

## Are you having trouble using the telephone due to a hearing or speech disability?

Minnesota Relay is a free telephone service that uses specially trained communications assistants to facilitate telephone calls between people with hearing and speech disabilities and other individuals. Calls can be made to anywhere in the world, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. All calls are completely confidential. To make a relay call dial 711. Once connected to the relay service, tell the communications assistant the type of relay call you wish to make. Or, you may dial the specific toll-free number for the type of relay service.

**For More Information on Minnesota Relay Services**  
[www.mnrelay.org](http://www.mnrelay.org)  
1-800-657-3775

**Emergency Assistance**  
TTY callers should dial 911 directly in an emergency. All 911 centers are equipped to handle TTY calls. Minnesota Relay can process emergency calls, but this may delay the response to your call.

**To File a Complaint Regarding Minnesota Relay**  
1-800-657-3775  
Email: [mn.relay@state.mn.us](mailto:mn.relay@state.mn.us)

You will need to provide: the date and time of the relay call, the calling from and to phone numbers, the CA's identification number, and the nature of your complaint.

You may also file a complaint with the Federal Communications Commission [consumercomplaints.fcc.gov](http://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov)  
Voice: 1-888-225-5322  
TTY: 1-888-835-5322  
ASL via VP: 1-844-432-2275

### TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION (TED) PROGRAM

The TED Program provides free specialized telecommunications equipment to income eligible Minnesotans who are having trouble using the telephone due to a hearing, speech, or physical disability.

[mn.gov/deaf-hard-of-hearing](http://mn.gov/deaf-hard-of-hearing)  
Voice: 1-800-657-3663  
ASL via VP: 651-964-1514

### Captioned Telephone Service (CTS)

CTS uses a special telephone with a text display screen so that a person who is hard of hearing *can listen to and read captions* of everything the other person on the call says. You speak directly to the other person on the call, and a relay communications assistant transcribes everything the other person says into captions, which appear on the display screen of your CTS phone.

### Internet Protocol Captioned Telephone Service (IP CTS)

Internet-based forms of CTS are available for those who would like to use CTS on a computer, tablet, or smartphone. Go to: <https://www.fcc.gov/ipcts>.

### Computer (ASCII): 1-800-627-3529

Computer users can access Minnesota Relay. Set your communications software to the following protocols: speeds ranging from 300 to 2400; 8 Bits; No Parity; 1 Stop Bit; Full Duplex. When calling at a rate of 300 or below, follow the above using Half Duplex.

### Hearing Carry Over (HCO): 1-800-627-3529

HCO allows a person who can hear clearly but who has very limited or no speech capability to make phone calls. Using a special text telephone, you type your conversation for the relay communications assistant to read to the other person, and listen directly to the other person's response.

### Hearing User: 1-800-627-3529

A hearing person may use a standard telephone or mobile phone to place a relay call and speak with a person who is deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled.

### Internet Protocol (IP) Relay

IP Relay combines text-based relay service with the ease of the Internet – no need for a TTY. You can make your relay call using a computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Go to: <https://www.fcc.gov/ip-relay>.

### Spanish Relay: 1-877-627-5448

Spanish speaking persons with a hearing or speech disability can make relay calls. This is not a translation service – both parties must speak Spanish, and at least one party must have a hearing or speech disability.

### Speech-to-Speech (STS): 1-877-627-3848

STS allows a person who has difficulty speaking or being understood on the phone to communicate using his or her own voice or voice synthesizer. The communications assistant revoices your words so that the other person on the call can understand them, and the other person speaks directly to you.

### Text Telephone (TTY): 1-800-627-3529

This service allows a person who is deaf, deafblind, or speech disabled to use a TTY to communicate with the other person on the call.

### Video Relay Service (VRS)

VRS allows a person who uses American Sign Language (ASL) to communicate over the phone. The VRS user connects to the relay communications assistant via an internet-enabled device with a video camera. The communications assistant relays the conversation back and forth between the parties – in ASL with the VRS user and by voice with the called party. Go to: <https://www.fcc.gov/vrs>.

### Voice Carry Over (VCO): 1-877-627-3024

VCO allows a person with a hearing disability, but who wants to use his or her own voice, to speak directly to the other party. The communications assistant then types the other party's response, which is displayed on the VCO user's text telephone.

## TELE U WHAT

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Published by Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Cooperative  
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email: [info@paulbunyan.net](mailto:info@paulbunyan.net)  
online: [paulbunyan.net](http://paulbunyan.net)



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1831 Anne St. NW  
Bemidji, MN 56601  
Phone (218) 444.1234  
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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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COOPERATIVE NEWS AND INFORMATION • JANUARY 2024

# TELE U WHAT



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APR 20  
2024**

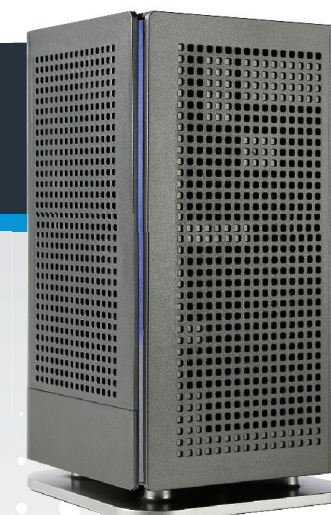
DOORS OPEN  
AT 10:00 AM



## GIGAZONE TECHXPO ACCEPTING EXHIBITOR APPLICATIONS

The mission of the GigaZone TechXpo is to spark excitement and create opportunities with technology by connecting students and job seekers with employers, educators, and technology enthusiasts from across northern Minnesota.

**It is FREE to be an exhibitor but space is limited.  
Go to [GigaZoneTechXpo.com](http://GigaZoneTechXpo.com) to apply.**



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*Special Guest:*  
**Danielle Feinberg**

Visual Effects Supervisor at Pixar Animation Studios & Mentor for Girls in STEM

Danielle Feinberg began her career at Pixar Animation Studios in February 1997, and since then, she has worked on 14 of Pixar's feature films. She cut her teeth on early films like A Bug's Life, Toy Story 2, Monsters, Inc. and the Academy Award®-winning Finding Nemo and The Incredibles. Feinberg was the director of photography-lighting for the Academy Award® winning features WALL-E, Brave, and Coco. Most recently she completed her work as the visual effects supervisor on Turning Red, released on March 11, 2022.

Feinberg also continues to champion women in STEM by participating in science and math mentoring programs for young women and continuing to tell her story. In fact, her TED Talk, *The Magic Ingredient That Brings Pixar Movies to Life*, was named one of the top TED Talks of 2016.

The GigaZone TechXpo is held concurrently with the GigaZone Gaming Championship, an arena-style-gaming competition produced by Paul Bunyan Communications that was first held in 2016. The event features free gaming on various console and arcade games, numerous tournaments, door prizes, and more. There is no cost to enter the tournaments or for any of the gaming. Tournament details will be posted on the GigaZone Gaming Discord, Twitch channel, and Facebook page as well as [GigaZoneGaming.com](http://GigaZoneGaming.com).



## 2024 FRS YOUTH TOUR

Area High School Students aged 16 or 17 are encouraged to enter the Paul Bunyan Communications Essay Contest for a chance to attend the 2023 Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. June 3-7 with all expenses paid by Paul Bunyan Communications.

Students interested in attending the Youth Tour need to submit a short essay, no more than 500 words in length, on why they would like to attend the Youth Tour. Students must be 16 or 17 years of age and in high school with their parent/guardian a member of Paul Bunyan Communications.

Entries can be dropped off at the Paul Bunyan Communications office in Bemidji or Grand Rapids, or they can be mailed to:

Paul Bunyan Communications Essay Contest  
1831 Anne St. NW  
Bemidji, MN 56601

**The deadline for entries is Friday, March 1.**

The trip features a comprehensive overview of the broadband industry, including careers in telecom, the critical role broadband plays in rural America, and how legislative and regulatory decisions affect the industry. The tour allows youth to meet with members of Congress who represent rural constituents.

**16-17 YEAR OLD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:**  
Enter the Paul Bunyan Communications Youth Tour Essay Contest for a chance to win a trip to Washington D.C.  
**Deadline is Friday, March 1**

They also participate in educational sessions about the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Students visit some of the nation's most historic sites, including the Smithsonian Museums and a beautiful night tour of our Washington D.C.

"We hope that by providing our youth with broadband services comparable to those found in urban areas, as well as exposing them to cultural and educational opportunities, such as the FRS Youth Tour, our youth will remain in and become active members in their rural communities," said Brian Bissonette, Paul Bunyan Communications Marketing Supervisor.

The Foundation for Rural Service is dedicated to informing and to improving the quality of life throughout rural America. Each year, it organizes the Youth Tour, designed to educate rural youth about the telecommunications industry and the federal political process. The FRS is a subsidiary of the NTCA, the Rural Broadband Association of which Paul Bunyan Communications is a member.

Paul Bunyan Communications has participated in sending a local high school student to the Youth Tour annually since 1996.

## DISTRICT 5 2024 DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

As a cooperative, Paul Bunyan Communications is governed by a seven-person member-elected Board of Directors. In 2024, there is one Board of Director position up for election representing Districts 5.

Article III, Section 3 of your Cooperative's Bylaws requires any member interested in serving as a Director to submit a completed candidate packet to the Cooperative headquarters at least 25 business days prior to the Caucus Election date. This enables the Cooperative to properly verify the eligibility of all candidates to serve as a member of the Board if elected. Members interested can find the candidate application packet and related information online at [www.paulbunyan.net/cooperative/documents/](http://www.paulbunyan.net/cooperative/documents/)

**The deadline for completed Director-candidate packets to be returned to the Cooperative is Monday, February 26.**

If there are less than two pre-qualified candidates seeking election to the Board of Directors from the same district (an uncontested district election), no in-person Caucus Meeting and Caucus Election for that district will be held.

If there are two or more pre-qualified candidates seeking election from the same district, the in-person Caucus Meeting will be held and all members residing within the district will be notified by mail of the date, time, and location. The purpose of the in-person Caucus is to select two pre-qualified candidates to seek election/re-election to be the district's representative on the Paul Bunyan Communications Board of Directors. Directors serve a five-year term through May of 2029.

**The current director for District 5 is Randy Frisk and he has expressed his intent to seek re-election.**

Based on the results of any contested Caucus Election, the names of two candidates are listed on the ballot to be voted on by the general membership of the Cooperative. **Election results will be announced at the Annual Meeting, scheduled for May 22, 2024.** The candidate from each respective district with the greatest number of votes from the general membership is elected/re-elected as the Director for such district.



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Service availability depends on location. Some restrictions may apply. This institution is an equal opportunity employer.

## 2024 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Paul Bunyan Communications is committed to the communities we serve and we provide many scholarship opportunities annually to local students within our service territory. We also offer local students the chance to apply for one statewide industry scholarship and one national industry scholarship. If you are a current high school senior or a student at one of the local post-secondary institutions, you can apply to win a Paul Bunyan Communications Scholarship.

### HIGH SCHOOL

Each year, our cooperative provides at least two \$500 scholarships to 16 area high schools within or near our service territory. The application process, winners, and distribution of funds are handled by each high school independent of Paul Bunyan Communications.

- Bemidji
- Bigfork
- Blackduck
- Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig
- Cass Lake-Bena
- Deer River
- Grand Rapids
- Greenway
- Int'l Falls
- Kelliher
- Laporte
- Nashwauk/Keewatin
- Northome
- Park Rapids
- Red Lake
- Walker/Hackensack/Akeley

**To apply for the Paul Bunyan Communications Scholarship at one of these high schools, please speak to the counselor or career service office.**

### POST-SECONDARY

In addition to high school scholarships, Paul Bunyan Communications provides scholarships to post-secondary students that are current members of PBC, or have a parent who is a member.

- Bemidji State University
- Northwest Technical College
- Minnesota North College - Itasca
- Red Lake Nation College
- Leech Lake Tribal College
- Oak Hills Christian College

**To apply for the Paul Bunyan Communications Scholarship at one of these post-secondary institutions, speak to the Admissions or Career Service office at the school you attend.**

## INDUSTRY SCHOLARSHIPS

### MINNESOTA TELCOM ALLIANCE



Paul Bunyan Communications participates in the Minnesota Telecom Alliance scholarship program which awards five \$2,000 scholarships to Minnesota high school seniors each year.

**The application can be downloaded at [www.mnta.org/page/Scholarship](http://www.mnta.org/page/Scholarship) and must be turned in to Paul Bunyan Communications no later than February 16, 2024.**

An MTA panel reviews each application and selects the finalists based on applicants' grades, academic achievements and extra-curricular activities. Preference to receive the scholarships is given to students who have an interest in broadband technology and rural communities.

### FOUNDATION FOR RURAL SERVICE



Paul Bunyan Communications participates in the Foundation for Rural Service scholarship program which awards thirty \$2,500 scholarships to high school seniors throughout the country each year.

**Applications can also be downloaded from the FRS web site at [www.frs.org/programs/youth-programs/scholarships](http://www.frs.org/programs/youth-programs/scholarships)**

**Completed applications should be sent directly to FRS, postmarked no later than February 16, 2024.** Applications postmarked to FRS after this date will NOT be accepted.