ELECTRI International’s Talent Initiative scholarships offer the opportunity to promote your Chapter, NECA and the electrical construction industry through financial support for your Chapter’s involvement with local school boards, colleges and universities. Offering meaningful funds and involving the academic community in the selection of award recipients send a strong message about the serious intent of this industry to attract quality talent.

Eligibility and Criteria

- NECA Chapters can apply for ELECTRI’s matching support by completing the Talent Initiative Student Support Application Form.
- Supporting funds are awarded once per year. Applications must be submitted during the academic year (January-May or August-December semester).
- Each award may only be used to support students in Construction Management or related programs. Each recipient must be actively involved in a NECA Student Chapter.
- Funds may be used primarily to offer a scholarship to one or more students or to support the NECA Student Chapter as a whole (exceptions apply).

For more detailed information see below.

Steps in the Award Process

Each year, ELECTRI International announces the amount available for NECA Student Chapter support. For 2020, the amount available for each NECA Student Chapter is $1,000 and must be matched or exceeded by the sponsoring NECA Chapter. Your Chapter will need to request ELECTRI’s portion of the amount once you are ready to issue the Student Chapter or individual scholarship checks.

Your Chapter will make its own decision on how best to divide the funds provided by ELECTRI International. For example, if ELECTRI provides financial support of $1,000 per year for each Student Chapter, your Chapter’s scholarship review team may elect to give one student a scholarship of $2,000 or two students a scholarship of $1,000 each. Your Chapter may elect to send a group of students to the annual NECA Convention and use the funds to help cover the students’ expenses and travel costs.
If your Chapter elects to use the funds to provide a scholarship, we recommend the following:

- Set up a scholarship review team (for example, two to three contractors, faculty advisor, and the Chapter Executive) to evaluate applications and recommend annual scholarship winners. (A sample scholarship application form with these criteria is available upon request).

- Establish additional criteria that your review team may want to evaluate regarding each nominated student.

- Encourage the Student Chapter faculty advisor and NECA contractors to nominate Student Chapter candidates who meet the following criteria:
  - Studying Construction Management or related programs
  - Completing sophomore or junior year
  - Good academic standing (GPA 3.0+)

- Create a press release announcing the winners and place it in local and school media, give each winner a copy of the release, and encourage them to send it to their hometown newspapers (if the winners are not local to your area).

NECA and ELECTRI International will recognize recipients of Talent Initiative support at some point during the NECA Annual Convention (time/place may vary from year to year)

- If the affiliated Chapter is using the awarded funds as a scholarship, each scholarship recipient is individually and personally responsible for any federal or state taxes incurred as a result of the scholarship award.

- Each check of $600 or more requires that a 1099 form to be issued from the Chapter to the student to report the award to the IRS as miscellaneous income on the student’s own tax filing. NECA, the sponsoring NECA Chapter, and ELECTRI International are not responsible for any tax consequence derived from any scholarship award(s).

For further information, please contact Laura at laura.holmes@electri.org or 301-215-4538.