



Rural Broadband Scholarship

Deadline March 20, 2020

Bledsoe Telephone Cooperative is awarding two (2) \$1000 scholarships to high school seniors enrolled in a college, university, or technical school in the Fall of this year, whose parent(s) or guardian(s) is an active member of Bledsoe Telephone Cooperative in good standing.

Throughout its history the United States has adopted policies which took advantage of major technological advances that led to prosperity as a nation. In the 19th century it was the development of canals and a national railroad system. In the 20th century it was rural electrification (which allowed rural citizens to come together to form Bledsoe Telephone Cooperative) and the national highway system. Today, high speed broadband Internet access is as vital as phones, electricity, and roads. Those without this access, particularly people in rural areas, are left stranded on the wrong side of the digital divide.

Rural Broadband – Building Our Tomorrow

Describe ways in which broadband Internet access improves the lives of rural residents. What challenges exist in providing broadband Internet in rural areas? And how is broadband Internet access delivered to you?

Guidelines:

1. Each essay should contain between 500 and 750 words to qualify.
2. Each essay must be typed, double spaced, with 1" margins, and 12 point font.
3. The applicant's name must not appear anywhere on or in the actual essay.
4. Each essay must have a completed, typed Rural Broadband Scholarship Application entry form stapled to the BACK.
5. The essay must be the original work of the student.
6. Only Bledsoe Telephone Cooperative member students (parent(s) or guardian(s) must be active members in good standing) public, private, and home schooled senior students planning to enter a college, university, or technical school in the Fall of this year may participate.
7. All items must be submitted in one envelope and mailed or hand delivered to:
Bledsoe Telephone Cooperative, 338 Cumberland, Pikeville - or - 122 Cherry St., Dunlap
Mailed applications must be POSTMARKED no later than the DEADLINE and mailed to Bledsoe Telephone Cooperative, P.O. Box 609, Pikeville, TN 37367
8. Along with the completed application and written essay, students must submit a current high school transcript and a letter of recommendation from a high school teacher or counselor.
9. Each essay will be judged by an independent panel based upon originality, knowledge of subject matter in relationship to the title, and supporting statements, correct spelling and punctuation, as well as adherence to guidelines, and completion of application.



Official Scholarship Entry Form Rural Broadband – Building Our Tomorrow

(Please type)

NAME: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Bledsoe Telephone Cooperative Member Phone Number: _____

Bledsoe Telephone Cooperative Member name and relationship:

Member Name

Relationship

Student Cell Number: _____

School Name: _____

School Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Name of College, University, or Technical School entering in the Fall of 2018:

College, University, or Technical School plan of study (major) and future goals:

Student Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

