

POWERING YOUR FUTURE



Josh Shallenberger, Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) President/CEO, would like to remind co-op members that applications for the 2027 Illinois Electric Cooperative (IEC) Memorial Scholarships are now available. At Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC), we believe the key to a brighter future lies in empowering the next generation. That is why electric cooperatives across Illinois are committed to investing in youth through scholarships that honor the legacy of our cooperative family while fueling the dreams and goals of tomorrow's leaders.

The following 20 scholarships of \$3,000 each will be awarded in 2027:

- **Twelve scholarships** will be awarded to high school seniors whose parent(s) are members of an Illinois electric cooperative and plan to enroll full-time at a two-year or four-year college, university, or vocational/technical school.
- **Six scholarships** will be awarded to students enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college whose parent(s) are electric cooperative members, employees, or directors.
- **The Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship** will be awarded to a high school senior who is the child of an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director and will enroll full-time at a 2-year

or a 4-year college, university, or vocational/technical school.

- **The LaVern and Nola McEntire Memorial Lineworker's Scholarship** supports students pursuing a career in linework through enrollment in the lineworker program at Lincoln Land Community College. Eligible applicants include children of cooperative members, relatives of employees or directors, and individuals who have served or are currently serving in the armed forces or National Guard.

Over the years, SEC has been fortunate to have several IEC Memorial Scholarship winners. In May 2026, Faith Morrison was recognized for



Nokomis High School Graduate Faith Morrison, left, receives the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives Memorial Scholarship from Shelby Electric Cooperative's Member Services Specialist Faith Wheeler back in May.

receiving one of these scholarships at the Nokomis High School's senior awards night. "These scholarships ensure that our future is powered by knowledge, service, and a shared commitment to excellence," said Shallenberger.

Information has been sent to area high school guidance counselors and is available on the cooperative's website, shelbyelectric.coop, under the "Community" menu tab. The deadline to apply online for the IEC Memorial Scholarships is **Dec. 31, 2026**. The lineworker scholarship deadline is **April 30, 2027**. For more information regarding scholarships, contact Faith Wheeler at 217-774-3986 or email scholarship@shelbyelectric.coop.



SCAN HERE for more scholarship info.

Agility, Speed, Accuracy, and Safety on display!



Line personnel from Shelby Electric Cooperative participated in the annual Lineworker's Safety Rodeo coordinated by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) on September 24. Twenty-two teams from fifteen electric co-ops, two municipal electric utilities, and four line school students participated in the friendly competition, along with five others who competed individually. The event was held at the Lincoln Land Community College Line School yard in Springfield.

Apprentice Linemen Adam Hudson, Wyatt Fox, and Cade Helton competed as a team at the rodeo, while Lineman Dalton Brown competed individually. They competed against teams from across Illinois in events using skills that



Representing team Shelby Electric Cooperative from left to right, Apprentice Linemen Adam Hudson, Wyatt Fox, and Cade Helton.

focus on agility, speed, and accuracy. While these skills are part of the judging criteria, above all, participants are judged on safe work practices.

This year, line personnel competed in an egg climb, a cutout change, an H-structure crossover, the hurt man rescue, and a transition climbing challenge.

Scores for each event are based on completion time, proper execution of

the task, and safety. Deductions were 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.

At the end of the day, Brown earned third place in the individual egg climb.

Congratulations to our lineworkers on their efforts.



**P.O. BOX 560
Shelbyville, IL 62565**

**Phone: 217-774-3986
or 1-800-677-2612**

**Pay-by-Phone:
1-844-963-2859**

www.shelbyelectric.coop

X @YourCoop

@YourCoop

@yourcoop_sec

**Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**



Competing as an individual was cooperative Lineman Dalton Brown.

WHEN SECONDS COUNT



Shelby Electric Cooperative has teamed up with Air Evac Lifeteam to offer air ambulance service memberships to rural residents. Air Evac members who use the Air Evac Lifeteam service for medical emergencies will not receive a bill for the flight no matter how many times a year they use it.

Cooperative members can have the \$5 monthly membership charge added to their electric bill. To learn more or download an application, simply scan the QR code or call the office at 217-774-3986 or 800-677-2612.



Scan to
learn more



COOPERATIVE OFFICES CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, **NOVEMBER 11**
Veterans Day

THURSDAY, **NOVEMBER 26**
Thanksgiving

FRIDAY, **NOVEMBER 27**
Thanksgiving



Did you **KNOW?**

If you are renting a propane tank from Shelby Energy Company, you may notice a new device on the tank. This is called a **Tank Monitor**, which enables Shelby Energy to read your propane levels remotely from the office. This new feature allows us to serve you better at no additional cost.

Your local propane service provider since 1994.

If you have questions or would like to start a service, scan the QR code or give us a call at 217-774-2311.



Scan
HERE



Shelby Energy Company

Holiday Cooking: Save Energy in the Kitchen

During the holiday season, extra prepping, cooking, and baking can drive up your utility bills. A few small changes to your routine can help lower costs and keep your kitchen running efficiently.

Cooking and prep:

- **Use small appliances:** Choose an air fryer, microwave, slow cooker, or toaster oven for small meals or sides to use up to 70% less energy than a full-size oven.
- **Match pan to burner:** Using a small pan on a large burner wastes heat.
- **Keep the stovetop clean:** Clean burners and surfaces reflect heat much more efficiently.
- **Cover pots and pans:** Lids trap steam, helping water boil faster which allows food to cook quicker.
- **Keep the oven door closed:** Use the oven light instead of opening the door, which drops the temperature by 25°F every time.
- **Turn off the oven early:** Turn off the heat 5-10 minutes before the cooking time is up. The residual heat will finish the job.

- **Stagger your baking:** Bake multiple dishes at once when possible or cook them back-to-back so the oven doesn't have to reheat from scratch.
- **Thaw foods in advance:** Move frozen foods to the refrigerator ahead of time to skip energy-heavy microwave defrosting.
- **Cut food smaller:** Small pieces of meat and vegetables cook much faster.
- **Lower your home thermostat:** Let the heat from your oven and guests naturally warm the house while you cook.
- **Skip the self-cleaning cycle:** Avoid using this right after holiday cooking, as it requires extreme, energy-draining heat.

Refrigeration:

- **Cool leftovers first:** Let hot foods cool slightly before refrigerating so your fridge doesn't have to work double-time to drop the temperature.

- **Check the door seal:** Close the door on a dollar bill. If it slides out easily, your gasket needs replacing.
- **Keep it full, not crowded:** Fill your fridge to help it maintain its temperature, but leave enough room for cold air to circulate.
- **Defrost the freezer:** Clear out any frost buildup thicker than a quarter-inch to keep the motor running efficiently.

Dishwashing and clean-up:

- **Run full loads only:** Wait until the dishwasher is completely packed to maximize the water and energy used.
- **Skip heated dry:** Use the air-dry or eco-mode setting to save up to 15% of the machine's total energy use.
- **Scrape, don't rinse:** Scrape food off plates instead of rinsing them under hot running water before loading.

Small adjustments to how you cook, cool, and clean can make a massive difference in your energy bills this holiday season!

Time to fall back

Daylight saving time ends at
2 a.m. on Sunday, November 1.

Remember to set your clocks back an hour
before you go to bed on Saturday evening.

Local fire officials
recommend
changing the
batteries in your
smoke detector(s)
when you change
your clocks.

