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Training stages for electric lineworkers

Known for their strength and agility, lineworkers are dedicated to ensuring our communities have reliable power. Safety is always a top priority on the job, which is why lineworkers spend thousands of hours training as they advance their skills.

Here's a look at the career progression of a lineworker.

Crew Leader

A crew leader is an advanced position that requires supervising lineworkers on job sites, coordinating with contractors and directing daily activities for crews.

Journeyman Lineworker

Post-apprenticeship and with roughly 7,000+ hours of training under the belt, journeyman lineworkers are fully trained in their field. They repair, update and install overhead and underground power lines, as well as other electrical equipment.

Apprentice Lineworker

Before reaching lineworker status, they are required to work as an apprentice. Apprentice lineworkers earn competitive wages while receiving hands-on training and experience in the field. They typically spend four years in their apprenticeship.

Regardless of stage, all lineworkers continue education and training throughout their career. Training and testing requirements vary from utility to utility.



ENERGY SURVEYS

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pinpointing spots where energy is being wasted — air leaks, insufficient insulation or power-hungry appliances — you can take corrective actions resulting in lower bills. Sometimes, it's a simple fix like sealing gaps around your doors and windows or upgrading to more efficient LED lights. A reminder: Clay Electric offers rebates for ceiling insulation and the installation of high efficiency heat pumps, solar water heating systems, window film, attic spray foam insulation electric hybrid heat pump water heaters and heat recovery units.

How to schedule

Members can reach out to Energy Services through the **MyClayElectric** app and submit an inquiry through "Contact Us," or head to **clayelectric.com/energy-surveys**.

During the survey, members are encouraged to ask questions and seek clarification on any recommendations provided. We're dedicated to empowering our members with the information and resources needed to make informed decisions about energy usage.

Power Line is an informational publication of Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. It is distributed monthly with members' statements. If you have questions or comments about Power Line, write Nick Jones at P.O. Box 308, Keystone Heights, FL 32656; or email: NJones@clayelectric.com. Clay Electric Cooperative's Board of Trustees will meet at noon April 24 and May 22 in Keystone Heights.

The Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. _____

Power Line

April 2025

Beat the heat with a free home energy survey

As things start to heat up, ask yourself: Was my house unreasonably cold during the winter months?

Did it seem like the heater just wasn't doing its job? You might notice the opposite when you turn the thermostat the other way as the dead heat of summer arrives.

Before that happens, give us a call to schedule a free home energy survey. Our experts in Energy Services can help identify the trouble spot.

What is a home energy survey?

Home energy surveys are a detailed assessment that evaluates how your house is using electricity. Our experts look at key areas of your home like doors, insulation, appliances and your HVAC system to determine where energy might be wasted. Essentially, we're looking for areas that could be improved and lead to lower energy consumption and more savings.

What are the benefits?

Lower energy bills, improved comfort and increased efficiency are all benefits of an energy survey. By

To learn about open opportunities at Clay Electric Cooperative, go to **clayelectric.com/employment** and click "View Openings."

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Report from the manager

Ricky Davis

General Manager/CEO



My thoughts are constantly with Clay Electric lineworkers, who work relentlessly to ensure power to our members' homes and businesses, often scaling 40-foot poles while braving curve balls from Mother Nature.

While we can always find a reason to celebrate the heroic efforts of our lineworkers, their actions are even more in the spotlight this month as on April 14 we observe Lineworker Appreciation Day.

These workers epitomize dedication to service. They demonstrate resilience and determination not only in keeping members' lights on but also in keeping their homes comfortable and communities connected.

Clay Electric crews travel across a 15-county service area, of which our distribution and transmission lines cover about 14,000 miles. Our lineworkers build, maintain and repair parts of the system, and their skills ensure homes stay connected to the grid and businesses — including those that provide emergency services — remain operational.

Safety is of the utmost concern, and make no mistake, the career path these brave lineworkers take is not for everyone. It takes years of commitment for an apprentice to reach the rank of a journeyman. Apart from the risks of the job, lineworkers also must leave their families in the middle of

the night, on holidays and during severe weather all to ensure you have power.

Constantly, we hear straight from our members who are so grateful for the service they've received from Clay Electric lineworkers and it fills my heart with pride.

The next time you see one of our crews around your neighborhood, give them a wave and a "thank you." Their dedication keeps our homes, schools and businesses running, and for that, we're all grateful.

Remember: Each time you flip a switch, charge your phone or settle in for the night at a comfortable temperature, the lineworkers at your cooperative help make that possible, even in the most challenging conditions.



Protect your equipment before a storm strikes

Lightning and short-circuits can strike at any moment and destroy or cause extensive damage to your equipment and appliances. Being prepared for these unexpected surges and spikes can go a long way towards protecting your home.

Affordable surge protection equipment is available for purchase through the co-op's surge protection program. This equipment will help protect sensitive electronic equipment from power surges caused by events triggered from both outside and inside the home.

The SurgeBlaster program provides the highest quality surge protection equipment, is UL-listed and meets the IEEE 587 standard for surge suppression equipment.

The basic SurgeBlaster package includes one meter base suppressor and one all-in-one (satellite/TV/DVD/computer) suppression module.

Call us at 1-800-224-4917 or visit ClayElectric.com/surge-protection for more information.

ELECTRIC CO-OP SERVICE DENSITY compared to OTHER ELECTRIC UTILITIES

Electric cooperatives maintain more power lines per consumer than other types of electric utilities.

Even though we serve fewer consumers per mile of line, we will always go the extra mile for our members.

