

APPRENTICE LINEMAN - Job Description  
NRECA Job Code: 55-6451

An apprentice lineman is an employee not hired as a Journeyman Lineman but assigned by the management of OCEC to become a Journeyman Lineman and will be required to sign an agreement to pass the OCEC approved four-year apprentice program. This program will consist of on the job training and class work. Any apprentice failing to achieve a final score of 70% or higher for that year's course will be deemed to have failed the curriculum for the year and, at the discretion of the Cooperative management, will be subject to one of the following actions:

- a. Dropped from the apprentice program and placed in a different position
- b. Permitted to retake the failed year's curriculum at the same rate of pay as when he failed that year's curriculum, at the apprentice's cost and not subject to reimbursement by the Cooperative.
- c. Terminated.

When an apprentice has completed his apprenticeship and passed his final examination, he shall be eligible for promotion to the status of Journeyman Lineman. Other conditions are outlined by the agreement to be signed by the apprentice and representative of OCEC management.

Linemen are classified as Apprentice 1, 2, 3, 4, and Journeyman.

Typical responsibilities for an APPRENTICE 1 includes:

- Climbs de-energized poles under the direct supervision of a lineman.
- Performs pole top rescue.
- Learns and complies with all APPA, OSHA, NESC, and OCEC safety policies, rules, and regulations.
- Will be able to show proficiency to a committee consisting of the Working Foreman, Area Supervisor, and Operation Manager.
- Will successfully complete the first year of OCEC approved four-year apprentice program before eligible for promotion to Apprentice 2.
- Other duties as assigned.

Typical responsibilities for an APPRENTICE 2 includes:

- Shall meet all the requirements of an Apprentice 1.
- Performs all the necessary activities in the construction and maintenance of overhead and underground distribution lines.
- Locates and repairs sources of service interruptions and troubles.
- Can de-energize equipment and taps for maintenance and repairs.
- Will successfully complete the second year of OCEC approved four-year apprentice program before eligible for promotion to Apprentice 3.

Typical responsibilities for an APPRENTICE 3 includes:

- Shall meet all the requirements of an Apprentice 2.
- Climbs energized poles under the direct supervision of a lineman.
- Performs live line maintenance under the direct supervision of a Journeyman Lineman.
- Perform public contacts when necessary.
- Will successfully complete the third year of OCEC approved four-year apprentice program before eligible for promotion to Apprentice 4.

Typical responsibilities for an APPRENTICE 4 includes:

- Shall meet all the requirements of an Apprentice 3.
- Perform work on energized circuits and in substation of all voltages using appropriate protective equipment and devices.
- Must be familiar with and capable of operating all types of equipment associated with the work being performed.
- Responsible for completing written reports on fieldwork and proper accounting for materials and time associated with each job.
- Will successfully complete the fourth year of OCEC approved four-year apprentice program before eligible for promotion to Journeyman Lineman.

Job Requirements:

- Must maintain a valid Class A Commercial Driver's License with an acceptable driving record.
- Ability to exert more than 100 pounds of force occasionally, and/or more than 50 pounds of force frequently, and/or more than 20 pounds of force constantly to move objects.
- Ascending and descending electric poles frequently, using feet and legs and/or hands and arms. Body agility is emphasized.
- Maintaining body equilibrium is a must to prevent falling when climbing electric poles or walking and/or standing on erratically moving surfaces.
- Bending body downward and forward frequently, by bending spine at the waist requiring full use of the lower extremities and back muscles.
- Bending legs at knee, coming to rest on knee or knees.
- Frequently bending the body downward by leg and spine and moving about on hand and knees or hands and feet.
- Standing for sustained periods of time/and/or walking for long distances.
- Using upper extremities to press against something with steady force to thrust forward, downward or outward and/or using upper extremities to exert force to draw, drag or tug objects in a sustained motion.
- Expressing or exchanging ideas by means of spoken words, to convey detailed or instructions to other workers accurately, loudly or quickly.
- Ability to receive detailed information through oral communications.
- Worker will be subject to temperatures below 32 degrees for periods of more than one hour.
- Worker will be subject to temperatures above 100 degrees for periods of more than one hour.
- Worker is substantially subject to hazards while working with, or near electrical current.

Applications are available at [www.ocec-inc.com](http://www.ocec-inc.com).

Please submit completed applications to:

Otero County Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Attn: Kelley Sanders – Director of Human Resources  
PO Box 227  
Cloudcroft, NM 88317  
575-682-7606 (direct)  
928-563-6381 (FAX)  
[kelleys@ote-coop.com](mailto:kelleys@ote-coop.com)