

“Westminster-PMPA Community Scholar” Scholarship

The *“Westminster-PMPA Community Scholar” Scholarship* is awarded to a senior (**Class of 2023**) looking to enroll in a full-time bachelor's degree program of study who demonstrates these characteristics:

- A student who attended, at a minimum, three years of high school or home-schooling within the city limits of Westminster, SC and has obtained a high school degree, and who themselves, or whose legal guardian, has a current residential electric utilities account within the City of Westminster
- Outstanding academic potential, as evidenced by a GPA of 2.5 or above in college- preparatory coursework and a combined score of 950 on the SAT test (or the equivalency of 20 on the ACT test); -
- Demonstration of personal leadership, as reflected in leadership roles related to academics, co-curricular organizations and clubs, community or church service, athletics, or other similar areas preferred;
- Submits an application with letter of reference and is selected as a top two place finisher by the Scholarship Committee;

The recipient will receive one of two \$1000 awards based on being selected in the contest's top two by the Scholarship Committee according to the criteria outlined above. These scholarships will be issued to the student and should be applied to the costs of attendance or other costs such as textbooks, etc. for the fall semester for the first year of the student's full time enrollment once documentation of enrollment is received.

To apply for the scholarship, a candidate must:

- Be a High School Senior (**Class of 2023**) in good academic standing that plans to apply and enter into matriculate status at any accredited university/college or technical college;
- Provide a copy of SAT or ACT Scores along with current high school transcript to verify GPA.
- Submit the attached application outlining leadership roles related to academics, co-curricular organizations and clubs, community or church service, athletics, or other similar areas.
- Arrange for one letter of recommendation form to be submitted (from someone other than a relative), which attests to the candidate's character.

PMPA and the City of Westminster welcome nominations for scholarship candidates from teachers and guidance counselors, as well as from other city representatives (e.g., employers, ministers, community agencies).

Scholarship Guidelines

Contest purpose

- To help recognize the value public power brings to a community.
- To increase awareness of public power and the municipality it serves.

Prizes

- The Westminster-PMPA Public Power scholarship fund is split into two scholarships in the one-time amounts of: \$1000 each

Guidelines for submission

Because decisions by judges and disqualifications according to the guidelines are final, applicants should read and follow these guidelines closely:

- High school seniors are eligible. Those eligible must be, or have as a legal guardian who is, a residential utility customer of the City of Westminster Utilities department and have an active customer account.
- The Scholarship Committee will be designated to select the winner of the scholarships. Each application will be assigned a 'blind' designation so the Committee has no prior knowledge of who the applicant is for each submittal. As a result, city personnel and relatives are eligible to enter the contest.
- Scholarship opens **February 1, 2023.**
- Deadline for submittal to the City of Westminster is **March 31, 2023 by 5 pm.** The winning applications will be submitted to the City Administrator and winners will be provided to the school by **April 17, 2023.**

Winner

- Two persons will be selected to receive the Public Power Scholarship: a one-time scholarship award of \$1000.
- A first and second alternate will also be selected. Should a winner become ineligible, the first alternate will be given the opportunity to receive the scholarship. Should the first alternate become ineligible, the second alternate will be given the opportunity to receive the scholarship. Should the second alternate become ineligible, the scholarship will not be awarded.

- Winner selection will be based on the student's application, participation in school and community activities, honors and awards, received recommendations of reference, and personal goals.
- In case of a tie, a personal interview may be requested of the finalists.
- The winner may choose to attend any accredited university, college or technical college to further his or her education.
- The scholarship check will be made payable to the student.
- Should a full scholarship from another source be received by the winner, the scholarship will be offered to the alternate.
- Once a letter of acceptance is received from the university, college or technical college, the student will be responsible for providing the City of Westminster with a copy of the letter.
- All participants will be notified of the results by **April 17, 2023**.
- The decision of the judges is final. (No obligation or liability is assumed by PMPA or City of Westminster Utility in connection with any scholarship)
- All applications and submitted materials become the property of PMPA and City of Westminster Utilities and may be used in promotional activities. Personal information will not be released to any person or firm.

Scholarship Resource Materials

This form will be made available on the City of Westminster's website and a hard copy can be picked up at City Hall (100 East Windsor Street, Westminster). Scholarship contest details will also be sent to West Oak High School.

Payment

Scholarship money will be payable upon receipt of full-time enrollment status to any accredited University/College or Technical College. The award check will be made payable to the scholarship winner and is to be applied against the student's regular full-time enrollment costs, or other costs associated with the college.

Two Scholarship Awards at \$1000 each

About the Organizations Involved

Piedmont Municipal Power Agency (PMPA®) is a joint action agency formed by ten municipal electric utilities, including Westminster, in the west section of South Carolina. The agency provides wholesale electric service to its members primarily through a 25 percent ownership interest in unit 2 of the Catawba Nuclear Station, located in York County, South Carolina.

Founded in March 1875 and steeped in history, the City of Westminster is one of South Carolina's cultural and historic treasures. Westminster, SC is a town rich in history and known for its rural beauty and small town charm. And although it is place where the past has been carefully and beautifully preserved, it's also a town with a vibrant present. Westminster's downtown boasts an array of unique shops, Oconee Heritage Center General Store Museum, restaurants, a beautifully restored Music Center, a first class center and event venue. The surrounding countryside offers hundreds of outdoor activities from forest preserves to the Chattooga River, and Chattooga Belle Farm in Long Creek, S.C.. Westminster is located, in Oconee County, South Carolina's cultural and economic hub; so visitors and residents can enjoy the small town pace of life with all the "big-town" amenities within a short drive.