

**IEC APPRENTICE ESSAY CONTEST  
APPLICATION FORM**

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**SECTION 1—General Information:** Please complete this form and submit with all entries by **March 8, 2024**. *The fields of the form are electronically writable.*

Applicant's Name:	Name of Employer:
Address of Employer:	IEC Local Chapter:
City of Employer:	Phone No. of Employer:
State/Zip Code of Employer:	Employer Fax Number:
Date:	E-mail:

Check here to allow IEC National to reprint submission in IEC Publications (must be checked to qualify).

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**SECTION 2—Submission:** You may either type your submission in this section or attach a separate document.

## 2024 IEC Apprentice Essay Contest

### The Contest

IEC is seeking short stories from apprentices in their final year of IEC's Four-Year Apprenticeship Program. Submissions must be typed and not exceed 250 words. **Please note that any essay exceeding 250 words will be disqualified.**

### Topic

The narrative must address the topic below.

- *How has becoming an electrician changed or influenced your life and where do you see this career path taking you?*

### Eligibility

The contest is open to all apprentices in their final year of IEC's Four-Year Apprenticeship Program.

### Prizes

IEC National will award prizes for the best submissions. The Grand Prize is a \$250 Visa® gift card and four runners-up will each receive a \$100 Visa® gift card. Each winning essay will be featured in the summer issue of IEC's *Insights* magazine.

### Participation

IEC National is requesting that all IEC chapter executive directors and/or training directors encourage their fourth year apprentices to participate in the contest.

### Submission Instructions

Submissions must be sent via email with a completed application (below) by **March 8, 2024** to Chrissy Skudera at [cskudera@ieci.org](mailto:cskudera@ieci.org).

## Judging

1. Submissions will be judged on originality, creativity, conventions of print, and sincerity. Judging will be conducted by members of the IEC National Industry Outreach Committee.
2. Submissions by anyone other than an apprentice in his/her final year of an IEC Apprentice Training Program will be disqualified.
3. Names and contact information will be redacted from the essays and forwarded to the IEC National Industry Outreach Committee to be judged.
4. Award winners will be selected by **April 12, 2024**.

Winning essays will be included in their entirety, along with a head shot, in the summer issue of *Insights* magazine. Applicants will be notified by email prior to publication.

The Committee will judge the essays using the following rubric:

Category					
<b>Originality</b>  (Maximum points 35)	This story is exceptional and one-of-a-kind that provides details, which reveals why an electrical career or apprenticeship training is important to the writer.	The story is above average and worth telling.	The story includes less important events that don't help the reader understand what's important to the writer.	The story is extremely typical, very general, has virtually no details, and was put together with little or no thought.	No effort.
<b>Sincerity</b>  (Maximum points 29)	The piece reveals a profound insight that may make an impact on someone trying to decide on a career in the electrical field.	The writer describes relevant feelings or ideas, but does not state a central insight that led to a career or educational choice.	The writer describes a few feelings or ideas but they aren't well connected to the story.	The writer does not share feelings or insights.	No effort.

<p><b>Creativity</b></p> <p>(Maximum points 23)</p>	<p>Writer uses vivid words and phrases that linger or draw pictures in the reader's mind.</p>	<p>Writer uses words that communicate clearly, but the writing lacks variety, punch or flair.</p>	<p>Writer uses limited vocabulary that does not communicate strongly or capture the reader's interest.</p>	<p>The story is dull or off topic.</p>	<p>No effort.</p>
<p><b>Conventions of print</b></p> <p>(Maximum points 16)</p>	<p>The story has perfect or near perfect grammar. Every sentence flows, has a consistent tone, and contributes to the combined meaning of the piece.</p>	<p>The writer generally uses the correct sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, and spelling.</p>	<p>The writer makes frequent errors which are distracting but do not interfere with meaning.</p>	<p>Numerous problems with grammar, spelling, etc. make the story hard to read.</p>	<p>No effort.</p>