



Shelby Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

2025-2026 Scholarship Program Guidelines & Official Rules

Objective: To provide financial assistance to eligible cooperative youth to further their education.

PROGRAM OUTLINE: Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) will award three \$1,000 scholarships to eligible applicants. Scholarships are readily available for one year and are not renewable. Scholarships will be awarded based on academic and community involvement, character, and financial need as demonstrated in the application and essay. All applicants for scholarships shall be considered on the listed criteria without regard to race, age, color, religion, gender, national origin, or existence of a physical handicap.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Eligible youth will be sons or daughters of a current Shelby Electric Cooperative member who is receiving electric service from the cooperative at the time the scholarship application is submitted.
- Eligible youth must be a high school senior graduating during the 2025-2026 academic year.
- Eligible youth must go on to further their educational experience at an accredited two-year or four-year college or university in the United States, including vocational/technical schools.
- Eligible winners must begin undergraduate studies within one year of notification that they have won.
- Eligible winners must be enrolled as "full time" students, maintaining a minimum of 12 credit hours.

DEADLINE: Completed applications must be received to the cooperative office by Wednesday March 4, 2026. Applications may be received via mail at Shelby Electric Cooperative, Attn: SEC Scholarship Program, PO Box 560, Shelbyville, IL 62565. Applications may also be accepted via email at scholarship@shelbyelectric.coop.

NOTIFICATION: Scholarship winners will be notified in May and will be requested to attend Shelby Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting of Members to receive their certificate.

CONDITIONS: Winners must provide proof of enrollment to the Member Services Department at Shelby Electric Cooperative before the scholarship is awarded.

CONTACT:

Faith Wheeler, Member Services Specialist
217-774-3986
fwheeler@shelbyelectric.coop



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2025-2026 Scholarship Application

PERSONAL INFORMATION

DATE

 / /

Full Name :

Address:

City/State/Zip code:

Phone: Date of Birth

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

Shelby Electric Account Number:

High School:

School Mailing Address:

High School Grade Point Average (100 pt scale):

(e.g. if your school uses a 4 pt scale, multiply your GPA by 25, if 5 pt scale, multiply GPA by 20)

Most Recent SAT and/or ACT score (circle one):

Have you applied for entrance to a college or university? (please check): ☐ YES ☐ NO

If so, identify those applied to and mark with an asterisk(*) those which you have been accepted:

1st Choice School:

2nd Choice School:

Anticipated Major or Field of Study:

Have you received any other scholarships or grants to date? (please check): ☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, please list:



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SCHOOL/COMMUNITY/WORK/VOLUNTEER LIST:

Please attach a list including the following, if applicable:

- Participation in school activities. Include activity name, number of years of membership, and any positions held.
- Participation in community activities. Include activity name, number of years of memberships, and any positions held.
- Work experience. Include positions held and for what period of time.
- Volunteer experience. Include any volunteer activities you have participated in, number of years, and any responsibilities for the activity.

ESSAY

BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT: Write a brief biographical statement in 250 words or less that includes your educational goals, future plans following your education, and other pertinent information about yourself that you feel is noteworthy.

KNOWLEDGE OF ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES: Cooperatives around the world operate according to the same set of seven core principles and values. They are as follows:

1. Voluntary and Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Members' Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training, and Information
6. Cooperative Among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

Choose one of the seven core principles and explain in 500 words or less how that principle is portrayed in cooperatives and why you feel it is important.

NOTE: Please do NOT submit additional materials other than those requested per the application. Additional materials including but not limited to letters of recommendation and school acceptance letters are not part of the judging process and will be discarded.

STATEMENT OF APPLICANT AND PARENT OR GUARDIAN:

"We have examined this application, including accompanying submissions, and to the best of our knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete."

Signature/Date: _____
(Applicant)

Signature/Date: _____
(Parent or Guardian)

DEADLINE: Completed applications must be returned to SEC by Wednesday March 4, 2026

SEND TO: SHELBY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

ATTN: SEC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

PO BOX 560

SHELBYVILLE, IL 62565

OR EMAIL TO: SCHOLARSHIP@SHELBYELECTRIC.COOOP