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BRUNSWICK ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

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## **Deadline Approaching for Local Teachers to Apply for Bright Ideas Grants from BEMC**

**SUPPLY, N.C.** (August 8, 2019) – Time is running out for local K-12 teachers to apply for grants up to \$2,000 from Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation (BEMC) through the Bright Ideas education grant program. Educators with creative ideas for hands-on classroom projects must submit their applications by Monday, September 23, 2019. Interested teachers can find the application, along with grant-writing tips and program information, on the Bright Ideas website at [ncbrightideas.com](http://ncbrightideas.com).

“The cooperative has a proud history supporting local educators whose dedication impacts the lives of so many young people,” said Josh Winslow, CEO/General Manager of BEMC. “We appreciate how our teachers engage their students with new and creative projects in the classroom and BEMC’s Bright Ideas grants are one way to show that appreciation.”

This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bright Ideas program. Originating at BEMC in the 90s with a mini grant of \$500, the program has grown to award teachers a total of nearly \$34,000 each year, totaling \$651,000 since inception to support local educators in BEMC’s service territory. Today all 26 North Carolina electric cooperatives provide Bright Ideas grants for classroom-based projects. Together they have awarded more than \$12 million to teachers, ultimately benefiting more than 2 million students across the state since 1994.

The Bright Ideas education grant program is part of BEMC’s ongoing commitment to community and education. To learn more about this and other community outreach efforts, visit [bemc.org](http://bemc.org).

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*Brunswick Electric is the second largest electric co-op in NC, the 35th largest of more than 800 co-ops in the U.S. and serves more than 96,000 meter locations in Brunswick and Columbus counties, plus small areas of Bladen and Robeson.*

*BEMC is a locally owned not-for-profit corporation committed to providing safe, reliable and affordable electricity to its members. Established in 1939, the co-op has a longstanding tradition of working to improve the quality of life in the communities it serves.*