WHAT DOES AN ELECTRICAL LINEWORKER DO?

It’s a rewarding career. An electrical lineworker performs a variety of tasks in diverse situations and areas. On any given day, a lineworker may climb poles, operate aerial lift devices to work on overhead lines 25 to 200 feet above the ground, work on a substation or dig trenches to string underground electric cable. Lineworkers work outside in all kinds of weather. Severe weather or accidents can knock out power to a community, and lineworkers may be needed at any hour to restore the power.

I’M INTERESTED IN A CAREER AS A LINEWORKER, NOW WHAT?

It is a good idea to do some research before pursuing a career as an electrical lineworker. Schools like Los Angeles Trade-Technical College (LATTC) have resources for those who are considering this field of work. Visit their website for more information: lattc.edu.

Edison International is offering a scholarship for the Powerline Mechanic Certificate offered at LATTC. The scholarship will cover LATTC prerequisite fees, the costs of the certificate and tools needed for the climbing portion of the program. In addition to tuition and tools, the scholarship will cover support services as needed, such as transportation and childcare, through an agreement with Brotherhood Crusade, a charitable nonprofit.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE SCHOLARSHIP?

All accepted applicants to the Powerline Mechanic Certificate Program at LATTC are eligible to apply for and compete for an Edison International Lineworker scholarship. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, hold a valid driver’s license, possess a high school diploma or its equivalent and must be eligible to work in the U.S. The program is about a 12-month commitment.

Applicants with felonies or drug offenses on their record need not apply. Southern California Edison (SCE) requires a rigorous employee background check upon hiring.
Q: HOW CAN THE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS BE USED?
A: Acceptable use of scholarship funds, including those provided by IBEW Local 47, includes tuition, books, equipment, commercial trucking school fees and/or other costs related to the Powerline Mechanic Certificate program at LATTC. Support services for transportation, childcare and general support will be determined on a case-by-case basis, and each student’s needs will be individually evaluated by the program administrator. All designated funds will be provided to the academic institution and service providers on behalf of the awardees.

Q: IS THERE AN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AT SCE?
A: Yes, graduates will be offered an entry-level groundman position at SCE upon completion of the Powerline Mechanic Certificate program, a Class A license program, as well as any SCE pre-employment requirements. All jobs will be located within SCE’s 50,000-square-mile service area and may require the graduate to relocate.

Q: HOW ARE RECIPIENTS SELECTED?
A: Scholarships will be awarded based on the answers submitted in the online application. Scholarship America, a well-known nonprofit organization that administers scholarships throughout the country, will review applications and select the scholarship winners. Awardees will be notified in June.