

Lineworker



Median average salary: \$68,010

Lineworkers install and repair cables, wires, and other critical transmission and distribution equipment. This equipment powers almost everything we use: our homes, schools, hospitals, businesses, and the electronic equipment inside. Lineworkers are working on the front line when the power goes out. Rain or shine, heat or cold, lineworkers will be out working to bring power back to their communities.

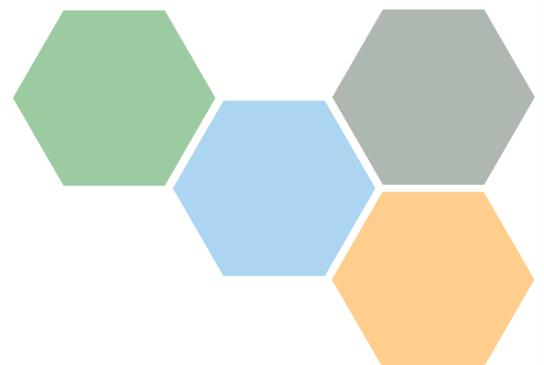
What does it take to be a lineworker?

Lineworkers need to develop specific skills in order to do their job well, and many of these are STEM skills. For example, lineworkers must be able to:

- Climb poles or use truck-mounted buckets to reach equipment
- Lay underground cables
- Inspect and test power lines and other equipment
- Work well with others
- Not mind heights or working outdoors

Being a lineworker means that you have the opportunity to grow in your career. You may start as a line helper or apprentice and work your way up to a senior crew leader or supervisor. At each level, it is important to develop and strengthen more skills. Some of these advanced skills are:

- Define how the various parts of systems interact
- Understand mechanical relationships in practical situations, such as how pulleys work
- Coordinate several competing activities for efficient use of time and material
- Financial management
- Understanding customer needs
- People management



What does a lineworker do?

A lineworker's responsibilities change as their career grows.

Below are examples of tasks for different stages of a lineworker career.

Line Helper

- Provide tools and equipment to line crew
- Make work area safe
- Drive equipment to job site

Lineworker

Education Required: Associate's Degree

- Install equipment
- Climb poles
- Identify defective devices
- Lay underground cable
- Inspect and test power lines

Senior-Level Crew Leader

*Education Required: On-the-Job Training/
Experience*

- Supervise crewmembers
- Determine schedules and work activities
- Check for unsafe work conditions
- Communicate with customers

Supervisor

Education Required: Bachelor's Degree

- Schedule and oversee work of line crews
- Review crewmember performance and provide feedback

