

# Butler Rural Electric Cooperative's 2021 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE NOW!

## Children of Members Scholarship

The Children of Members Scholarship is awarded to high school seniors who have a cumulative GPA that is 3.5 or higher and who are involved in school and community activities.

Two students are awarded \$2,500 scholarships, two students are awarded the \$1,500 R. Fred Woodruff Scholarship, and six students are awarded \$1,000 college scholarships.

Applicants must be the child or legal ward of a Butler Rural Electric Cooperative member. The top ten applicants will be selected based on GPA and community involvement and will participate in interviews with judges. The top scoring scholarship recipient will also compete at the state level for up to \$3,800 in additional scholarships from Ohio's Electric Cooperatives.

**New in 2021** The top scoring scholarship recipient will also receive the Michael L. Sims Scholarship, which awards \$2,500 to the recipient each year throughout their college career for up to four years.

## Touchstone Energy®

### Achievement Scholarship

The Touchstone Energy Achievement Scholarship is awarded to one high school senior who is attending a two- or four-year technical college or trade school after high school. Past recipients of this scholarship have majored in natural resources law enforcement and diesel mechanics, for example. The recipient will receive a \$1,500 scholarship.

Applicants must be the child or legal ward of a Butler Rural Electric Cooperative member. Applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher and must plan to attend an accredited technical school program after graduating high school. The top applicants will be selected based on GPA and community involvement and will participate in interviews with judges.

Visit [butlerrural.coop](http://butlerrural.coop) > **Community** > **Scholarships** for scholarship rules and applications.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEB. 1, 2021**



# 10

## WAYS TO STAY COZY THIS WINTER

When you're feeling chilly at home, there are several budget-friendly ways to stay comfortable without turning up the thermostat. Here are ten easy ways to stay cozy this winter.

1. When the sun is shining, **open curtains on south-facing windows during the day** to allow sunlight to naturally heat your home. Close curtains at night to reduce the chill you may feel from cold windows.
2. Heating your home uses more energy and costs more money than any other system in your home, typically making up about 42% of electric bills. **Keep your thermostat at the coolest comfortable temperature.** Be sure the thermostat fan is on auto so that it runs only when the system is heating. When asleep or out of the house, turn the thermostat back 10° to 15° to save around 10% a year on heating costs.
3. Keep **fireplace dampers closed** unless a fire is burning. Keeping the damper open is like keeping a window wide open during the winter – it allows warm air to go right up the chimney.
4. If you have a fireplace but never use it, **plug and seal the chimney flue.**
5. An **electric blanket can deliver quick warmth.** Consider using an electric blanket instead of turning up the heat and your electric bill will thank you.
6. One of the easiest ways to stay cozy at home is

to **keep your feet warm.** Our feet play a critical role in regulating body temperature, so when your feet are warm, your body automatically feels warmer. Wear a pair of comfortable socks or house slippers to stay toasty.

7. Another way to make your home cozier is to **use a humidifier.** Cold air doesn't hold water vapor like warm air, so adding humidity inside your home can make you feel a little warmer. A favorable level of humidity inside your home can also help clear sinuses, soften skin, and improve sleep.
8. Beyond adding visual appeal to your home, **area rugs can also provide extra insulation and a warm surface for your feet** on cold winter days. Use large area rugs in rooms where you spend the most time. The additional warmth will help keep your home comfortable.
9. Space heaters can consume a lot of energy, even those that claim to be energy efficient. That means using space heaters may cost a lot more than you think. For example, **using two 1,500 watt space heaters for eight hours a day costs \$118.80 per month!** Find out how much your space heater adds to your electric bill by using the space heater calculator on our website, [butlerrural.coop](http://butlerrural.coop) > Save Energy & Money > Home Energy Calculators.
10. Consider **replacing your existing heating system** if it is more than 15 years old.

## SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY WITH *do it yourself projects*

Use extra time spent indoors this winter to upgrade the energy efficiency of your home. Explore projects for your attic, living room, garage, and more by visiting [touchstoneenergy.com](http://touchstoneenergy.com) > **Energy Solutions > Efficiency.**

