



EmPOWER Youth Leadership Program

2018-2019 PROGRAM YEAR

Application Deadline: 4:30 pm, Friday, May 11, 2018

empoweryouthleadership.com

Sioux Valley Energy is excited to provide an opportunity for high school sophomores and juniors with a comprehensive understanding of cooperatives while developing their leadership skills in a fun, interactive and challenging way through the 5th annual EmPOWER Youth Leadership program. EmPOWER is a 12 month program that will commence with the presentation of participants at the SVE annual meeting on Tuesday, June 5, 2018. **The “meat” of the program includes four EmPOWER sessions held throughout the year that will allow students to learn about the cooperative business model, explore career options, network with other students and professionals, build and improve leadership skills through interactions with community leaders, industry experts and motivational speakers while working on personal growth.** The program will then conclude the following June at the cooperative’s 2019 annual meeting. There will be monetary leadership awards/scholarships available for students who go above and beyond and attend the required session as well as all-expense paid traveling opportunities for selected students. Those trips include a four-day trip to the Basin Electric power generation facilities in North Dakota July 23-26, 2018 and also a week-long trip to Washington, D.C. in June of 2019. Upon completion of the EmPOWER program, participants will have the opportunity to form an EmPOWER Advisory Committee. Your role will be to offer feedback to the Sioux Valley Energy Board of Directors and help plan the following years EmPOWER program.



www.siouxvalleyenergy.com

108 N Heritage Rd
PO Box 857
Brandon, SD 57005

47092 SD Hwy 34
PO Box 216
Colman, SD 57017

1102 7th St. SE
PO Box 336
Pipestone, MN 56164

Program Coordinator ~ Amy Voelker
Phone: 800-234-1960 Email: amy.voelker@siouxvalleyenergy.com



Program Information and Application Instructions

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Julia Ferguson

Luverne High School

Lucy Fods

Chester High School

Elizabeth Hofer

Estelline High School

Grace Johanson

Flandreau High School

Josie Scholten

*Hills Beaver Creek
High School*

Emilie Staeffler

Luverne High School

Samantha Wiseman

Tri-Valley High School



Sioux Valley Energy
EmPOWER Youth Leadership
PO Box 216
Colman, SD 57017
empoweryouthleadership.com

Dear Applicant:

Congratulations on your decision to apply for EmPOWER! Thirty to forty high school sophomores and juniors from across Sioux Valley Energy's service territory will be selected to participate in this 12 month program.

Eligibility ~ Applicant must:

- Be a sophomore or junior during the 2018-2019 school year.
- Have an interest in furthering their knowledge about cooperatives, Sioux Valley Energy and leadership skills.
- Receive approval by a high school principal and/or guidance counselor.
- Commit to fully EmPOWER yourself with a fun, positive, open mind ready to take in everything the program has to offer.

Student Commitments:

- Students are encouraged to attend our Annual Meeting on Tuesday, June 5, 2018 and our 2019 Annual meeting. They are required to attend the four program days (school observed Veterans Day – Nov. 12, Martin Luther King Day – Jan. 21, Presidents Day – Feb. 18, and Good Friday – April 19).
- Program days will run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Students are responsible for transportation to and from the required dates above.

Application Requirements:

- Fill out the online application at www.empoweryouthleadership.com.
- Your school official must review your application and complete the School Consent Form. The **COMPLETED** application must be received by Sioux Valley Energy by or before 4:30 pm Friday, May 11, 2018.

Selection Process:

- All applications will be reviewed by the EmPOWER Executive Committee.
- All applicants will be notified of the status of their application the week of May 21, 2018.

Good luck with your application! Please contact Amy Voelker at 800-234-1960 or email amy.voelker@siouxvalleyenergy.com if you have any questions. Let us EmPOWER each other and grow this program together!

Be EmPOWER-ed,

Amy Voelker
EmPOWER Youth Leadership Coordinator

Relax. Be genuine. Be vulnerable and open; these answers should show you as a person. Proofread; ask someone else to proofread. There is no right answer; if your mom is making you apply for this, tell us! Reflect, dig deep and have fun!

Why apply for EmPOWER? What do you hope to get out of it?

What does a cooperative mean to you?

Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What floats your boat?

Are leaders born or made?

The seven leadership principles of EmPOWER are: receptive, accountable, compassionate, authentic, interactive, honest, and charitable. Choose one of these principles and explain why it's important as a leader.

What is your reaction to this statement? A comfort zone is a beautiful place, but nothing ever grows there.

Can you commit to all four program dates?

Please read carefully the following information and sign (student and parent).

STUDENT

As the participating student, I agree to follow these rules:

- I will remain in the designated areas of all activities and will not leave the premises unless arrangements are made with the Sioux Valley Energy staff and my parents.*
- I will not invite any non-participants to come to the attend any of the activities sponsored by Sioux Valley Energy.*
- I understand that no alcoholic beverages or any illegal substances will be allowed. If I am on medication prescribed by a physician, I will inform the Sioux Valley Energy staff.*
- I will keep my cell phone turned off during all sessions.*
- I understand that my parents will be called to pick me up if I violate any of these rules.*
- I understand that I have to complete/take part in all required activities to be eligible for the monetary leadership awards/scholarship.*
- I understand that to receive the scholarship, I must attend a post-secondary school within two years of high school graduation.*
- I understand that Sioux Valley Energy may take photographs of participants and activities. I agree that SVE shall be the owner of and may use such photographs relating to the promotion of future programs. I relinquish all rights that I may claim in relation to use of said photographs.*

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

PARENT

My child has my permission to attend and participate in all activities during the EmPOWER Youth Leadership Program sponsored by Sioux Valley Energy. I understand that if my child does not abide by the rules above, I will be called to pick up my child from any activity. In addition, I understand that if my child does not abide by the rules and meet all requirements of the program, they may not be eligible for scholarship dollars.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Questions?

Contact Amy Voelker, EmPOWER Youth Leadership Program Coordinator,
at 800-234-1960 or amy.voelker@siouxvalleyenergy.com



EmPOWER Youth Leadership Program School Consent Form

TO THE APPLICANT: Please type your name below and then give this form, along with your application, to your guidance counselor, who will complete the remainder of this form and mail all materials to Sioux Valley Energy/EmPOWER, Attn: Amy Voelker, PO Box 216, Colman, SD 57017 or email to amy.voelker@siouxvalleyenergy.com.

Applicant Name: _____
First Last

School Name: _____

School Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

School Phone: _____

Recommendation:	I recommend this	I recommend this applicant	Applicant not
(Please circle one)	applicant unreservedly	with reservations	appropriate

Applicant's GPA: _____ GPA calculated on a scale of: _____

I understand that this applicant must attend the four program days (Veterans Day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday). School attendance credit will be granted for school time missed due to participation in this program. By signing below you agree to the terms and conditions set forth on this application by the EmPOWER Youth Leadership Program.

Guidance Counselor Printed Name: _____

Guidance Counselor Signature: _____

Principal Printed Name: _____

Principal Signature: _____