

Jack Richards Memorial Lineman Scholarship

2026 Scholarship Guidelines

The Jack Richards Memorial Lineman Scholarship was established to honor the life and legacy of Jack Richards, a dedicated aspiring lineman, beloved son, brother, and loyal friend who tragically died by suicide in July 2023.

Jack graduated from Northwest Lineman College where he developed the skills and knowledge to pursue a successful career in the trade. He was known for his strength, compassion, and deep commitment to the people around him – always ready to show up, lend a hand, and lead with heart.

This scholarship supports individuals pursuing careers in linework who embody the values Jack lived by: resilience, service, and brotherhood. It aims to empower future lineworkers who are not only committed to the trade, but also to the well-being and safety of their crew.

Inspired by the mission of Cover Your Brother, this scholarship also seeks to raise awareness about the mental health challenges faced within high-risk professions like linework. By supporting education and encouraging open, honest conversations, we hope to help build a culture where connection and care are just as vital as technical skill.

Through this award, Jack's legacy lives on—in every student who steps forward with courage, compassion, and a commitment to always cover your brother.

In honor of Jack. In support of each other. In strength and in brotherhood.

Applicant Eligibility:

- Submit a completed application packet.
- Be accepted into the Northwest Lineman College Electrical Lineworker Program in Oroville, CA

Amount and Use:

- Three scholarships will be awarded in 2026, each providing $3,500 toward the cost of tools required for the Electrical Lineworker Program.
- One student from each term (2026) at the Oroville, CA campus will be selected to receive the scholarship.
- Scholarship funds will not be issued directly to students. Instead, they will be applied to the student's tuition tool balance.

Selection Criteria:

- Cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher is preferred.
- Complete essay questions below.
- Two reference letters.

Selection Process:

- Selection of candidates will be managed by the Jack Richards Athletic Memorial Scholarship fund.

Application Packet Components:

- Completed application form.
- Please respond to a minimum of 5 of the 8 essay questions below in a thoughtful one-three- page typed essay (12-point font)
- Two reference letters from school counselor, principal, teacher, coach or similar
- Official high school transcript
- Proof of acceptance into a CA ELP Term starting in 2026.

Submission & Contact Information:

- Application deadline: 1 week prior to term start.
- Completed application packets must be submitted to: jackrichardsfund@gmail.com
- Questions regarding this scholarship should be submitted to NLC Career Services – whaury@lineman.edu.

Helpful Links & Resources

- Northwest Lineman College Website: www.lineman.edu
- Electrical Lineworker Program Overview: https://lineman.edu/become-a-lineworker/
- Application Portal: nlc.my.site.com/portal/
- NLC Catalog: https://lineman.edu/nlccatalogs/

- Career Outlook: https://lineman.edu/career-outlook-graphic/
- Jack Richards Memorial Scholarship Website: coveryourbrother.com



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Due Date: 1 week prior to term start.

Please type or print legibly.

First Name:		Last Name:	
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	
Phone:	Email:		Date of Birth:
Permanent Address (if different than above):			
Date of Graduation:		High School Cumulative GPA:	
High School			
Anything else you would like us to know about you?			
I certify that the information I have provided in this application is true. Signature*_____Date _____			

*Student signature on this application authorizes release of student's name and school for publication.

Essay Questions:

Please respond to a minimum of 5 of the 8 the following questions in a thoughtful 1–3 page essay. Your answers will help us understand your motivations, values, and readiness for a career as a lineman. Jack Richards was a proud graduate of Northwest Lineman College who trained with intensity, cared deeply about his fellow linemen, and valued both physical and mental strength. This scholarship honors his memory and supports future linemen in their journey.

1. What inspired you to pursue a career as a lineman, and what led you to choose Northwest Lineman College?

2. Jack was known for his strong work ethic, grit, and dedication. In what ways do you embody these values in your own life and training?

3. Describe a time when you faced a significant challenge or adversity. How did you respond, and what did you learn from the experience?

4. What does the lineman brotherhood mean to you, and how do you plan to contribute to that community throughout your career?

5. Mental health is an essential part of life, especially in high-risk professions like linework. What does mental health mean to you, and how do you take care of your own well-being—or plan to as you enter this field?

6. Physical fitness and training were an important part of Jack's life. How do you stay physically fit, and how do you plan to maintain that level of fitness throughout your lineman career?

7. Why is safety important to you in this profession, and how do you plan to prioritize it in your training and future work?

8. What are your long-term goals after completing the program, and how do you hope to grow both personally and professionally as a lineman?