



POWERING STUDENTS' FUTURES

GCEA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

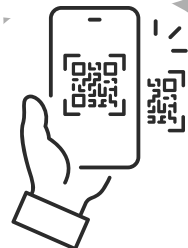
As a cooperative, we are committed to supporting education that enriches the lives of those we serve. GCEA awards scholarships to graduating high school seniors, returning college students, and non-traditional students. Whether you are a student at a traditional college, planning to attend a technical school, or interested in pursuing a career as a lineworker, GCEA is here to support you!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- ✓ Must be a GCEA member
- ✓ Scan the QR code for more information
- ✓ Application deadline is March 3, 2025



SCAN ME



gcea.coop



970-641-3520

2024 GCEA HIGHLIGHTS

As we close out the year, we are excited to share GCEA accomplishments from 2024! The board of directors, executive staff, and employees were busy providing safe, reliable, and affordable electricity to the membership. In 2023, GCEA launched our Strategic Plan, and in 2024, we worked continually to achieve the goals we set for ourselves.

Earlier this year, GCEA was selected by the U.S. Department of Energy for up to \$5 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding as part of the Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas program. GCEA is one of 19 projects receiving over \$78 million to develop clean energy solutions, aiming to enhance reliable and affordable energy access in rural areas. The funding will replace 30 miles of aging electric distribution lines, improve grid reliability and reduce maintenance costs for Gunnison County residents. We are eager to get this project started and to boost resiliency for Hinsdale County residents.



Taylor River Hydro in Taylor Canyon

After decades of research and negotiation, GCEA completed the Taylor River Hydro Project and generation commenced in October. The hydropower plant includes the largest single-phase power generator operating in the U.S., producing about the same amount of energy annually as a 2.5-MW fixed tilt-solar array. Taylor River Hydro will provide clean electricity to approximately 500 local homes and businesses, moving GCEA closer to achieving 7% renewable power supply by the end of 2025. We are thrilled to provide local clean, renewable energy to our members!

Are you in the market to install new insulation, windows and doors, water heaters, HVAC systems, and other energy-efficient technology in your home? In June, GCEA kicked off a new on-bill repayment program called Electrify and Save® that allows members to make energy efficient home upgrades and pay them off over time on their GCEA bill, breaking down barriers to accessing energy efficiency and electrification benefits. Electrify and Save® is administered through the partnership between Colorado Clean Energy Fund, Tri-State Generation and Transmission, and Zero Homes. GCEA has more than 50 members signed up to get help with their home upgrades. Three of those members will finish their projects by the end of 2024!

GCEA's dedication to community service goes beyond our local service territory. In June, Journeyman Linemen Justin Hulick and Mike Pendency, along with apprentices Zach Bever and Kevin Fox, traveled to Chinle, Arizona, to volunteer for Light Up Navajo. Their mission was to bring electricity to areas of Navajo Nation that have never had the modern conveniences that many of us take for granted. Their main accomplishment in Chinle was connecting one mile of overhead primary line to a remote home that had been without electricity for 40 years. We are truly impressed by the dedication of the GCEA linemen who volunteered their time to bring electricity to Navajo Nation families as part of the Light Up Navajo project. We are excited to send a new group of linemen to Navajo Nation in 2025.



L-R: Kevin Fox, Justin Hulick, Mike Pendency, Zach Bever, Navajo Resident.



GCEA has offered student opportunities for decades, thanks to unclaimed capital credits. As your local electric cooperative, we are here to help enrich the lives of all our members by offering scholarships and student educational opportunities. This year we were able to provide 108 scholarships to students in our membership. In 2024, we sent several students on two different trips of a lifetime. Six local students went on a week-long, all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. We also sent one student to the Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs.

This is just a snapshot of our successful year and with the momentum gained in 2024, there is great potential for even more productive years ahead.

We appreciate your membership in GCEA and the opportunity to serve you. We remain committed to creating reliable and affordable electricity for you, our valued members.

December EV Buying Tips

Are you in the market for a new vehicle and considering going electric? The end of the year is a great time to think about purchasing an EV due to end-of-year incentives and discounts. Many dealerships and manufacturers offer significant deals to meet annual sales targets, making it easier to find a good price. Purchasing right before the new year also means you can quickly take advantage of state and federal tax credits; plus, GCEA offers an EV purchase rebate up to \$1,000. When you stack all the incentives and rebates and consider the lower cost of charging compared to filling a tank with gas, purchasing an EV in December is a smart way to end the year. For more information about GCEA's EV Programs, visit www.gcea.coop/energy-efficiency/electric-vehicles/.



DO YOU NEED HELP WITH YOUR ELECTRIC BILL THIS WINTER?



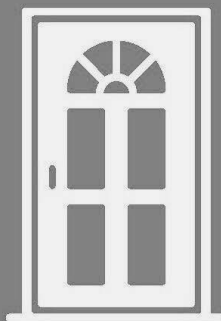
Life happens, and sometimes you might need assistance with your electric bill. Home heating costs tend to rise during these colder months, and we want to ensure you stay safe and warm this winter. Here are a few resources that can help you stay current with your GCEA bill:

- LEAP - Low-income Energy Assistance Program
- EOC - Energy Outreach Colorado
- GV-HEAT - Gunnison Valley Home Energy Advancement Team
- Housing Resources of Western Colorado
- Energy Smart Colorado

Visit www.gcea.coop for more information about energy assistance programs.

Efficiency Tip

Seal in comfort and savings with weatherstripping. Check for air leaks around your windows and doors and install weatherstripping where needed. Prevent drafts to reduce energy loss and lower your heating and cooling bills, improving energy efficiency year-round.

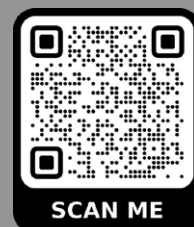


 Safe Electricity.org®

Weatherization Rebate

Looking for ways to save energy and money? GCEA offers rebates to reduce the cost of your home weatherization projects.

Scan the QR code for information.





Save Money with GCEA's Rebate Program!

GCEA members, did you know that GCEA has a rebate for just about anything you plug in? Electrify your life and put money in your pocket by applying for a rebate today! Scan the QR code below to learn about all GCEA rebate opportunities!

To receive 2024 rebate funds for 2024 purchases, please submit your application by December 31, 2024.



ON BILL REPAYMENT PROGRAM

Home Upgrades with No Upfront Cost

From windows and doors to heat pumps, there are tons of affordable upgrades available for your home or business. Take advantage of the Gunnison County Electric Association Electrify and Save On-Bill Repayment program (OBR) for a simple and transparent financing option.

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT GCEA.COOP.

Connect with us on Facebook at Gunnison County Electric Association to stay informed about GCEA programs and outages! Members can discover information about our programs, rebates, and much more.



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