

From the VP - Kim Grellner



I am excited to announce that Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc. will once again be accepting applications for both College Scholarship and Technology

Center scholarship programs. Each year, Pioneer awards up to 26 scholarships to deserving scholars in our territory. All scholarship applications require a 500-word essay to demonstrate the applicant's passion for their career path, but also give insight for the "Pioneer Scholar" section in our GoPioneer Magazine. This is an honor we began last year which allows our Customers and Members to see the amazing work ethic and desire behind some of the brightest minds in our communities.

The Scholarship Committee will consider all applicants entering their Junior/Senior College year in August 2021 for the College Scholarship, which shall cover \$1,000 per semester toward the cost of tuition for a maximum of \$2,000 per year. The Committee will also consider all qualified Technology Center applicants for the Technology Center Scholarship, which shall cover \$1,000 toward the cost of tuition and fees for their chosen program.

I encourage all eligible students to apply for our scholarship. Please direct your students to our website GoPioneer.com under Community Resources/Scholarships for all the information and application forms they need to apply. Our application will once again be in a PDF format. All applicants have the option of emailing their applications or submitting

them by mail. The deadline for applying is June 1, 2021, and the requirements for each respective scholarship can be found in this issue of the Tele-Topics on page three.

Please send in your completed applications by the June 1, 2021 deadline to its respective email:

techscholarship@ptci.com
collegescholarship@ptci.com
or

Scholarship Committee
Attn: Richard Ruhl
Pioneer Telephone
Cooperative, Inc.
P.O. Box 539
Kingfisher, Oklahoma 73750

We look forward to receiving your applications and wish all students the very best as they pursue their dreams.

Last year, Pioneer made the difficult decision to cancel the Annual Meeting due to the health and safety concerns caused by COVID-19. At the beginning of 2021, Pioneer's Board of Trustees decided to POSTPONE the Annual Meeting and District Meetings typically held in April and May. However, with COVID vaccines being more readily accessible to the public, Pioneer is hopeful we will be able to bring together our Members later this year. Currently, Pioneer has not scheduled dates for the Annual Meeting or District Meetings. We do, however, intend to have a decision made by Tele-Topics Vol. 3, which is scheduled for release in mid-August.

In early March, Governor Kevin Stitt removed COVID-19 restrictions on all events and mask requirements inside of government buildings. We are beginning to see businesses

and companies modify their operational strategy yet maintain COVID precautions. While we are relieved to see our communities become active, I encourage you to remain cautious and exercise CDC guidelines while in public. The CDC still recommends wearing a mask, practicing social distancing and frequent hand washing. Pioneer will continue to enforce its COVID policies inside our stores and offices. Please follow the signage posted on the floors and doors of all office and retail locations, practice social distancing, and wear a mask if possible, for your protection and the protection of our Employees. The safety of our Customers and Employees is still our number one priority and these guidelines will be in place for the unforeseeable future.

We strongly recommend downloading and using Pioneer SmartHub to submit your questions or trouble tickets. SmartHub is an app which allows our customers to manage their account, view and pay bills, submit trouble tickets, and much more. This is a great way to keep yourself healthy and safe when it comes to respiratory viruses such as COVID-19 while staying in contact with Pioneer.

Hopefully, by doing our part, we will be able to come together later this year.

Our thoughts and well wishes to all of our Members,

Together, Moving Forward.

Kim Grellner
Vice President
Marketing Sales & Service

REMINDER

PIONEER TELEPHONE'S ANNUAL MEETING *AND* 2021 DISTRICT MEETINGS *HAVE BEEN POSTPONED.*

The filing for perspective Trustee candidates that is traditionally scheduled for April has been POSTPONED until a later date.

The District 6 Meeting has been POSTPONED. District 6 includes the following exchanges: OKARCHE, COMANCHE, APACHE, TEMPLE, and HASTINGS

The District 8 Meeting has been POSTPONED. District 8 includes the following exchanges: HELENA, CARMEN, HUNTER, LAMONT, DEER CREEK, HOPETON, CLEO SPRINGS, DACOMA, WAKITA, POND CREEK, NASH, ALINE, and WAYNOKA

The District 10 Meeting has been POSTPONED. District 10 includes the following exchanges: KINGFISHER and DOVER

The District 12 Meeting has been POSTPONED. District 12 includes the following exchanges: NEWCASTLE

PIONEER COLLEGE/TECHNOLOGY CENTER SCHOLARSHIPS ANNOUNCED

Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., has announced applications are available for both the 2021-2022 College Scholarship AND the 2021-2022 Technology Center Scholarship.

The College Scholarship(s) awarded will provide \$1,000 per semester for tuition and/or books for a maximum of \$2,000 per year.

The Technology Center Scholarship(s) awarded shall cover the cost of tuition and fees for \$1,000 per applicant.

Review the requirements and required documents below. Visit GoPioneer.com/community/scholarships for the application.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. The son, daughter or legal dependent of a residential subscriber of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., shall be eligible for consideration of one (1) of up to twelve (12) *College Scholarships* OR one (1) of up to twelve (12) *Technology Center Scholarships* to be awarded each year.
2. A subscriber is defined as a member of the Cooperative whose membership account for services is located in the landline telephone exchange boundaries; and, subscribes to a retail landline dial tone service with Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

OR

Subscribes to a residential retail landline stand-alone Digital Subscriber Line Service, (DSL), provided by and using Pioneer Telephone Cooperative's landline copper or fiber facilities, with or without a corresponding analog voice, (dial tone), service.

The Scholarship Committee will consider all applicants who will be entering their Junior/Senior College year in August 2021.

The Technology Center Scholarship committee will consider all qualified applicants.

Note: Dependents or children of any Employee of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., shall only be eligible for consideration of the scholarship awarded from the Thirteenth (13th) District-At-Large of the Cooperative each year.

Note: Any scholarship granted shall be evaluated at least annually. School standards must be maintained to continue funding of the scholarship.

Note: The Board of Trustees of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., reserves full discretion with regard to the granting or renewal of any scholarship.

ITEMS TO BE SUBMITTED

College Scholarship Applicants

1. College and/or High School transcripts
2. ACT or SAT scores
3. Two (2) Letters of Recommendation from a high school administrator, instructor, or professor who is familiar with your character and academic performance.
4. Teacher Education acceptance letter if the applicant is an Education Major.
5. Submit an essay of 500 words or less answering one of the following questions:
 - i. Tell us about a teacher or professor that impacted you and why that made you select your current field of study.
 - ii. Tell us about your favorite "pioneer" in your field, one discovery, or moment that sparked your interest in your current field of study.
6. Applicant must complete the College Scholarship Application Form
7. Applicant must attach a studio-quality (color) picture of themselves to the Scholarship Application Form
8. Attach a list of scholarships, grants and/or tuition waivers. Include the amount of each one and how often it is received, i.e., per semester, per year, etc.

Technology Center Scholarship Applicants

1. High School transcripts, if available
2. ACT or SAT scores, if available
3. Two (2) Letters of Recommendation from a high school or current instructor who is familiar with your character and academic performance.
4. Submit an essay of 500 words or less answering one of the following questions:
 - i. Tell us about someone that impacted you and why that made you select your current field of study.
 - ii. Tell us about your favorite "pioneer" in your field, one discovery, or moment that sparked your interest in your current field of study.
5. Applicant must complete the Technology Center Scholarship Application Form
6. Applicant must attach a studio-quality (color) picture of themselves to the Scholarship Application Form
7. Attach a list of scholarships, grants and/or tuition waivers. Include the amount of each one and how often it is received, i.e., per semester, per year, etc.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS JUNE 1, 2021

Visit GoPioneer.com and click 'Scholarships' for the applications.

MAIL APPLICATION TO:
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE / ATTN: RICHARD RUHL
PIONEER TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.
P.O. BOX 539
KINGFISHER, OK 73750

OR

EMAIL APPLICATION TO:
techscholarship@ptci.com
collegescholarship@ptci.com
Subject: Scholarship Submission 2021



Equal Opportunity Employer
(405) 375-0334

Tele-Topics
Volume 2 of 4 2021
 P.O. Box 539
 Kingfisher, OK 73750
GoPioneer.com



Take 5, Win \$25!

Complete the entry form (all fields must be completed), clip out and mail to:

Pioneer Tele-Topics, PO Box 539, Kingfisher, OK 73750

Name: _____

Address: _____

Pioneer Telephone #: () _____

City & Zip: _____

Email: _____

Skip the stamp!
 Fill this form out online at GoPioneer.com
 under Tele-Topics Newsletter.



1. Pioneer Telephone Cooperative's 68th Annual Membership Meeting has been POSTPONED.

True

2. The meetings for members of Districts 6, 8, 10, and 12 have been POSTPONED.

True

3. I will be informed at a later date via Tele-Topics when the rescheduled events (those postponed above) will take place.

True

4. Pioneer offices and stores will be enforcing their COVID-19 policies.

True

5. I know that I can access my account, make payments, submit trouble tickets and more via GoPioneer SmartHub.

Yes

No

FOR OFFICIAL RULES VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: GoPioneer.com under Tele-Topics Newsletter.
 Entries must be received by June 1, 2021.

PIONEER TELE-TOPICS (USPS No. 456-200) is owned by and published quarterly for the benefit of the approximately 32,000 member families of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

EDITORIAL & CIRCULATION

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Jerry Kadavy *V.P. Network Operations*
David Post *V.P. HR/Legal*
Kim Grellner *V.P. Marketing, Sales & Service*
Brenda Walta *V.P. Finance and Administration/CFO*

CAPITAL CREDIT ESTATE INFORMATION

To obtain your Capital Credit balance, or begin the process to collect for a deceased member, please call toll free at
800-650-6116.

Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
 Attn: Capital Credit Department
 P.O. Box 539 • Kingfisher, OK 73750

POSTMASTER:
 Send address changes to
 Pioneer Tele-Topics,
 P.O. Box 539, Kingfisher, OK 73750.

Periodical Postage paid at
 Kingfisher, OK 73750 and other
 additional entry offices.

Member subscription rate:
 \$2.96/year
 Non-Member subscription rate:
 \$6/year

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Issue 1 Take 5, Win \$25 Winners

\$25 Winners will receive their checks by mail within a few days of this publication.

District #1 winner — *Caren Smith, Mooreland*
District #2 winner — *Gary Mullins, Canton*
District #3 winner — *Frank Foster, Chattanooga*
District #4 winner — *Lillie Stinchcomb, Hollis*
District #5 winner — *Quinton Taylor, Blanchard*
District #6 winner — *Amanda Mast, Temple*
District #7 winner — *Charolette Buller, Ringwood*

District #8 winner — *Mary Krehbiel-Deer Creek*
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District #10 winner — *Betty Perdue, Dover*
District #11 winner — *Loretta Grove, Watonga*
District #12 winner — *Alex Emery, Newcastle*
District At-Large winner — *Delores J. Stafford, Shattuck*