



TIPS From T.I.P.

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OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE

February 2025

Brooklyn, Iowa

Accepting Applications for High School Youth Tour Trip



At T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative, one way we invest in the next generation of rural Iowa leaders is by participating in the national Electric Cooperative Youth Tour program. We're looking for high school sophomores, juniors and

seniors (**whose parents or guardians are members of T.I.P. REC**) with a passion for government and public service to apply for a once-in-a-lifetime trip to our nation's capital in June!

One student will be selected from eligible candidates to attend the 2025 Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., from June 15-21 along with 40 other student leaders from Iowa. The Iowa Youth Tour group will join with nearly 2,000 other students from across the country as they learn more about electric cooperatives and American history and come home with a greater understanding of their role as American citizens. Students will also learn about U.S. government and meet with their members of Congress. On the trip, students take in the sights of D.C. as they visit monuments, museums and historical landmarks. Students who go on Youth Tour often call it the trip of a lifetime!

When is Youth Tour? June 15-21, 2025 (orientation on the evening of June 15 in Des Moines, then fly out to D.C. on June 16)

Who can apply? Only children whose parents or guardians are members of T.I.P. REC are eligible to apply; the student must be a current sophomore, junior or senior. The application process consists of completing an application and answering a questionnaire.

How to apply? For more details and an application to apply go to tiprec.com/youth-tour. If you have any questions, please call our office at 800-934-7976.

What is the cost? There is **NO** cost to the student who is selected to go on the trip. All expenses are paid by T.I.P. REC.

Deadline to apply: March 14, 2025.

For more than 65 years, Iowa's locally owned electric cooperatives have been sending deserving students to D.C. This program is a great resume builder for student leaders and a wonderful opportunity to kickstart one's passion for government affairs or advocacy. This is just one part of T.I.P. REC's ongoing commitment to the youth in the communities we serve.

Scholarships Available for Seniors

T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative is offering scholarships to recognize academic and community achievements made by young adults. These scholarships are considered an investment in the economic future of rural areas.

T.I.P. REC is again offering three scholarship opportunities:

- One \$500 scholarship will be awarded to each school district in our service territory. These scholarship applicants must be graduating seniors whose parents/guardians are members of T.I.P. REC. Applicants must plan to enroll in an accredited two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school.
- One \$1,000 will be awarded to a graduating senior that is planning to enroll in an accredited Lineworker Program. The applicants parents/guardians do not have to be a member of T.I.P. REC but the applicant must attend a high school within our service territory.
- In addition to the above scholarships, a \$500 scholarship will be awarded to any T.I.P. REC intern who is planning to enroll in an accredited two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school or accredited Lineworker Program.

All applicants must fill out a scholarship application and complete the scholarship submittal requirements listed on the application.

• Scholarships will be distributed to the student payable to the college they are attending and to the student.

• **The application deadline is April 11, 2025**, and the scholarships will be awarded in **May**.

You can find more information and the applications at tiprec.com/scholarship-opportunities or contact your High School guidance counselor.

Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, USDA, its Mission Areas, agencies, staff, offices, employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Program information may be made available in language other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language) should contact the responsible Mission Area, agency, or staff office; the USDA TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TTY); or the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form, AD-3027, *USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form*, which can be obtained online at <https://www.usda.gov/forms/electronic-forms>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of the alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
- Fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- Email: program.intake@usda.gov

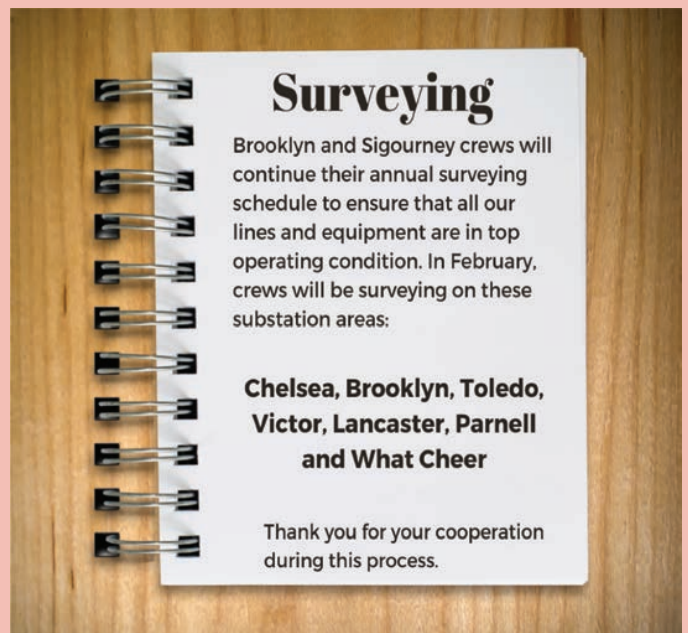
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Iowa Electric Cooperative Living Magazine Youth Tour Contest Available

In addition to having a chance to win a Youth Tour trip to Washington, D.C. from T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative, the *Iowa Electric Cooperative Living* magazine is also sponsoring an all-expenses paid Youth Tour trip. Any high school sophomore, junior or senior whose families are members of any electric co-op affiliated with the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives is eligible.

The contest begins in February and the deadline to apply is late March. For specific contest details and to apply, entrants will need to go to the magazine's website www.ieclmagazine.com. Students will want to submit entries into both contests so that if they don't win T.I.P. REC's contest then they still have a chance to win with this contest.

Don't miss another opportunity to win this exciting and educational trip.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

If you have a home office, look for opportunities to save energy in your workspace. Use ENERGY STAR®-rated equipment, which consumes up to 50% less energy than standard models. Set equipment like printers and scanners to automatically switch to sleep or energy-saver mode when not in use. In addition to saving energy, the equipment will stay cooler, which will help extend its life. Use efficient lamps for task lighting with energy-saving LED bulbs, too.

BGM Carolers Brighten our Holidays



Even though Christmas has come and gone, we would like to thank the BGM Elementary carolers for coming to our office and spreading some Christmas cheer in December.

Each year the employees look forward to seeing the students, listening to their carols and appreciate them taking the time to stop by our office. Thanks again!

T.I.P. REC offers REBATES on electric water heaters, central air conditioners, clothes washers, electric clothes dryers and much more. All rebates must be applied for within six months of date of purchase. Go to tiprec.com/rebates for more details.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Winter or spring, don't forget to call 8-1-1 before you dig!

Safe
Electricity.org

Take it from the groundhog: Don't assume you know what's below. Call 8-1-1 before you dig.

State Law Requires Notification of Alternate Energy Production



In 2012, the Iowa Legislature approved a bill that requires notification to electric utilities prior to installing an alternate energy generator.

The notification requirement applies to any type of electric generating technology including:

- solar
- wind turbine
- waste management
- resource recovery
- refuse-derived fuel
- agricultural crops and residue

Under this legislation, the owner of an alternate energy production facility must provide **written** notification to their electric utility at least 30 days before construction or installation of the generator.

If you are considering installing an alternate energy system - please contact T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative at 800-934-7976. Let us provide information and assistance **BEFORE** making the decision to purchase any type of alternate energy system that requires interconnection with the electric grid.

We ♥ Our Members



We love serving our member-owners! They are at the foundation of everything we do and the heart of the communities we serve. Happy Valentine's Day!

EFFECTIVE WAYS

To Lower Home Energy Use

Outside factors, such as fuel and equipment costs and extreme weather, can impact electricity prices. But you have the power to control home energy consumption by taking proactive steps to reduce energy use.



Thermostat Management

The thermostat is one of the best places to lower your energy use because heating and cooling account for a significant portion of home energy consumption. During winter months, adjust your thermostat to the lowest comfortable setting to reduce energy use. The Dept. of Energy recommends 68 degrees or lower.



Utilize Off-Peak Energy Times

Plan energy-intensive chores and tasks, such as running the dishwasher or washing clothing, during off-peak energy hours, when the demand for electricity is lower. Off-peak times are early in the morning or late evenings. By scheduling these activities during off-peak periods, you can help keep rates lower, reduce demand and relieve pressure on the grid.



Seal Your Home

According to ENERGY STAR®, about 20% of heated or cooled air that moves through a home is lost due to lack of proper insulation and air leaks. Ensure your home has sufficient insulation levels and seal air leaks around windows and doors with caulk and weatherstripping. This is a simple, effective way to lower energy use and improve indoor comfort.



Maintain Equipment

The health of your heating and cooling system is essential for comfort and can greatly impact energy bills. Maintain your system by regularly replacing dirty filters and scheduling annual inspections for maintenance and necessary repairs.

Congratulations Bill Credit Winners!



Thanks to all our member-owners who signed up for ACH or Operation Round-Up. The following won a \$25 bill credit which was applied to their December bill: Cloyd Fisher Jr., Sigourney, Bobbie Keller, Tama, Ronald Kuesel, Victor, and Leon Streigle, Delta.

Welcome Back Adam!



Pictured above is Adam Hawkins, a Journeyman Lineman on our Brooklyn crew. We are excited to announce that Adam returned to work for the cooperative in December.

Adam and his wife, Lee, who is the Office Manager at the cooperative, have four children: Kyla, Lincoln, Brody and Ace.

In his spare time, Adam enjoys hunting, fishing, riding his motorcycle and spending time with his family.

Adam looks forward to working with the guys he used to work with and working in the familiar areas again where he started his line career.

We are very happy to have Adam back on our Team!

NOTICE: The Brooklyn office will be closed on Wednesday, February 19 from 7:00 am till 1:00 pm for an all-employee safety meeting.

Pay Your Bill by Check, Debit or Credit Card. Log on to www.tiprec.com and Click on the blue Pay Now tab at the top or log into SmartHub or Call 833-619-0894.

Non-Discrimination Statement

“This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”

TIPS from T.I.P. is published monthly for members of T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative, 320 Industrial Drive, Brooklyn, Iowa 52211.

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