# Touchstone Energy® Achievement Scholarship 2027

## Scholarship Instructions

If you do not have Adobe Reader software, it is a free download available here: https://get.adobe.com/reader/. (If you do not want to install **McAfee Security Scan Plus** and **True Key™ by Intel Security,** uncheck their boxes prior to downloading.)

1. **Open the application file using Adobe Reader, and save it.**
2. **Complete the first two pages using Adobe Reader.**
3. **Save the file again, then print all pages.**

Take the application to a teacher and your guidance counselor to complete the faculty portion. It is preferred those sections are typewritten; however, they may be handwritten if necessary.

Give the "Rules for Letter of Recommendation – Character" to the person who will write this letter.

Give the "Rules for Letter of Nomination – Special Achievements" to the person who will write this letter.

**Applications and letters of recommendation must be received by February 5, 2027.**

**SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Finalists will compete for a $1,000 scholarship that will be awarded at the local level.

# Scholarship Rules

## PURPOSE:

The **Touchstone Energy® Achievement Scholarship** has been created to reward those students who have committed themselves to the pursuance of a college education despite unique and substantial personal challenges which may have befallen them. This special scholarship rewards students expressing the same values in their lives as the Touchstone Energy® brand:

- **Accountability** – the candidate demonstrates a high level of maturity through accountability for their actions;
- **Integrity** – the candidate expresses highest standards of character;
- **Innovation** – the candidate demonstrates innovation and determination in coping with their circumstances;
- **Commitment to Community** – the candidate has good citizenship traits and a record of contribution to their local community.

## RULES AND REGULATIONS:

1. Applicants must the child or legal ward of a **Mid-Ohio Energy's** permanent residential member receiving service for the duration of the 2026-2027 academic year (August 2026 - June 2027). Children/ wards of electric distribution cooperative commercial members are not eligible unless they are also residential members of **Mid-Ohio Energy**.

2. Applicants must be graduating seniors who have all basic credits for college or proper* vocational or technical school entrance. (A "proper vocational or technical school" is defined as a post-secondary institution where credits can be transferred to a state-accredited four-year college.)

3. Applicants must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or above on a 4.0 scale, or an equivalent standing on a nontraditional scale. Winners, in order to receive an award, must be accepted and then enrolled in an accredited college or proper vocational/technical school of the student's choice. Winners who are accepted and then enrolled in an accredited school of nursing, working toward a degree, are also eligible.

4. Character: A Letter of Recommendation is required from an independent sponsor (e.g., school representative, church or community leader, etc.) that explains how the applicant's character has played roles in enabling him/her to succeed. Character traits such as integrity, innovation and accountability should be mentioned. Specific examples of situations that show these character traits and other strong traits are encouraged.

5. Special Achievements: A Letter of Nomination is required from a second independent sponsor outlining the nominee's relevant life experiences and traits that clearly demonstrate determination in the face of adversity and/or commitment to community. Consideration will be given to nominees who have overcome substantial personal or family hardships and have demonstrated achievement through personal initiative and good citizenship.

6. Members of the immediate families and persons residing in the households of trustees, managers, Mid-Ohio Energy employees are not eligible to participate in the competition.

7. Applications must be submitted (typed or printed neatly to be accepted) on forms furnished by **Mid-Ohio Energy** and submitted to **Mid-Ohio Energy**.

8. Application information must be confined to the official application form with no attachments other than grade transcripts, one Letter of Recommendation and one Letter of Nomination, the guidelines for which are attached.

9. Applicants who receive "full-ride" scholarships (i.e., scholarships that cover the cost of tuition, room, board and books) to the schools of their choice are not eligible for scholarships from Mid-Ohio Energy. Applicants who win an Mid-Ohio Energy scholarship and subsequently receive a full-ride scholarship following the Mid-Ohio Energy scholarship competition, must contact Mid-Ohio Energy immediately to forfeit this scholarship.

10. All scholarships must be accepted in the first academic year after proof of enrollment is received by Mid-Ohio Energy. However, an extension of one year may be granted for just cause in the judgment of Mid-Ohio Energy. In the event students are unable to fulfill their enrollment obligation under this program, the awards are forfeited.

11. Finalists are not permitted to bring any outside materials to their interviews (e.g., electronic presentations, props, handouts, etc.).

12. These rules (dated hereon) supersede all previous rules for this scholarship.

13. All rules stated within this document conform to the policies and program guidelines as set forth by **Mid-Ohio Energy**.

14. Previous years' applications will not be accepted.

**Rules for Letter of Recommendation - Character**

*Please give this guide sheet to the writer of the Letter of Recommendation – Character.*
The Touchstone Energy® Achievement Scholarship was created to reward those students who have committed themselves to the pursuance of a college education despite unique personal challenges which may have befallen them.

**CHARACTER**
A Letter of Recommendation is required from an independent sponsor (e.g., school representative, church or community leader, etc.) that explains how the applicant's character has played roles in enabling him/her to succeed. Character traits such as integrity, innovation and accountability should be mentioned.

The Letter of Recommendation should clarify the special challenge(s) the student has dealt with and focus on the character traits that helped the student overcome the challenge(s). The suggested outline will answer the following points:

- How does the writer of the Letter of Recommendation know the applicant?
- What is/are the unique challenge(s) the applicant has had to struggle with as he/she pursued an education? Include detail of the circumstances or situation and the duration.
- What control did the applicant have over the challenge(s)?
- What steps has the applicant taken to deal with the challenge(s)?
- What character traits did the applicant use to help him/her triumph over the challenge(s)?
- Other pertinent comments from the letter writer.
- Overview: Why do you think the applicant should be awarded the scholarship?

*Please return your completed letter to the student for attachment to the application form.*
***Limit letter to one page, please.***
***It is preferred that the letters be typewritten or computer printed.***

**Rules for Letter of Nomination – Special Achievements**

*Please give this guide sheet to the writer of the Letter of Nomination – Special Achievements.*

The Touchstone Energy® Achievement Scholarship was created to reward those students who have committed themselves to the pursuance of a college education despite unique personal challenges which may have befallen them.

**SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

A Letter of Nomination is required from an independent sponsor outlining the nominee's relevant life experiences and traits that clearly demonstrate determination in the face of adversity and/or commitment to community.

The Letter of Nomination should clarify the special challenge(s) the student has dealt with and focus on the achievements that the student has made in spite of the difficulties. The suggested outline will answer the following points:

- How does the writer of the Letter of Nomination know the applicant?
- What is/are the unique challenge(s) the applicant has had to struggle with as he/she pursued an education? Include detail of the circumstances or situation and the length of time it existed.
- What control did the applicant have over the challenge(s)?
- What steps has the applicant taken to deal with the challenge(s)?
- What outstanding accomplishments has the applicant achieved in spite of the challenge(s)?
- Other pertinent comments from the letter writer.
- Overview: Why do you think the applicant should be awarded the scholarship?

*Please return your completed letter to the student for attachment to the application form.*
***Limit letter to one page, please.***
It is preferred that the letters be typewritten or computer printed.

**Mail or deliver the application and letters to:**

*Mid-Ohio Energy Cooperative, Inc.*

*1210 W. Lima St.*

*Kenton, OH 43326*

*Attn: Brian Barger, Scholarship Coordinator*