



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



TOUCHSTONE ENERGY SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Application deadline February 9, 2024

Scholarship Details

PURPOSE:

The **Touchstone Energy® Achievement Scholarship** has been created to reward those students who have committed themselves to the pursuance of a college education despite unique and substantial personal challenges which may have befallen them. This special scholarship rewards students expressing the same values in their lives as the Touchstone Energy brand:

- **Accountability** – demonstrates a high level of maturity through accountability for their actions;
- **Integrity** – expresses highest standards of character;
- **Innovation** – demonstrates innovation and determination in coping with their circumstances;
- **Commitment to Community** – has good citizenship traits and a record of contribution to their local community.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD:

One winner will receive a \$1,000 cash award each year. The award is non-renewable.

INTERVIEWS

In-person interviews will be held on **March 6, 2024 at Defiance College** and all eligible applicants are required to participate on that day in order to be considered for the scholarship award. Additional information will be mailed to the applicants prior to that date regarding specific interview times.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST - to be considered for this award, all the following MUST BE submitted by the deadline date:

- _____ **Application form (two pages)** - Information must be confined to the official form. Applications must be submitted **by 4 p.m. on Friday, February 9, 2024.**
- _____ **An official, signed grade transcript**
Applicants must have a cumulative grade point average of **2.75 or above** on a 4.0 scale or an equivalent standing on a nontraditional scale.
- _____ **One essay - typed, 250 word maximum**
Essay must detail the barriers that made it difficult to achieve your educational goals.
- _____ **One letter of recommendation**
The letter may be typed or handwritten and must be no longer than 800 words. Please see the special instructions on page 3 for further guidance.
- _____ **A recent photo of the applicant** - A photocopy of a photo is acceptable.

Please review the scholarship rules on the next page prior to submitting your application.

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Scholarship Rules

The following provisions will govern the acceptance of applicants for the Touchstone Energy Special Achievement Scholarship:

1. Applicants must be the son, daughter, or legal ward of a permanent residential NWECC member-owner receiving service for the duration of the 2023-2024 academic year (August 2023 - June 2024). Children/wards of NWECC's commercial member-owners are not eligible unless one of their parents/legal guardians is also a permanent residential NWECC member-owner.
2. Applicants must be graduating seniors who have all basic credits for college or proper vocational or technical school entrance. A "proper vocational or technical school" is defined as a post-secondary institution where credits can be transferred to a state accredited four-year college.
3. Applicants must have a cumulative grade point average of **2.75 or above** on a 4.0 scale, or an equivalent standing on a nontraditional scale.
4. Winners must provide proof of enrollment in an accredited college or proper vocational/technical school of the student's choice to claim their scholarship.
5. Members of the immediate families and persons residing in the households of trustees, managers, or employees of NWECC are not eligible to participate in the competition.
6. Applicants who receive "full-ride" scholarships (i.e., scholarships that cover the cost of tuition, room, board and books) to the schools of their choice are not eligible for scholarships from NWECC.
7. All scholarships must be accepted in the first academic year following the student's high school graduation. However, an extension of one year may be granted for just cause, in the judgment of the President/CEO of NWECC. In the event students are unable to fulfill their enrollment obligation under this program, the awards are forfeited.
8. These rules supersede all previous rules for this scholarship.

All rules stated within this document conform to the policies and program guidelines as set forth by North Western Electric Cooperative, Inc.

MAIL OR DELIVER THE APPLICATION AND ATTACHMENTS TO:

**NWECC Scholarship Coordinator
04125 State Route 576
P O Box 391
Bryan, OH 43506**

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Letter of Recommendation Guidelines

Applicants: Please give this guide sheet to the person who will be writing your letter of recommendation.

The North Western Electric Cooperative Touchstone Energy Special Achievement Scholarship was created to reward those students who have committed themselves to the pursuance of a college education despite unique personal challenges which may have befallen them.

A letter of recommendation is required from an independent sponsor (e.g., school representative, church or community leader, etc.) that:

- Explains how the applicant's character has played roles in enabling him/her to succeed, and;
- Outlines the applicant's relevant life experiences and traits that clearly demonstrate determination in the face of adversity and/or commitment to community.

The letter should clarify the special challenge(s) that the student has dealt with; focus on the character traits that helped the student overcome the challenge(s); and the achievements that the student has made in spite of the difficulties. The suggested outline will answer the following points:

- How does the writer of the letter know the applicant?
- What is/are the unique challenge(s) the applicant has had to struggle with as he/she pursued an education? Include details of the circumstances or the situation and the length of time it existed.
- What control did the applicant have over the challenge(s)?
- What steps has the applicant taken to deal with the challenge(s)?
- What character traits did the applicant use to help him/her triumph over the challenge(s)?
- What outstanding accomplishments has the applicant achieved in spite of the challenge(s)?

Letter writer: Please limit your letter to 800 words or less. It is preferred that the letter be typewritten or computer printed.

Applicants: Please attach the completed letter to your application form.

Deadline to submit is 4 p.m. on Friday, February 9, 2024.

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TOUCHSTONE ENERGY SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP OFFICIAL APPLICATION FORM

Deadline is February 9, 2024

This application must be TYPED to be accepted.
Application deadline: 4 p.m. on Friday, February 9, 2024

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Your Personal Email: _____

Are you over 18? Yes Date of birth: _____
 No

If you are younger than 18, please provide your parents' or guardians' information below:

Name: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____

North Western Electric Cooperative member's name on the electric account:

_____ Electric account #: _____

Name of high school: _____

Name of college or accredited technical school that you plan to attend (or are currently attending).
If undecided, list all that you are considering:

What field of study/major will you be pursuing? _____

What is the estimated length of the program? Two-year Four-year Other: _____

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NON-SCHOOL RELATED PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS:

List church or community activities in which you have participated. Include the years of participation and any leadership roles you held.

SCHOOL RELATED PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS:

List the most prestigious activities you participated in such as plays, athletics, music, etc. Include the years of participation, any leadership roles you held, and any scholastic awards you received.

WORK EXPERIENCE:

List jobs, positions held and length of employment.

STATEMENT OF APPLICANT, PARENT OR GUARDIAN:

We have examined this application and the records are true, complete and accurate. In addition, we acknowledge and agree that North Western Electric Cooperative, Inc. may disclose any or all of the information contained in this application and the supporting documents to the judges of the scholarship competition and to any employees of North Western Electric Cooperative, Inc. Winners' names and photos will be published in our magazine, on our website and on our social media pages.

Date

Applicant's Signature

**MUST be original,
handwritten signatures.**

Parent/Guardian's Signature (if applicant is under 18 years of age)