

# PRECorp News

NOVEMBER 2022

## PRECorp increases scholarship to \$2K

As part of the cooperative “Commitment to Community” Powder River Energy facilitates a variety of student scholarships to its members’ dependents.

The PRECorp Board has approved an increase in the PRECorp Scholarship award from \$1,500 per year to \$2,000 per year for 19 college students from the cooperative service territory.

The decision is based on rising costs to attend college and trade school, as well as an effort to ensure a diverse pool of applicants each selection cycle. The program is funded by unclaimed capital credits that are held in an account when members abandon their financial stake in the cooperative. The scholarship program has no impact on current members’ power rates.

The following are capsules on the variety of scholarships available through PRECorp, deadlines, and on-line application resources. Scan the code at the right, or go to [www.precorp.coop/student-scholarships](http://www.precorp.coop/student-scholarships) for complete details.

### Youth Leadership Camp

PRECorp sponsors a week-long cooperative leadership experience for local high school students age 16 and up. The camp is held in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, July 15-20, 2023, with other students from Colorado, Kansas, and Oklahoma. All expenses, including transportation, room and board are paid for students

selected. Along with activities highlighting how cooperatives work, students enjoy river rafting, hiking, nature tours and other Steamboat attractions. Those who attend the camp can qualify to attend an all-expense paid Cooperative Youth Tour of Washington, DC, with 2,000 other students from across the United States. The student’s parents/guardians must be PRECorp members. **The application deadline is January 23, 2023.**



### Basin Electric Scholarship - \$1,000

Applicant’s parents or legal guardians must be PRECorp members. One student from the PRECorp membership service territory may be chosen. Another is nominated for consideration for the Members 1st selection. **The filing deadline for the Basin Electric Power Scholarship is February 1, 2023.**

### Powder River Energy Corporation/ Foundation Scholarship - \$2,000

Open to qualifying seniors and post-secondary students from 14 high schools and up to 5 at-large students in its service territory. Applicant’s parents or

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**BRIAN MILLS,**  
CEO

As we share our monthly thoughts with you, hopefully you are reading this at a time when we are tantalizingly close to Thanksgiving and the time for gathering with friends and family.

We all have things we can be thankful for ranging from great success or simply avoided disaster. The reflections upon our past year are certainly different for all of us.

One of the areas we keep focused attention at PRECorp is the ongoing culture of safety. A few months ago, our employee team refreshed its safety awareness with special connections with loved ones at home. Our team viewed video messages from their loved ones – spouses, children, parents, siblings and other relatives – urging them to work safely so they can come home make positive memories.

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**Do we tell our family and friends often enough that we care about their well-being? The Holiday season is a good time to step back, appreciate those around us, and reevaluate our “why” in how we work and play.**

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The intent behind these individual messages was to connect how their work behaviors impact their own family members and how behaviors of one can affect the well being of many. The message of this safety program is “Know your why.” Why do you follow the safety guidelines? Why do you take the extra step or take a second look? Is it really company protocol or is it for the love

of your family and friends whose relationship you value? Whenever you make good safety decisions seated at of a deeper “why” than protocol provides for that sense of bigger purpose in our lives.

The business of keeping the lights on at a rural electric cooperative sends our linemen, meter technicians, and design technicians to remote locations. Sometimes in extreme weather in the dark of night. When you think about the times our restoration crews have spent and will spend out in the field to restore power during outages, the commitment to you the member is what motivates them to be out there...but it is their “why” that guides and encourages them in completing the job. And, it is their loved ones at home who also stay awake until they hear them come home and kick their boots off.

As members of PRECorp, we can adopt a similar approach to our own lives. Do we tell our family and friends often enough that we care about their well-being? The Holiday season is a good time to step back, appreciate those around us, and reevaluate our “why” in how we work and play.

Lastly, on behalf of all the employees here at PRECorp, want to share our gratitude to our supportive membership, particularly in times when we are battling storms and outages. We are very encouraged to read the messages of support on social media, the supportive voice mails, and notes you send to our offices. We read them all and we share them with our line crews. It means a lot to know our work for you is noticed and appreciated.

Happy Thanksgiving!

**Join CEO Brian Mills for a telephone town hall meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 30. We will call members at 6:30 p.m. to join, or dial in toll-free to 888-886-6602. Hear the latest news from PRECorp and get answers to your questions!**

# Be prepared for winter power outages

During a power outage, safely restoring electricity to our members is the highest priority, and PRE-Corp crews will respond anytime to get the lights back on.

Outages frequently last less than a few hours. However, severe damage to power lines and distribution systems may take days to repair, especially if treacherous weather conditions persist. It is important to be prepared for dangerous winter storms and possible power outages.

Prepare ahead of time to have adequate supplies and know how to safely emerge from a winter storm emergency. This is particularly important for families with special needs.

 **Follow us on Facebook during large outages.**

## Winter outage survival notes:

- Have flashlight and batteries ready.
- Keep a supply of one to two gallons of bottled water per person, per day.
- Set aside non-perishable foods to last three to seven days.
- Inventory a seven-day supply of prescription medications.
- Fuel up your automobile. Gas pumps might not work in an outage.
- Charge mobile devices before the storm hits and use them sparingly.
- Be aware of the dangers of carbon monoxide with gasoline-powered generators.
- Get help if you are short on supplies.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Giveaway

Two separate drawings will be held for 25-pound bundles of beef and pork at 8 a.m. on Monday, December 5. Operation RoundUp<sup>®</sup> members are automatically entered in the drawing. Not enrolled in Operation RoundUp<sup>®</sup>? Sign up today by calling 1-800-442-3630. Sign up by Friday, December 2, and be entered in the drawings on Monday, December 5.

## Have a medical necessity?



In an effort to better serve our members with special health care needs, PRECorp is requesting information from our members who may have electricity-dependent residential medical equipment such as oxygen or dialysis machines.



Typically this information is gathered when members join the Cooperative and sign up for PRECorp electrical service.

However, if members have obtained the medical equipment since joining the Cooperative, members may want to share that information with us.

The purpose for knowing this information is to notify members with medical necessities of scheduled outages that might impact their service.

Members will need to provide a doctor's note for our files explaining the medical necessity.

For more information or to update your information, contact PRECorp Member Service at 1-800-442-3630.

Powder River Energy Corporation will make every effort to restore electrical service as soon as possible during an outage. There is no guarantee the power will be restored within a given time frame. Individuals are responsible to have an alternative plan if power cannot be restored before any condition becomes critical.

## Please note our Holiday closures

Powder River Energy Corporation offices will be closed for these upcoming Holiday observances:



**Thanksgiving:**  
Thursday, November 24  
and Friday, November 25



**Christmas:**  
Monday, December 26



**New Year's:**  
Monday, January 2



**(All Employee Meeting)**  
Friday, March 24, 2023

**To report an outage call 1-888-391-6220 or use the SmartHub app on your mobile device.**

## Scholarships...

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legal guardians must be active PRECorp members. **The deadline for filing the Powder River Energy Corporation Scholarship is March 1, 2023.**

### PRECorp Lineman Scholarship

The PRECorp Lineman Scholarship is available to qualifying applicants who plan to attend an approved lineworker training program. Awards can be up to \$7,000. **The deadline for filing the PRECorp Lineman Scholarship is March 1, 2023.**

### Geis Family Scholarship - \$TBD

Awards range from \$400 to \$1,000 to qualifying seniors from Coal Country FFA or Gillette FFA in Campbell County, who are pursuing careers benefitting the agriculture industry. **The deadline for filing the Barb and Bill Geis Memorial Scholarship is March 1, 2023.**

### WREA Lineman Scholarships

The Wyoming Rural Electric Association offers various scholarships for prospective linemen. They include the Hackworth Scholarship and the Adkins Scholarship. Go to [www.wyomingrea.org](http://www.wyomingrea.org) for more information. **The deadlines to file applications vary from March to May.**



## COOK UP ENERGY SAVINGS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

- Clean oven burners regularly.
- Match the pan size to the burner you're using.
- Use small appliances like slow cookers and toaster ovens when possible.

**From our table to yours,  
Happy Thanksgiving!**

Regular business: 1-800-442-3630 Report an outage: 1-888-391-6220

[www.precorp.coop](http://www.precorp.coop)

Powder River Energy Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer.