

Edward R. Slepiska Memorial Lineworker scholarship application



Edward R. Slepiska Memorial Lineworker scholarship program

When Wright-Hennepin (WH) was co-founded by Ed Slepiska in 1937, he went on to become the cooperative's first CEO, holding that position from 1937 until his retirement in 1977.

Today, in memory of Slepiska and the crucial role he played in bringing electricity to rural homes and farms, WH offers this scholarship. Lineworkers are crucial to building and maintaining reliable power lines that serve members' homes and businesses.

The purpose of the Edward R. Slepiska Memorial Lineworker scholarship program is to encourage men and women in the local area to pursue an electric lineworker career.

Up to three scholarships are awarded annually, each in the amount of \$3,000.

Since the Slepiska Memorial Lineworker scholarship program started in 2002, WH has hired several recipients as apprentice linemen.

Benefits of being a WH lineworker

- Competitive wage
- Excellent benefits
- Job stability - WH has been serving the local area since 1937
- Work outdoors - all types of weather
- Opportunity to work with quality tools and operating equipment
- Quality workforce - become part of our highly skilled, enthusiastic team
- Apparel program
- Training reimbursement program

Scholarship eligibility

High school seniors or graduates living within a 30-mile radius of Rockford are eligible. Enrollment in a power line technical college is required.

Application process

Scholarship application must be filled out completely and returned to WH by **April 1, 2026**. Mail application to:

Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association
Attn: Katie Durnin
PO Box 330
Rockford, MN 55373

To apply, please submit the following:

- A completed copy of this application form
- High school transcript
- Post-secondary transcript, if applicable
- At least two letters of recommendation
- Letter of acceptance to a power line technical college

How is the money distributed?

A committee reviews all applications received. Up to three individuals will be chosen from the applicants and awarded a certificate for \$3,000. The money will be dispersed in a two-step process.

1. \$1,500 will be issued upon receipt of letter from your college verifying satisfactory academic standards and attendance record after the first semester.
2. \$1,500 will be issued upon receipt of letter from your college verifying satisfactory academic standards and attendance record after the second semester.

All application form information must be filled out completely.

Applicant data

First name _____ Middle initial _____ Last name _____

Phonetic pronunciation of name _____

Street address _____ Apartment or unit _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone number _____ Email _____

Applicant date of birth _____

Parent/guardian (if under 18)

First name _____ Middle initial _____ Last name _____

Phone number _____ Email _____

High school data

School name _____

Graduation date (month and year) _____

Cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale _____ or other scale (please specify scale used) _____

Applicants must include an official high school transcript of grades.

Post-secondary school data (if applicable)

School name _____

Graduation date (month and year) _____

Cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale _____ or other scale (please specify scale used) _____

Applicants must include an official post-secondary transcript of grades.

Post-secondary attendance

Provide the name and address of the college you plan to attend.

School name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Have you been accepted to this school? _____ Start date (month and year) _____



Apprenticeships

Lineworkers make up a large percentage of WH's workforce and are an important asset to the cooperative and community. Lineworkers have the opportunity to train on heavy equipment and gain many skills. Their duty to keep power on is a lifeline to the local community. Graduates of power line schools are generally hired to work as apprentice lineworkers. Apprenticeships last four years and include on-the-job training as well as correspondence coursework. The average First Step Apprentice pay is approximately \$40 per hour plus a benefit package, with graduated increases throughout the apprenticeship.

Questionnaire

Attach a sheet of paper to the application if more space is necessary to complete the questions.

How would an Edward R. Sleziska Memorial Lineworker Scholarship help you achieve your goals of becoming a lineworker?

What talents in the technical or construction fields have you acquired through school or experience?

What are your other interests or hobbies?

Please enclose letters of recommendation from two or more people who can attest to your skills, talents and work ethic.

Certification

I, the applicant, certify that the information provided in this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I, the applicant, meet all guidelines designated in this application. Falsification of any information will cause disqualification from the scholarship program.

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of parent or guardian _____ Date _____
(if under 18)