

Western Plains Energy Scholarship



We're About Energy. We're About Innovation. We're About Vitality. Since 2001.

Western Plains Energy was originally created for one reason: to improve the value of local grain. What began with this simple idea has blossomed into a tremendous economic value to the region, whether it is jobs at the plant, fuel sales for the trucks that bring us grain and deliver our products, or the many vendors that spend the night in our local hotels.

Inspiration. Spring 2000.

In 2000, US grain prices were down due to surplus, and farmers were looking for alternative uses for their grain crops. Brian Baalman, a local farmer, attended a value-added presentation at the Commodity Classic in Florida. There, a presenter talked about how his investment in an ethanol plant had increased his earnings per bushel. Inspired by this idea, Brian brought the concept back home. He shared the vision with Jeff Torluemke, and the two set out to organize a group to build an ethanol plant right here in Northwest Kansas. On July 10, 2001, Western Plains Energy, L.L.C. was formed.

We've Come a Long Way Since 2001.

In the spring of 2003, WPE broke ground, and the plant began operations in January 2004.

Since then, the company has become a leader in the ethanol industry and has enjoyed many successes along the way. WPE has expanded its fermentation capacity, grain storage capacity, and ethanol storage capacity. Today, WPE currently produces approximately 50,000,000 gallons of denatured ethanol annually.

A Series of Firsts.

WPE was the first in the industry to trial ICM's cold-cook process, the first to try ICM's slurry grinding system, and the first to trial Syngenta's Enogen corn. WPE is dedicated to continuing their successes by trying new innovations and paving the way as leaders in the ethanol industry.

GUIDELINES:

1. All Quinter High School Seniors are eligible for this scholarship.
2. This scholarship may be awarded at the QHS Scholarship ceremony.
3. A check in the amount of \$500.00/semester will be issued to the recipient and the recipient's university/college/trade school in August.
4. The following procedures will be used to choose the recipient:
 1. Student shall be a graduate of Quinter High School.
 2. GPA is not a primary factor. We are not looking for the student with the highest academic standing.
 3. The student should be involved with the activities supported by the school districts and also show involvement in your community. Examples of involvement would be FFA, 4H, Scouts, and Church youth groups.
 4. Financial need may be a factor in the selection of the recipient.
5. Proof of Enrollment must be submitted with the application
6. Essay over: "Farming economics is constantly changing; what have you seen or foresee a way farming has changed?" Please use Times Roman, 12 font double spaced, one-page essay.
7. 7 semester transcript and Resume attached
8. Agriculture major is preferred but not necessary
9. If selected a MANDATORY tour of the facility is required. Set up a schedule tour with Aaron Betz at 785-672-8810
10. Thank you notes are to be sent to: Western Plains Energy
C/O Aaron Betz
3022 C. Road 18
Oakley, KS 67748

**WESTERN PLAINS ENERGY SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION FORM
DUE: MARCH 30**

Applicant's Name: _____ Age: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Name of Parent or Guardian: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Name of College: _____

Address of College Registrar: _____

Major _____ Career goal _____

List the top 5 community service projects

List the top 5 Leadership positions

_____ Date

_____ Applicant's Signature