









## BUILDING AMERICA'S NEXT GENERATION OF LINEWORKERS

The COLT (Central Ohio Lineworker Training) program was established in 2004 as an in-depth, hands-on apprentice program designed specifically for Ohio's and West Virginia's electric distribution cooperatives.









A 16-acre outdoor pole farm



A 7,200sq. ft. indoor training facility

COLT is nationally recognized for program quality and unique design, which includes energized overhead and underground facilities, as well as fixed stations. COLT's apprentice and journeyman courses immerse students in an environment of safety, which is highly integrated into every technique and procedure taught in the field, and every discussion held in the classroom.

To date, COLT has graduated 302 students from the apprentice program and 147 students from the journeyman refresher program. There are more than 150 students currently enrolled in the apprentice program.

## **Continuing education**

In March 2021, OEC reached an agreement with West Virginia University of Parkersburg (WVUP) to offer students who completed the COLT Power Lineworker Certification Program to receive 45 of the 60 credits required to earn an associate's degree in applied science in technical studies. That meant COLT graduates had just five courses remaining to complete their associate's degree with WVUP.