

CMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

The Enlightener

CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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Lightbulb Winners

Congratulations to this month's lightbulb winners:

- ▶ Phyllis Eaton
- ▶ Dennis Hamlin
- ▶ Donald George
- ▶ Delores Kregar
- ▶ Matt Hunnicutt

Contact us today for your free lightbulbs!



Nondiscrimination

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Trustee Positions Open for Election

The Board of Trustees of the CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc. announces the following trustee's terms will expire in 2020 and their positions are open for election.

▶ **District 1, Position C**
GARY WARDEN

▶ **District 2, Position C**
LINDA TOMLINSON

▶ **District 3, Position C**
KEITH RANDALL

The Board also announces that members wishing to serve on the Board of Trustees shall be nominated by presenting a petition to the cooperative office with the signatures of fifteen valid members within the district they are to represent.

Blank petitions are available at the cooperative office in Meade, or call and one will be mailed to you. If you are needing additional information, please call CMS at 800-794-2353.

What To Do When Your Power Goes Off

First, check the fuses or circuit breakers. Then check with your neighbors to determine if electricity is off in your area. If your fuses and breakers are working and your neighbors do not have power, please report your outage to **800-794-2353 OR 844-758-8427 (AFTER HOURS)**.

Remember when reporting an outage to have the following ready:

- ▶ Your name and phone number
- ▶ Location of service
- ▶ Account number

Also, please provide any information pertaining to the outage that will help the linemen locate the problem so power can be restored quickly.

Reliability is our No. 1 priority, which requires dispatching our linemen in a timely manner to restore power.



Holiday Office Closing

Happy New Year from CMS Electric. We will be closed on Wednesday, Jan. 1 and will re-open on Thursday, Jan. 2.

Apply Now for a \$1,000 CMS Scholarship

CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc. awards six \$1,000 scholarships annually to eligible applicants. Apply by Feb. 10, 2020.

Purpose

To support development of effective leaders through educational opportunities.

Objective

To provide financial assistance for six high school graduates — based upon scholastic and extracurricular achievements — to continue their education.

Scholarship Eligibility

Current high school seniors whose parents/guardians are members of CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc. are eligible to apply for these scholarships.

Each applicant must intend to enroll as a full-time student in an accredited university or college, including junior, community, vocational or technical college. All applicants for the CMS Electric scholarships shall be considered based upon scholastic and extracurricular achievements without regard to race, age, color, religion, gender, national origin or existence of physical handicap.

Scholarship Criteria

Scholarship merit is based on three categories: scholastic achievement, extracurricular school activities and community activities.

How to Apply

Interested applicants may contact the CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc. office or a CMS Board Trustee from within the district in which they reside to obtain an application form or print an application form from the CMS website, www.cmselectric.com.

Completed applications must be post-marked and/or returned to CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc. **by Feb. 10, 2020.**

Mail applications to: Scholarship Committee, CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 790, Meade, KS 67864.

Questions about the scholarship program should be directed to CMS General Manager Kirk A. Thompson at 620-873-2184 or 800-794-2353.

Selection Procedure

Selections are made by CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s Scholarship Committee. Applicants must be willing to be interviewed by the committee if necessary. Decisions made by this committee shall be final. Runners-up will be selected in the event the recipient forfeits rights to the scholarship.

Payment of Scholarships

The scholarship recipients shall provide proof of college enrollment satisfactory to CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc.

The cooperative will then pay the institution. Should the recipient withdraw from college, payment of scholarship monies shall cease and reimbursement of unused monies shall be made to CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Conditions

In the event the scholarship recipient receives financial assistance from other sources, which would constitute a full scholarship, the recipient shall notify CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc. and relinquish rights to the scholarship. The money shall then be awarded to the runner-up, provided that individual continues to meet all criteria.

WHY IS MY POWER OUT?

When the power goes out, we work hard to resume service as quickly and safely as possible.

Here are some common reasons the power goes out:

STORMS



Mother Nature can interfere with power delivery.

VEGETATION



This is why we work hard to keep power lines clear.

ANIMALS



Curious animals can cause damage, especially squirrels.

ACCIDENTS



Run-ins with a utility pole or other equipment can cause an outage.

PUBLIC DAMAGE



Unsafe digging, equipment or line damage, vandalism or theft can all interfere.

OVERLOAD



This happens when demand spikes, like on a hot summer day.

EQUIPMENT ISSUES



We maintain and inspect equipment regularly, but sometimes malfunctions occur.

Thank you for your patience during outages.