

SUMNER COWLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
Position Description

Job Title: Apprentice Lineworker (Levels 1–4)

Reports To: Line Foreman

FLSA Status: Full Time/Non-Exempt

Last Reviewed: January 2026

Position Summary:

The Apprentice Lineworker is an entry-level to advanced training position in an approved journeyman program at Sumner Cowley Electric Cooperative, Inc. The apprentice works under the direct supervision of journeyman-level personnel and the Line Foreman to learn and perform all aspects of electric distribution line construction, maintenance, and repair. Through structured on-the-job training, classroom instruction, and progressive responsibility, the apprentice advances through four levels with the goal of becoming a fully qualified Journeyman Lineman. Safety, teamwork, and continuous learning are essential components of this position.

Essential Responsibilities and Personal Conduct:

The following list is intended to describe the general nature of the basic responsibilities and conduct expected of individuals employed by Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative. It is not intended to be an all-inclusive listing. The descriptions contained within are subject to change at any time at the sole discretion of the management.

Must be supportive of all policies and decisions set by management and the Board of Directors.

Conduct oneself in such a manner as to contribute to a better understanding of the Cooperative when in contact with members or the public, as well as maintain a harmonious relationship with all Cooperative employees.

Must be able to write legibly as well as read and comprehend material, display effective written and oral communication skills and the ability to communicate with the public and other employees tactfully and courteously.

Must have good interpersonal skills and ability to get along with diverse personalities; capable of conveying a positive and professional image.

Must be able to coordinate projects with other employees, as well as ability to work with and consistently meet deadlines, budgets, and work on several projects simultaneously.

Key Responsibilities:

The following list of duties is intended to describe the general nature and level of work to be performed by individuals assigned to this position. It is not intended to be an all-inclusive listing, and other duties may be assigned. The descriptions within this classification are subject to change at any time at the sole discretion of management.

Safety & Compliance:

Learn and follow all safety rules, regulations and best practices with OSHA, NESC and cooperative policies under direct supervision. Participate in job briefings, always use appropriate PPE and attend all safety meetings and trainings.

Learning & Development:

Participate in a formal apprenticeship program, including classroom instruction, field training, testing, and skills evaluations as required for progression to each level.

Assisting with Line Construction & Maintenance:

Support journeyman lineworkers in the construction, repair, and maintenance of overhead and underground distribution lines. Tasks include preparing materials, framing poles, stringing wire, and performing basic service work.

Outage Support & Emergency Response:

Assist crews in responding to outages and storms, including working in adverse weather and after hours under direct supervision.

Equipment Operation & Tool Use:

Learn to safely operate and care for tools, vehicles, and equipment commonly used in electric utility work. Perform truck inspections and assist with maintenance.

Climbing & Physical Conditioning:

Develop and maintain climbing skills; safely work at heights using appropriate equipment and techniques under supervision.

Recordkeeping & Progress Documentation:

Maintain accurate records of training hours, tasks performed, and evaluations as required by the apprenticeship program.

Teamwork & Communication:

Work as a cooperative team member with a positive attitude, good communication skills, and a willingness to take directions and ask questions.

Qualifications:

- * High school diploma or GED required.
- * Enrollment in or eligibility for an approved electric lineworker apprenticeship program.
- * Must possess or be able to obtain a valid Class A CDL within 6 months of employment.
- * Must pass pre-employment screenings including physical, drug/alcohol testing, and
- * Ability to work at heights, in confined spaces, and in varying weather conditions.
- * Must demonstrate steady progress through apprenticeship program requirements.
- * Must live within a 20 mile radius of the cooperative headquarters building in Wellington, KS.

Preferred Skills and Attributes:

- * Strong safety awareness with willingness to speak up, stop work when unsafe conditions exist and support a culture of shared responsibility and accountability for safety.
- * Strong work ethic.
- * Mechanical aptitude and willingness to learn.
- * Ability to follow detailed instructions and retain technical knowledge.
- * Cooperative attitude and desire to build a long-term career in electric utility operations.

Working Conditions:

- * Frequently works outdoors in all weather conditions, including storms and extreme temperatures.
- * Required to be on-call for after-hours emergencies and outages (as applicable by apprentice level)
- * Regular physical demands including climbing, heavy lifting, and working at heights.
- * Must be able to work extended hours during outage situations or severe weather events.

About Sumner Cowley Electric Cooperative, Inc.:

Founded in 1938, Sumner Cowley Electric Cooperative (SCEC) is a distribution electric utility serving five counties in rural south-central Kansas. With 1877 Miles of lines serving 4600 members our member owned cooperative delivers safe, reliable and affordable electricity to the farms, homes and businesses that power rural Kansas.

Sumner Cowley Electric Cooperative

Building on our Past...Lighting the way to the Future