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# INSIDER NEWSLETTER

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## Career Day: Columbia City Electric Utility & IMEA

Columbia City Electric Utility Superintendent, Shawn Lickey and IMEA Executive Director, Duane Richardson spoke to 8th graders at Indian Springs Middle School about the electric industry during Career Day. Columbia City Electric Utilities focus is to inspire youth in the communities served by the utility to ensure young people are aware of career options in the electric industry. One way of accomplishing that outreach is by making presentations at local schools about the city and its various departments. Columbia City Municipal Utilities take pride in their accomplishments and contributions to the community they serve.

Shawn Lickey & Electric Utility staff will also be attending a Career Day at the middle school where interested students will be able to operate equipment and tools frequently used by Lineman in their industry.

## Collaborative Events for Utilities in your Community Schools

Many utilities partner with other organizations to maximize their outreach:

- Joint Career Fairs: Local water agencies or electrical cooperatives may team up to host large-scale expos that draw students from multiple middle and high schools .
- Reverse Job Fairs: Events where students learn about various energy careers by rotating through interactive company stations.



*Columbia City Electric Superintendent, Shawn Lickey (Left) and IMEA Executive Director, Duane Richardson (Center)*

- Bootcamps: Some utilities host multi-day bootcamps in utility construction or automotive technology to bridge the gap between high school and a prospective career.

## Diverse Utility Career Paths

Career days highlight that the industry requires more than just field technicians:

- Engineering & Tech: Civil, electrical, and mechanical engineering, as well as IT and data security.
- Operations: Water treatment plant operators, mechanics, and grid monitors.

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- Support Services: Customer service, marketing, administrative support, and finance.
- Environmental Science: Specialists in water quality, recycled water, and energy efficiency.

### Pathways to Employment

For older students, these events often serve as an entry point for specialized training:

- Apprenticeships: Programs like Indiana Municipal Electric Association Lineman training offer education in electrical line working skills to become a lineman.
- Internships: Many utilities offer paid internships to high school seniors that can lead to full-time job offers upon graduation.
- Scholarships: Various nationwide organizations offer scholarships and additional opportunities for advancement in utility educational programs.

### Notable Programs

- Project A.W.E.S.O.M.E. (Orlando, FL): A STEM-based curriculum from OUC that teaches students about water and energy sustainability.
- Renew America's Schools: A federal **Department of Energy (DOE)** program focused on improving energy infrastructure in K-12 schools, often involving educational outreach.
- **Power Up Your Future** (Fort Pierce, FL): An annual event by the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority (FPUA) that invites young adults to explore local career opportunities.

Community utilities are increasingly active in school career days to address a growing "age gap" in the workforce as many long-term employees retire. By 2024 and 2025, outreach has evolved from simple presentations to immersive, hands-on "Field Days" and career fairs designed to recruit students directly into high-paying, debt-free trades.

### Festive Appetizers for the Holidays or Any Day!



**CHRISTMAS TREE PULL-APART BREAD**

### IMEA 2026

#### Details & Information on:

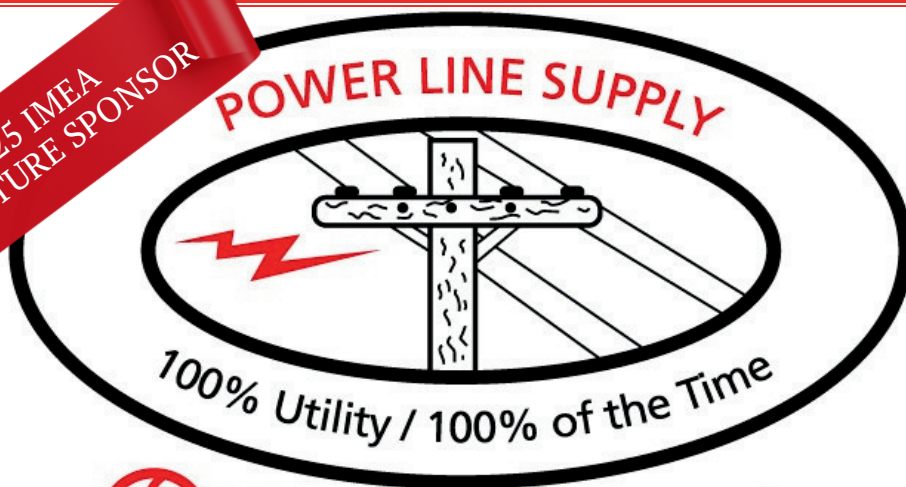
- Scholarship Opportunities
- Continuing Education Programs
- IMEA LAPP Program
- Apprentice Workshops
- Annual Business Meeting & Vendor Expo

Coming Soon!



IMEA Board of Directors & Staff would like to wish you & yours a Very Merry Christmas & a Prosperous New Year!

2025 IMEA  
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## WHY YOU SHOULD CHOOSE IMEA LINEMAN TRAINING INSTITUTE

- Better Student-to-Instructor Ratio at 10:1 versus larger schools
- Each lineman instructor has at least 20+ years of experience
- Diverse instructor staff. Many of our linemen have not only over 30 years' experience but are well versed in substation, overhead distribution, underground utility construction, and transmission.
- Our instructors are patient, knowledgeable, consistent, and collaborative with students-not adversarial.
- In-house FULL CDL training and testing facilities. This cannot be emphasized enough as obtaining a CDL is critical to job placement, and IMEA makes obtaining a CDL very easy and affordable versus other programs. MOST schools will help you only obtain the permit versus earning the entire CDL. We do ALL of the training and TESTING in-house, on-site.
- Job placement services and career planning services.
- IMEA is a Non-Profit Organization, unlike other schools so we can provide the same training at a significantly lower cost.
- On-site lodging.



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*Enrollment packages available.  
Please visit: [www.imea.com](http://www.imea.com) /  
lineman training institute*

**INDIANA MUNICIPAL  
ELECTRIC  
ASSOCIATION**

# **LINEMAN TRAINING INSTITUTE**



## OUR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



### Personal Protection Equipment and Procedures

Students will learn about safety working procedures and personal protection equipment.



### Electrical Systems

Students will learn the basics of the entire electrical system from generation through transmission, distribution, and conversion.



### Basic Electricity

The students will be taught the fundamentals of practical and mathematical application of Direct Current and Alternating Current.



### Transformers

Students will learn how and why transformers are used, banked, energized and the various configurations of both Delta and Wye.



### Personal Protective Grounding

Students will learn how and why companies work on transmission and distribution lines as well as all equipment and methods used when working.



### Rigging And Knot Tying

Students will learn how to tie specific knots, splice rope and learn the proper use of various ropes, slings, block and tackle.

## Why Us?

### Are You Ready To Begin Your Career Ahead Of Your Competitors?

Our lineman school program will allow you to begin your career ahead of all the rest. Our students have experience performing the jobs of a lineworker, as well as obtaining professional knowledge of the industry while they proceed through our program. Our students are well equipped to stand out from the interview to the actual job. Our program will provide an outlet for electric companies to search for new qualified applicants.

Our students will be able to enter the industry with the technical skills that their employers can't pass up!

Do you want to learn from Experienced and Knowledgeable Linemen?

The lineman school instructors at IMEA Lineman Training Institute have extensive real world experience in power generation, transmission and distribution. Their exceptional understanding of the industry and what companies are looking for makes our program a cut above other schools. Our students will have hands-on experience in the trade and be coached in problem-solving skills in order to help them excel in their work.

Do you want to be able to graduate and have the opportunities for immediate positions anywhere? Then this trade is the right career for you. IMEA Lineman Training Institute provides its lineman school graduates with a listing of municipalities that will be useful in your search. Our instructor's connections with the leaders of the trade will also give the students of IMEA Lineman Training Institute the upper hand at finding a career. Our students will be trained, not only to look for the job, but to find jobs. A career planning class is required to help our students create a resume and learn to find their own jobs.

**So is it what you're looking for?**



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