



**Independent Electrical
Contractors**

2013 IEC Apprentice Short Story Contest
Your Journey Into the Electrical Industry

The Contest:

IEC is looking for original submissions from apprentices in their final year of an IEC Apprentice Training Program. Submissions should be typed and should not exceed 500 words.

Topics:

Topics for the narrative should deal with one or more of the following:

- How I first found out about the IEC Apprentice Training Program
- Why I decided to enroll in the IEC Apprentice Training Program
- Why I chose to become an electrician
- Who or what influenced my decision to become an electrician

Eligibility:

The contest is open to all apprentices in their final year of an IEC Apprentice Training Program.

Prizes:

IEC National will award prizes for the best narrative. The Grand Prize is a \$250 Visa® gift card and four runners-up will each receive a \$100 Visa® gift card.

Participation:

IEC National is requesting all IEC chapter executive directors and/or training directors to encourage their apprentices in the final year of the program to participate in the contest.

Send Submissions to:

Submissions should be sent along with the completed application (below) directly to IEC National by **March 1, 2013**, by email (preferred), fax, or mail.

By email:	wdf@ieci.org
By fax:	(703) 549-7448
	Independent Electrical Contractors, Inc.
By regular mail:	IEC National Workforce Development Committee
	4401 Ford Avenue, Suite 1100
	Alexandria, VA 22302

Judging:

1. Submissions will be judged on originality, creativity, conventions of print, and sincerity. Judging will be conducted by members of the IEC National Workforce Development Committee.
2. Submissions by anyone other than an apprentice in his/her final year of an IEC Apprentice Training Program will be disqualified.
3. Names and contact information will be resolved from the narratives and forwarded to the IEC National Workforce Development Committee to be judged.
4. The Workforce Development Committee will select award winners by **April 5, 2013**.

Winning essays will be included in their entirety in July 2013 issue of *Insights*. Applicants will be notified by email prior to publication of the issue.

The Committee will judge the essays using the following scale:

Category	4	3	2	1	0
Originality (Maximum points 35)	This story is exceptional and one-of-a-kind that provides details, which reveals why an electrical career or apprenticeship training is important to the writer.	The story is above average and worth telling.	The story includes less important events that don't help the reader understand what's important to the writer.	The story is extremely typical, very general, has virtually no details, and was put together with little or no thought.	No effort.
Sincerity (Maximum points 29)	The piece reveals a profound insight that may make an impact on someone trying to decide on a career in the electrical field.	The writer describes relevant feelings or ideas, but does not state a central insight that led to a career or educational choice.	The writer describes a few feelings or ideas but they aren't well connected to the story.	The writer does not share feelings or insights.	No effort.
Creativity (Maximum points 23)	Writer uses vivid words and phrases that linger or draw pictures in the reader's mind.	Writer uses words that communicate clearly, but the writing lacks variety, punch or flair.	Writer uses limited vocabulary that does not communicate strongly or capture the reader's interest.	The story is dull or off topic.	No effort.
Conventions of print (Maximum points 16)	The story has perfect or near perfect grammar. Every sentence flows, has a consistent tone, and contributes to the combined meaning of the piece.	The writer generally uses the correct sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, and spelling.	The writer makes frequent errors which are distracting but do not interfere with meaning.	Numerous problems with grammar, spelling, etc. make the story hard to read.	No effort.



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IEC APPRENTICE SHORT STORY CONTEST APPLICATION FORM

SECTION 1 (general information): Please complete this form and submit with all entries by **March 1, 2013**. The fields of the form are electronically writable.

Applicants Name:	Name of Employer:
Address of Employer:	IEC Local Chapter:
City of Employer:	Phone No. of Employer:
State/Zip Code of Employer:	Employer Fax Number:
Date:	E-mail:

Check here to allow IEC National to reprint submission in IEC Publications (must be checked to qualify).

SECTION 2 (submission): Please use this section to type or print your submission, or attach an additional document (preferred). (Please submit a digital copy via email if possible.)