

Subject: FOUNDATION AWARDS			Policy No.: 515
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

POLICY STATEMENT

PURPOSE

It is the hope of the Board of Trustees that this program will motivate young students whose parents or guardians are members of and reside in the service area of The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc., to continue their education.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Cooperative Foundation Scholarships, will be awarded per semester in an amount to be determined by the board of the SEC Foundation to high school graduates who enroll and are accepted as freshman in an institution of higher learning in the Fall after their senior year. Relatives of SEC employees are eligible to apply for a scholarship. The immediate family (son/daughter) of trustees and the CEO will not be eligible to participate in the scholarship program.

QUALIFICATIONS (to be ascertained and verified by the concerned high school officials)

A recipient must:

- Have parents or **legal** guardians who have been members of The Socorro Electric Cooperative for a minimum of three years; **currently reside in the service area and are members in good standing. Members in good standing that do not have an outstanding balance on either active or inactive accounts by the submittal deadline.**
- Have been accepted for enrollment in an institution of higher learning; being a college, university, vocational or technical school accredited by the State or other qualified agency.
- Should **have a grade point average equivalent to a "C" or better.**

STIPULATIONS

- There will be no discrimination due to race, color, creed or in any form in the selection of the recipient.

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- Interested high school seniors must apply through the school administration for consideration as a recipient.
- **Home schooled students must coordinate with the senior faculty in the school district in which they reside.**
- The high school counselor will certify that the recipient has fulfilled the requirements and is eligible for the award.
- Selection will be made by the senior faculty.
- **The high school counselors must submit all successful applications by the deadline of the first Monday of April for verification purposes.**
- The Board of Trustees reserves the right to ratify all awards.
- This award will be presented by the President of the Board of Trustees or his/**her** designated representatives.

FUNDING PROCEDURES

- Funds will at all times be controlled by the Cooperative.
- The recipient (s) **will provide a copy of registration of their official class schedule as a full time student for each semester from the higher education institution they will be attending for the full amount of the scholarship to be paid in two semesters. All required registration information must be submitted by the recipient to the Cooperative before the third week in August and January.**
- Actual payment will be divided into two components and paid to the **higher education institution the second week in September and February.** The first half being paid to the **institution upon receipt of all required registration information submitted by the recipient to the Cooperative for the first semester.** The second half **will be paid upon receipt of the evidence of successful completion of the first semester and all required registration information submitted by the recipient.**
- Scholarship funds may be used for tuition, board, room, books, school fees or other enrollment requirements.

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- A recipient must carry a normal load being a sufficient number of hours to qualify as a college freshman.
- If a recipient drops out of college the remaining balance of the scholarship funds will be deemed void.

DISTRIBUTION

Starting in 1972 and continuing thereafter until the Board of Trustees of The Socorro Electric Cooperative deems it in the best interest of the Cooperative to modify or discontinue the program, the Scholarship Awards will be distributed as follows:

- Socorro Consolidated School District (3)
- Magdalena School District (1)
- Quemado School District (1)
- Belen School District (± 2)
- Alamo Navajo School District (1)
- Hot Springs School District (1)
- **Valedictorian from each high school (5) (6 when applicable)**

If an award is not used in any year by the high school participating in this program, it will be void and cannot be carried over or accrued.

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_____ High School

Sample Application
Socorro Electric Cooperative
Foundation Scholarship Award

Socorro Electric Foundation Scholarship Award (s) will be made available to students attending _____ High School by The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Application Deadline: MUST be returned to the High School Counselor by the First Monday in April.

QUALIFICATIONS

A recipient must:

- Have parents and/or legal guardian/s who are members of the Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc., have resided in the service area for a minimum of three (3) years and are members in good standing by the submittal deadline.
- Have a grade point average equivalent to a "C" or better.
- Have been accepted for enrollment in an institution of higher learning being a college, university, vocational or technical school accredited by the State or other qualified agency.

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I, _____ hereby apply for a Scholarship Award of The Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc., and certify that I meet the above requirements.

I plan to attend _____ and to pursue a training program in _____ (field of study).

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Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

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I hereby approve this application and agree to make every reasonable effort to help my son and/or daughter attend the school of his/her choice.

SEC Member account number: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

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GOVERNMENT IN ACTION YOUTH TOUR

PURPOSE

The goal of the Board of Trustees is to give young people an opportunity to discover American history, gain a better understanding of the U.S. political process and learn the important role electric cooperatives play in local communities.

One student will be selected from each high school served by the Cooperative:

- Alamo Navajo School District
- Belen School District
- Magdalena School District
- Quemado School District
- Socorro School District

If a high school fails to participate in the Youth Tour in any given year, the number of successful students chosen will be reduced. Relatives of SEC employees are eligible to apply. The immediate family (son/daughter) of the general manager and trustees will not be eligible to participate.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Students must a high school sophomore or junior.
- Students must attend a high school in the Cooperative's service area.
- Students that are home-schooled will be eligible to participate, if qualification criteria is met.
- Parents or legal guardians must be members of the Cooperative and must be members in good standing not having an outstanding balance on either an active or inactive account.
- Students must submit the application and essays to the high school guidance counselor.
- Home school students must submit their application and essays to the nearest high school in their service area.
- There will be no participation restriction for students related to employees of the Cooperative.

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ANNOUNCEMENT PROCEDURE

- Announcement of the Youth Tour will be made by the 1st Monday in October.
- Promotional material and rules of the contest will be sent via certified mail or by hand delivery to each high school counselor in SEC's service area.
- The SEC will promote the contest through the *Enchantment* and distributed to all editors of papers in the SEC service area.
- Application packages can also be obtained at the SEC office in Socorro but must be submitted to the applicable high school counselor.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- High school guidance counselors will administer the notification and application process for their respective schools.
- Students must submit a 500 word essay relating to the topic or topics specified by the Cooperative.
- Students must include the completed and signed application form with the essay.
- The application form must be signed by both the student applicant and the parent or legal guardian of the applicant and, if either of such signatures is not on the application, the application will be considered incomplete and will not be considered in the application process.
- By submitting the application package and the attachments relating to the application, the applicant and his/her parent or legal guardian signing the application are certifying that the information submitted is true and correct.
- Essays and applications not submitted by applicable deadlines will not be considered and will disqualify the student.
- The application packages and essays must be submitted to the SEC by each high school counselor or directly to the SEC main office in Socorro, New Mexico by the 2nd Friday in November.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

- The high school guidance counselor will gather all completed applications and essays.

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- The high school guidance counselor from each high school will submit the essays to the SEC, in blind form, for final selection by the officers of the SEC Foundation.
- The officers of the SEC Foundation will review the blind essays and select one essay and alternate from each high school participating each year.
- Verification of member status will be conducted by the SEC.
- The successful candidates and the respective high school counselor will be notified and all documentation will be submitted to the NMRECA.

OTHER EDUCATIONAL SPONSORSHIPS

The SEC Foundation will assist with sponsorship, awards, etc. for other educational activities such as 4H/FFA competitions, junior livestock auctions, spelling bees, NMRECA Coloring Contest, Science Olympiad, science fairs, and other educational opportunities allowed by the SEC Foundation IRS Trustee Agreement.

- The student must submit an application to the SEC for assistance or sponsorship.
- Parents or legal guardians must be members of the Cooperative and must be in good standing, not having an outstanding balance on either active or inactive accounts.

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