

**Oakdale Electric Cooperative  
2017 Youth Leadership Congress  
Student Scholarship Program  
ESSAY CONTEST RULES**

Students participating in the 2017 Youth Leadership Congress are eligible and strongly encouraged to enter the Oakdale Electric Cooperative Student Scholarship Essay Contest.

Scholarships are awarded as follows to the authors of the top three essays to students at each of the twelve participating public high schools:

- 1st Place - \$1,500
- 2nd Place - \$1,250
- 3rd Place - \$1,000

*Additional \$1,000 scholarships may, at the judges' discretion, be awarded to other exemplary entries. All scholarships are awarded at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee. The number of applicants, the amount of funds available, and the final opinion of the judges will affect these decisions.*

Scholarships are paid to winning students upon presentation of proof of enrollment at any accredited college, university, or technical school.

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1. Student must be a son/daughter (or under legal guardianship) of an active member of OEC residing in the same household.
  2. Student must be entering his/her senior year of high school in the fall of 2017 and student must have attended YLC in July 2017.
  3. The subject of the essay is "**The Value of Cooperation.**" Students will choose just one of the Seven Cooperative Principles and elaborate on how cooperatives put the particular principle of their choosing in action.
  4. Essays will be based on information presented at the 2017 WECA Youth Leadership Congress. Students are encouraged to use personal experiences to demonstrate their understanding of the value of cooperation in their lives. Visiting a local cooperative and conducting a personal interview is a great way to gather valuable firsthand experience.
  5. Knowledge of the subject, originality, grammar, spelling, and neatness will be factors used in judging essays.
  6. A panel of three judges will judge essays. Only essays received by the due date will be judged.
  7. Essays must be a minimum of 600 words and not more than 1,200 words (approximately 2 to 4 typewritten pages).
  8. Essays must be typed or computer generated, double-spaced, and on white letter-sized paper. (Essays will need to be copied for distribution to the judges - please be sure the essay will copy clearly.)
  9. **DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME ON THE ESSAY.** Be sure to use an Essay Contest form.
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**Essays must be mailed to:  
Oakdale Electric Cooperative  
Attn: Scholarship Essay Contest  
PO Box 40  
Oakdale WI 54649**

**ESSAYS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN AUGUST 25, 2017**

Scholarship winners will be notified during October 2017