



SIXTEEN EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE— APPLY TODAY!



Illinois electric cooperatives will be awarding 16 educational scholarships to financially assist students in the electric coop family. The 16 scholarships, \$2,500 each, will be awarded through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

"We are hopeful a student from our cooperative will be selected as a recipient this year. Egyptian Electric Cooperative is always seeking ways to make a difference in our communities. One of the best ways we can do that is by helping our youth

and investing in them through programs like this one," says Shane Hermetz, Executive Vice President/General Manager.

Ten (10) of the scholarships will be awarded to students enrolling full-time at any two or four-year accredited college or university who are the child/dependent of an Illinois electric cooperative consumer-member.

Five (5) additional scholarships are reserved for students enrolling full-time at an Illinois community college who are the child/dependent of an Illinois electric cooperative consumer-member.

One (1) scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, is awarded to a student who is the child/dependent of an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director.

Sylvia N. Winston

The deadline to apply is Dec. 31, 2024. For more information regarding the scholarships, contact EECA Member Services Manager Brooke Guthman at bguthman@eeca.coop. All information has been shared with area high school guidance counselors and is available online at eeca.coop. A flyer with a QR code to even more information can be found on page 6 of this magazine.

VETERANS DAY

MON, NOV 11

THANKSGIVING

THUR, NOV 28 & FRI, NOV 29





Egyptian Electric
Cooperative Association
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

1732 Finney Road
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Business hours/After hours
800-606-1505

24/7 Automated Pay-by-Phone
844-759-3977

Office hours 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. M-F
www.eeca.coop

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Shane Hermetz
General Manager

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- Mail to: 1732 Finney Road, Murphysboro, IL 62966
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- By phone at 844-759-3977, using credit card or checking account
- Off-site kiosks located at 2301 N. Reed Station Parkway and 1815 W. Main in Carbondale

EECA lineworkers shine as the best of the best at Annual Safety Rodeo!

EECA lineworkers participated in the annual Lineworker's Safety Rodeo coordinated by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) on Sept. 19. The "rodeo" is a friendly competition that highlights the skills lineworkers use to work safely and efficiently. Tyler Atchison of Marion, along with Andy Ahner of Carterville and Mike Smith, Cody Lee and Jared Bastien of Murphysboro, proudly represented EECA at the rodeo held in Springfield.

Deborah A. McDonnell
They competed against teams from across Illinois in events using skills that focused on agility, speed and accuracy. While these skills are part of the judging criteria, participants are judged on safe work practices. Line personnel competed in team and individual events, such as the 40-foot climb, hurt man rescue, cutout change, crossarm change and a head-to-head climbing challenge. Scores for each event are based on completion time, proper execution of the task and safety. Deductions are made to a team or individual's overall performance score due to mistakes such as slipping when climbing poles, dropping tools or executing inappropriate procedures or methods.

Despite facing tough competition, the EECA team achieved remarkable success at the event! In the team competitions, Mike Smith, Tyler Atchison and Andy Ahner took home 1st place in both the Team



Pictured from L to R: (Top row) Hunter Lodge, Jared Bastien, Cody Lee; (Front row) Andy Ahner, Tyler Atchison and Mike Smith.

Hurt Man Rescue and Transition Pole Climb events, while Cody Lee, Hunter Lodge and Jared Bastien secured 3rd place in the Team Hurt Man Rescue. Individually, Tyler Atchison was a standout, finishing as the Overall Individual Champion, also winning 1st place in Crossarm Change and 2nd place in Hurt Man Rescue. Additionally, Mike Smith earned 3rd place in the Hurt Man Rescue event.

Fifteen teams participated in the team competitions, and over 30 individuals took part in the individual competitions. Congratulations to our lineworkers on their team and individual efforts!



Andy Ahner, Mike Smith, and Tyler Atchison gear up for the competition. This trio took home 1st place in both the Team Hurt Man Rescue and the Transition Pole Climb events!



Tyler Atchison climbs during one of his competitions, going head-to-head with more than 30 other talented linemen from across Illinois. He took home 1st place as the overall individual winner.

MEMBER PRIZES

Every month we will have three member names hidden throughout our Egyptian Electric News section. If you find your name, call our office and identify yourself and the page that it is on and you will win a \$10 credit on your next electric bill.

Reminder

TEN \$500

CLASSROOM GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

Have an innovative idea but need more funding? Apply today!

Applications due November 8
and can be found at eeca.coop



MINI-SPLITS AT A GLANCE

Mini-split systems, also known as ductless air-source heat pumps, heat/cool a home through an outdoor unit that connects to one or more individual indoor air handlers, which are typically mounted on a wall. Depending on the size of your home and personal preferences, a mini-split system is worth considering when you need to replace or upgrade your heating/cooling system.

Mini-Split System Benefits:

- Zone-controlled heating/cooling
- Higher energy efficiency ratings
- Easy to install
- Good for heating/cooling home additions

Mini-Split System Considerations:

- Potentially higher upfront cost
- Appearance
- May require electrical upgrades
- Not as effective in large spaces



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

If you're traveling during the holiday season, don't forget to adjust your home's settings for energy savings. You can save energy while you're away by lowering your thermostat a few degrees or creating an "away" schedule with a smart or programmable thermostat. Newer water heaters include a vacation mode setting to help you save on water heating costs, or you can simply lower the temperature manually.

Small actions can also stack up to energy savings. Unplug devices that consume energy when they're not in use, including phone chargers, toothbrush chargers, TVs and gaming consoles.



Ready Your Home FOR WINTER

Prepare your home for winter now to ensure safety, efficiency and comfort. Here's a checklist you can use.



INSPECT HEATING SYSTEM:

- Have your heating system professionally serviced.
- Replace air filters if needed.
- Ensure vents and radiators are unblocked for efficient heat distribution.

TEST AND MAINTAIN SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS:

- Replace batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Test detectors to ensure they function properly.

PREPARE PIPES AND WATER SUPPLY:

- Insulate exposed pipes to prevent freezing.
- Drain and shut off outdoor faucets and irrigation systems.
- Know the location of water shut-off valve in case of emergency.

PREPARE YOUR HOME'S EXTERIOR:

- Clear gutters and downspouts to prevent ice dams.
- Trim trees away from the house to avoid damage.
- Ensure downspouts extend away from the foundation.
- Service and store equipment such as lawnmowers and trimmers.
- Gather winter tools such as snow shovels and ice melt.

INCREASE HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY:

- Seal gaps at windows and doors with weatherstripping or caulk.
- Set ceiling fans to rotate clockwise to circulate warm air.
- Lower your thermostat a few degrees to save on heating costs.

Learn more at:

