



## **New Prague Utilities/SMMPA College Scholarship Program**

### **Scholarship**

The New Prague Utilities/SMMPA scholarship program awards one \$1,000 scholarship for higher education each spring.

### **Eligible Schools and Areas of Study**

The scholarship may be used at any accredited postsecondary educational institution in the State of Minnesota. The scholarship may be used for any program that ultimately provides a degree or a diploma.

### **Applicant Eligibility**

Applicants must be high school graduates (past or anticipated) and must be (or have a parent or legal guardian that is) a customer of New Prague Utilities. There is no age limitation, but applicants must be enrolling at a higher education institution for the first time. Individuals that participated in a PSEO program in high school are eligible.

### **Application Submission Requirements**

To apply, applicants must submit the following materials:

1. **Application Form** – Complete the official New Prague Utilities/SMMPA Scholarship application.
2. **Activity & Experience List** – Provide a summary of any academic achievements, extracurricular activities, volunteer work, community involvement, and/or work experience you would like to be considered.
3. **Essay** – Attach a 300-word essay on the importance of public service, focusing on your personal role in serving your community and how your continued education will benefit both your community and society as a whole. The essay must be:
  - o Double-spaced
  - o Font size 12
  - o Submitted in Word (doc/docx) or PDF format
4. **Optional Supporting Materials** – Applicants may submit a letter of recommendation from a teacher, employer, or community leader, as well as transcripts or other documentation to support their application.

### **Submission Methods:**

All materials must be submitted by **April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025** via one of the following methods:

**In Person:** New Prague Utilities (118 Central Ave N, New Prague, MN 56071)

**Mail:** New Prague Utilities, Attn: Scholarship Committee, 118 Central Ave N, New Prague,

MN 56071

**Email:** Klee@ci.new-prague.mn.us (If submitting by email, a confirmation email will be sent. If not received, please call 952-758-4401 before the deadline.)

### **Selection**

A local selection committee, consisting of New Prague Utilities staff and New Prague Utilities Commission board members, will review applications and announce the award by May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

While academic success, extracurricular activities, volunteerism, community involvement, and work experience will be considered, the selection committee will place significant emphasis on applicants pursuing a degree or diploma in a utility-related field, such as:

- Electric line work
- Water operations
- Skilled trades (plumbing, electrical, HVAC, welding, mechanics)
- Business, accounting, or engineering

### **Disbursement Details**

The scholarship will be paid in full directly to the recipient's educational institution upon receipt of an invoice from the institution confirming the recipient's enrollment.

- The invoice must show that the recipient is officially enrolled at the institution.
- If the scholarship recipient does not enroll at an eligible educational institution within two years, the scholarship award will expire.
- If the recipient chooses to defer enrollment, they must notify New Prague Utilities immediately.