-4550

**Jonas Berberich, Editor**



**ROCK ENERGY  
COOPERATIVE**  
Empowering Members Since 1936