HE IEEE POWER & ENERGY Society (PES) Scholarship Plus Initiative recognizes highly qualified electrical engineering undergraduate students with multiyear scholarships and assists in connecting students with relevant, meaningful career experiences. The goal of the program is to increase the number of well-qualified, entry-level engineers in the power and energy industry. Since the program launched in 2011, 835 students have received 1,382 scholarships from 191 universities. The program has had a positive impact and resulted in more student involvement in the power industry.

Megan Cullen (Figure 1), a student from Texas A&M University, notes, “This scholarship has helped me launch my activities and interest in power engineering. Since applying for the PES scholarship, I have begun research in cyberphysical models of power systems, and I am hoping to pursue something similar for a career. I have become more involved with my school branch of PES and, as an officer in the general IEEE branch at Texas A&M, I hope to strengthen the connection between these organizations. Finally, as an out-of-state student, the cost of attendance has always been a concern, so the financial support from this scholarship is a blessing that allows me to focus more on school.”

There are multiple ways an organization or person can get involved in the program, including by 1) becoming a mentor, 2) promoting the program to students, 3) providing a financial contribution, and 4) offering internship and cooperative opportunities to PES scholars.

Find out how this program is addressing the shortage of engineers in the power and energy industry by visiting the IEEE PES Scholarship Plus website at www.ee-scholarship.org.