

## INSIDE

### 18B

Give a HUG

### 18C

Seventeen 2026 IEC Memorial Scholarships available

### 18D

Youth to Washington – apply today to represent EnerStar in D.C.

## The season of giving



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As the holiday season approaches and the air turns crisp, we're reminded that this truly is the season of giving. It's a time for gratitude, generosity and looking out for one another.

At EnerStar Electric Cooperative, that's something we are proud to take to heart year-round.

You've probably heard us discuss Cooperative Principle #7 – our concern for community. This principle is not just a nice phrase; it is one of the core principles that make electric cooperatives like ours different from other utilities. We are not just here to keep the lights on (though, of course, we're always working hard to do that). Our mission is to improve the lives of the people we

serve – our members, our neighbors, and our friends.

Over the years, we've faced challenges together, and each time, our co-op family has stepped up. We have united to support those in need, strengthen our community and build something better for the future. That spirit of generosity shines brightly during the holiday season. Sometimes that's a splash in the newspaper to share the joy, while other times it is a quiet gesture of a helping hand.

We are also proud to support local students throughout the year. Applications for the IEC Memorial Scholarship are due at the end of the year. If you have a high school senior in your home served by the co-op, encourage them to visit our website at [www.enerstar.com](http://www.enerstar.com) for more details.

*Continued on page 18B*



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.



*From all of us at EnerStar, we wish you and your loved ones a joyful, safe, and bright holiday season.*

Another youth program we are proud of is Youth Tour, where we send some of our community's brightest young people to Washington, D.C., to witness democracy in action and dream big about their futures. This investment in tomorrow's leaders is incredibly meaningful. Applications for the 2026 trip will open after the new year, and further information can be found on our website.

You will also find our employees and directors engaged in the community outside of work – coaching youth sports, volunteering at local

events, serving on nonprofit boards, and partnering with economic development and chamber organizations to keep our local economy strong. When you are part of a co-op, giving back isn't a requirement; it is simply part of who we are.

While the holiday season is a festive time, we understand it can be challenging for many. If you need advice on saving energy to reduce your energy bills, want to explore payment plan options, or have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to our Member Services Department. They can be reached

at [memberservices@enerstar.com](mailto:memberservices@enerstar.com), or you can call them at 1-800-635-4145. We are here to help, not just during the holiday season, but all year long.

At EnerStar, we believe concern for community is more than a value – it's the heart of who we are. And during this season of giving, we're especially grateful to be part of such a caring, generous community.

From all of us at EnerStar, we wish you and your loved ones a joyful, safe and bright holiday season.

# 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.

## HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

**VETERANS DAY** Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2025

**THANKSGIVING** Thursday, Nov. 27 and Friday, Nov. 28, 2025

# Powering the Future: 17 scholarships, \$3,000 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 \$3,000, 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, 2025, and the lineworker scholarship is due by April 30, 2026. For more information or to apply, visit the community section at [www.enerstar.com](http://www.enerstar.com).



## IEC MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

# Youth to Washington

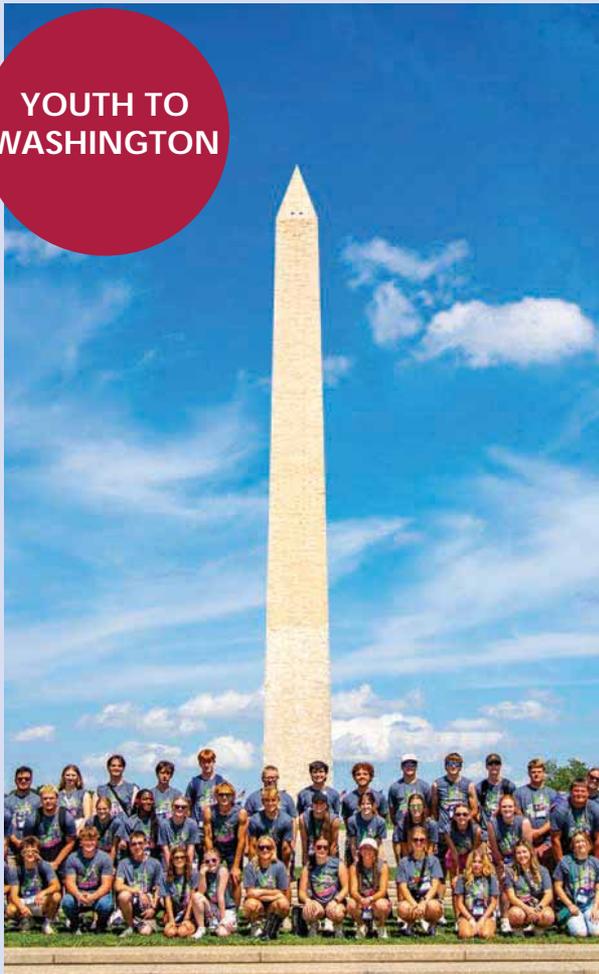
APPLY TODAY TO REPRESENT ENERSTAR IN D.C.

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 DAY IN SPRINGFIELD – TBD, 2026

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.

### YOUTH TO WASHINGTON



## YOUTH TO WASHINGTON – JUNE 15-22, 2026

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!

### YOUTH DAY IN SPRINGFIELD



## HOW TO APPLY

Applicants should be high school freshmen, sophomores or juniors during the 2025-2026 school year. In addition, the students must reside in the EnerStar service territory and receive their electricity from EnerStar.

Visit [www.enerstar.com](http://www.enerstar.com) to find the application in the Community Section.