



East Central Energy
HOME GROWN, MEMBER OWNED
COMMUNITY FOCUSED

Dear applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the East Central Energy (ECE) 2026 COOPx contest. To be eligible to attend COOPx, your parent/guardian must be an ECE member and you must be a high school sophomore, junior, or senior.

Please complete the attached application, then either write an essay (of at least 400 words) OR provide a video essay. Your response should answer the following questions: (1) In your adult life, how do you see yourself contributing to the success of your community? (2) If you worked at ECE, how would you help the cooperative contribute to your community?

After judging, the applicants receiving the highest scores will be asked to meet in Braham for an interview. The four winning students will spend the day at ECE on June 24, 2026, meeting with executives, engaging with department employees, touring the co-op, and visiting field personnel. Lunch and snacks will be provided. The selected students will also receive \$500 scholarships to be used for continuing education!

To find additional information about electric co-ops, feel free to visit the following websites:

eastcentralenergy.com
nreca.coop
mrea.org
greatriverenergy.com

The essay/application must be returned to ECE's Braham Headquarters by **4:30 p.m. April 30, 2026**.

Please contact me at 763-689-8031 or email desiree.cuda@ecemn.com with questions and/or your application/video essay. Good luck and thanks for your interest in COOPx!

Sincerely,

Desiree Cuda

Community Relations Coordinator
East Central Energy

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

PO Box 39 | Braham, Minnesota 55006-0039 | 1.800.254.7944 | eastcentralenergy.com
East Central Energy is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



East Central Energy
2026 COOPx

APPLICATION FORM

Full legal name: _____

Cell phone #: _____

Home phone #: _____

Email address: _____

Parent or Guardian's Name: _____

Address: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Grade: _____

School: _____

Current education goals:

Causes or interests you are passionate about:

Future career goals:

What area(s) of the co-op are you most interested in learning more about? Please choose three.

Energy and metering services

Human Resources

Engineering

IT

Financing and accounting

Linework

Fleet

Marketing

Forestry

Member Services

Government and business

System Control



East Central Energy

2026 COOPx - Video or Written Essay

Via video OR written essay, please answer the following questions: (1) In your adult life how do you see yourself contributing to the success of your community? (2) If you worked at ECE, how would you help the cooperative contribute to your community? Written essay should be at least 400 words in length.