

The James R. Leva Scholarship

Sponsored by



The James R. Leva Scholarship Program is sponsored by the New Jersey Utilities Association (NJUA) to assist member utility employees and their families in pursuing their higher education goals. The financial assistance provided through the scholarship is intended to cover expenses not covered by any employer tuition aid/educational assistance program to which an employee may be entitled.

The scholarship is named for James R. Leva, NJUA President from 1990-1991, whose professional achievements can serve as a model for those who seek to advance themselves professionally through continuing education.

A 1950 graduate of Boonton High School and a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, Mr. Leva joined JCP&L in 1952 as a utility worker and progressed to first class lineman in 1954. He worked for four years as night troubleman while attending Fairleigh Dickenson University as a full-time day student in electrical engineering.

Mr. Leva graduated from the university magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering in 1960. The same year he advanced to cadet engineer in the utility's Central Division engineering department and was promoted to assistant engineer the following year. He was made personnel assistant in 1962, assistant manager-employee relations in 1963 and manager-employee relations in 1968. He became vice president-personnel, safety and services in 1969 and vice president-consumer affairs in 1979.

He completed post-graduate and special utility courses in labor relations and executive management at Cornell University and the University of Michigan. He obtained his Juris Doctorate from Seton Hall Law School in 1980 and was admitted to the New Jersey Bar the same year.

Mr. Leva was president of Pennsylvania Electric Company (Penelec) in Johnstown, PA, from 1982 to 1986 and president and chief operating officer of Jersey Central Power & Light Company (JCP&L) in Morristown, NJ, from 1986 to 1992.

From 1992 until his retirement in 1997, Mr. Leva was chairman, president and chief executive officer of General Public Utilities Corporation (GPU), GPU Nuclear Corporation and all other major GPU subsidiaries.

Eligibility

Applicants must be a full time, regular employee of a member company working in New Jersey, or the legal spouse or dependent of same. Employee applicants must meet eligibility criteria for any tuition aid program the member company might have or, if none exists, must have at least six months of company service. Applicants must enroll or be enrolled in an approved course of study at an accredited junior college, college or university.

Award

The award will be a one-time check for up to \$4,000 made payable to the educational institution on behalf of the scholarship recipient to cover authorized expenses not covered by employer financial aid or tuition assistance.

Recipient

The scholarship recipient will be selected by a committee composed of members of the NJUA Human Resources Policy Committee. The Committee will select a recipient on the basis of past academic performance and future potential, school and community participation, work experience, career and educational aspirations and goals, unusual personal or family circumstances and recommendations submitted. Decisions of the committee are final. Committee members will disclose to the Committee any family relationship they have with an applicant and maybe disqualified by the Committee from considering that applicant.

Application

Application materials may be obtained by contacting the human resources department of your NJUA member company.

Photo copied application forms are acceptable. Send completed applications to NJUA/James R. Leva Scholarship, postmarked no later than April 2, 2010. The winning applicant will be notified of his or her status by June 1, 2010.

Obligations

The scholarship recipient must enroll in their educational program no later than the fall of the year in which the award is given. Recipients must provide the scholarship committee with transcripts and other relevant information as requested and are liable for any tax consequences associated with the scholarship award.

Program Continuance

NJUA intends to continue the scholarship program indefinitely, but reserves the right to amend or terminate it at any time.

NJUA Member Companies

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