



Policy No: 7.02
Title: Scholarships
Date Adopted: July 31, 2012
Date Revised: October 29, 2015

SUBJECT: SCHOLARSHIPS

OBJECTIVE: To establish policy concerning the awarding of scholarships to students graduating from high schools within SMPA's service territory. SMPA wishes to establish a process for the awarding of SMPA funds that will be fair and equitable for all qualified students. The objective is to assist in the continued education of SMPA Members and non-Members receiving electrical services (together, "Patrons") children.

POLICY: It shall be the policy of SMPA to:

- A. Award a scholarship each Spring to a graduating senior from high schools within SMPA's service territory. All recipients must be a Patron or dependent of a Patron.
- B. Each scholarship shall be \$2,000 and will be awarded to only one student from each high school. An alternate will be selected from each school should the original recipient not claim his or her scholarship.
- C. Additional scholarships sponsored by associate organizations to be awarded by SMPA, i.e. Tri-State G&T and Basin Electric, shall be awarded following this policy as well.
- D. An additional scholarship is available from Basin Electric for dependents of SMPA employees. The selection committee shall choose one application to forward to Basin Electric to be entered into that pool of applicants which shall be separate from and possibly in addition to SMPA scholarships.
- E. In addition to a completed application, all students wishing to be considered for a scholarship shall provide the following additional information:
 - a. Transcript of grades
 - b. Essay of at least 250 words on a subject selected by SMPA
 - c. Community Involvement
 - d. Intended course of study
 - e. Two letters of reference
 - f. Proof of Patron status

- F. A selection committee comprised of community members from the educational field shall judge each application without knowing the name of the student until after the selections have been made.

- G. Applications for the scholarship will be judged by the following criteria:
 - a. Completed application
 - b. Grade Point Average
 - c. Essay
 - d. Community involvement
 - e. Course of study – Intended degree should be related to the electric cooperative business.

- H. Scholarship checks shall be issued in the student's name and the institution they will be attending. Checks will be handed out at the SMPA annual meeting or mailed to recipients after the annual meeting date.

- I. Scholarships awarded by SMPA shall be used in the year that it is awarded. If the recipient cannot accept or use the scholarship during that year, the scholarship will then be awarded to the runner up. Extenuating circumstances may be considered by the Board of Directors on a case by case basis.

RESPONSIBILITY: It shall be the responsibility of the General Manager/CEO to see that this policy is implemented and followed.