



January 3, 2024

Dear IMUA Utility Member/Scholarship Program Contact:

Since its inception in 2000, the IMUA Scholarship Program has awarded more than \$64,000 to 104 students from IMUA communities statewide. It has proven to be a very popular and successful program, rewarding achievement, and providing recognition and a measure of college financial assistance to dozens of outstanding high school seniors in public-power communities throughout Illinois.

Enclosed are informational materials regarding the **2024 IMUA Scholarship Program**. These include an ***application form, 2024 program guidelines and questions sheet, and a customized news release***. As a primary IMUA contact for your municipality, I am asking that you distribute copies of these materials to the media outlets and high schools in your respective area. In particular, I suggest you contact teachers of senior English, Civics and Journalism courses who might want to include the essay competition as part of an extra credit project for students in their respective classes.

***If you provide IMUA with your local high school contact information, IMUA staff can distribute these materials directly to those schools in your municipality.*** In addition, these materials can be found on the IMUA [website](#). Please feel free to contact **DeeDee Bunch** at IMUA at **(217) 789-4632** or [dbunch@imea.org](mailto:dbunch@imea.org) should you have any questions in this regard.

*There is no obligation or fee for IMUA members who participate in the program.* However, any monetary donations to this worthwhile program are always welcome. If you would like to contribute, I ask that you consider making a \$100 donation in support of this year's program.

IMUA and its members have realized a number of positive benefits from the competition itself. First, scholarship recipients in IMUA member communities have enjoyed a significant amount of goodwill, recognition and publicity generated by the awards presentations themselves. Second, the program offers your municipality the opportunity to increase public awareness about the vital role your utility plays in local economic development and growth. Third, and perhaps most important of all, it enables the youth of your community to better understand the nature of the many diverse and complex energy issues and challenges facing consumers and the public power industry today.

On behalf of IMUA and the members of its Scholarship Judging Committee, we look forward to your participation, and wish you and your community's students the best of luck in this year's competition!

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Gaden  
President & CEO, IMUA