**For Immediate Release**

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**2016 Scholarships Available to Electric Cooperative Members**

**(Arrington, VA)** Any high school or home school senior graduating in 2016 whose parents or guardians are consumer-members of Central Virginia Electric Cooperative and whose primary residence is served by the cooperative is eligible to apply now for a $1,000 scholarship. For application and instructions, students may go to [www.mycvec.com/the-news](http://www.mycvec.com/the-news) and click on **Scholarships** in the left menu. Deadline to apply is February 10, 2016. All applications must be submitted online.

Scholarships are awarded by the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives’ (VMDAEC) Education Scholarship Foundation. An applicant must be entering his or her first semester at a college or technical/trade school in the fall of 2016 and scholarship funds must be used towards tuition, student fees, room and board or textbooks.

The Scholarship Foundation’s board of directors will select recipients based on a combination of the following weighted criteria: financial need at 40%; academic achievement at 40%; personal statement at 20%. Preference will be given to applicants who indicate a planned career as a line worker. Successful applicants will be notified no later than May 31, 2016.

In 2015, VMDAEC received 353 applications from students in areas served by 15 electric cooperatives in Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. From these, the Board selected 45 applicants to receive a Worth M. Hudson Scholarship in the amount of $1,000 each, one applicant to receive the C. D Hypes Memorial Scholarship in the amount of $1,000, and one applicant to receive the K. M. Beasley Memorial Scholarship in the amount of $1,000 for a total of 47 scholarships. Over the past 15 years, 517 students have received a VMDAEC Educational Scholarship.

Donations to this program are welcomed! The Scholarship Foundation can accept tax-deductible donations and also participates in the Amazon Smile program. To use this option, visit [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) to create an account and enter “VMDAEC Education Scholarship Foundation” as the name of the charitable organization. Questions about donations and the application process should be directed to Pam Johnson, Manager of Continuing Education & Training at pjohnson@odec.com or 804-968-7153.

Founded in 1944, VMDAEC is the trade association for CVEC and the 14 other not-for-profit electric distribution cooperatives serving the Mid-Atlantic region. It is based in Glen Allen, Va., and provides safety and employee training, governmental relations and legislative and communications services, including the publishing of *Cooperative Living* magazine for its member co-ops.

Headquartered in Lovingston, Central Virginia Electric Cooperative is a member-owned electric-distribution utility serving nearly 35,000 meters in 14 counties across central Virginia. For more information, visit [www.mycvec.com](http://www.mycvec.com).

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