

Southern Pine Electric Now Accepting Applications for Student Ambassador Program

The Student Ambassador program is designed to give one student the opportunity to gain firsthand knowledge of the public relations and communications career field as well as acquire an understanding of electric cooperatives.

The student selected will work closely with the Southern Pine communications team and as the student ambassador for Southern Pine, will gain real-world experience in all facets of cooperative communications.

Program Criteria

The successful student will be mentored by key cooperative staff and work with Southern Pine's communication team. The student will have the opportunity to gain experience in all areas of communications and public relations including web design, writing press releases, writing original articles for publication, photography, graphic design, and representing the co-op at both local and state public service and community events.

Benefits to the Student Selected for the Program

- A paid internship
- Gain real life experience in all facets of communications
- Automatic participant in Southern Pine's Co-op University, Southern Pine's Youth Leadership program, which will include high school juniors from the 11-county service area
- Automatic participation as a Southern Pine representative in the Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi (ECM) Youth Leadership Workshop in Jackson, MS
- All expenses paid trip to Washington, DC for the ECM Youth Tour
- Recognized in *Today in Mississippi* magazine as well as features in newspapers, and television station interviews across Southern Pine's territory

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be a child of a Southern Pine member, or employee, no exceptions
- Complete SPEC application
- Must be a high school junior
- Must have a 2.75/4 or higher cumulative grade point average
- Must submit two letters of recommendation (one from a teacher, counselor, or school principal, and one from a community leader)
- Must submit a one-page, double-space original writing sample or write a one-page, double-spaced, essay entitled "Why I Will Make a Great Student Ambassador for Southern Pine Electric"
- No out of school suspension and/or expulsion

Additional Candidate Considerations

- Interest in communications, journalism, graphic design, and social media marketing
- Active participation in school clubs (Beta, debate, history, yearbook/newspaper staff, etc.)
- Minimum of 10 hours of documented community service
- Desire to promote cooperative principles and advance career opportunities by attending a Co-ops 101 Course designed by Southern Pine and/or the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA)
- Ability to work well with peers and grow as team player

Deadline for submission, no exceptions

Completed application and all completed eligibility requirement documents must be submitted on or before October 13, 2023, to the voice@southernpine.coop Original application and documentation may be mailed to Student Ambassador Program Administrator, Southern Pine Electric Cooperative, P. O. Box 60, Taylorsville, Mississippi, 39168. If mailed, it must be received by the cooperative on or before October 13, 2023.

Candidates will be required to interview before a panel of judges before the end of October 2023.

The successful student will be announced on November 9, 2023, at the Annual Membership Meeting of the cooperative.

Please return this sheet with your two recommendation forms and the writing sample or essay. You may attach an additional sheet if necessary.

Student and Parents – Please complete this section:

Southern Pine Account Number: _____

Name of Parents or Guardians: _____

Student's Physical Address: _____

Student's Mailing Address: _____

Parent's Telephone Number(s): _____

Student's Telephone Number: _____

Student's T-shirt Size: _____

STUDENT PROFILE

Student – Please complete this section:

Name: _____

School: _____

Approximate number in your graduating class: _____

College/Career Plans: _____

Are you currently employed? Yes No

If yes, where? _____

Please list any school, church and/or community activities that you are involved in:

Please list any other honors or achievements:

Essay Topic:

“Why I Will Make a Great Student Ambassador for Southern Pine Electric”

Essay Rules:

Essay must be at two pages, typed and double spaced. Please include your name and school in a header at the top of each essay page. You may email or mail your essay to the address below. All submissions must be received by **Friday, October 13, 2023**.

Submit essay to: voice@southernpine.coop

Or mail to:

Southern Pine Electric
Attn: Communications Department
P.O. Box 60
Taylorsville, MS 39168