



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Nex-Tech Encourages Students to Apply for James L. Bass Legal Scholarship

LENORA, Kan., Feb 16, 2021—The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) today announced the James L. Bass Legal Scholarship, a new scholarship for students with an interest in rural communities entering their first year of law school. FRS is the philanthropic arm of NTCA—The Rural Broadband Association, of which Nex-Tech is a member.

With an active law career that spanned more than 70 years, James Bass helped secure funds for rural telephone systems to bring modern telephone service to rural areas. He was pivotal in the creation of NTCA, where he served as one of the organization’s earliest presidents. Bass continued his leadership with service for more than 50 years as legal counsel.

Recognizing Bass’s impact to the industry and his passion for the legal profession, the NTCA Board of Directors established a scholarship for students with an interest in rural communities to attend law school. The first James L. Bass Legal Scholarship will be awarded in spring 2021 and will be at least \$5,000.

“Jim was not only a founding member of NTCA, he was a guiding light for our association through much of his lifetime,” said Shirley Bloomfield, chief executive officer of NTCA. “He spent his last years in service to the association as our general counsel where he helped guide our national board through growth and transformation. How fitting it is to honor him with a law school scholarship recognizing not only his passion for rural America but for the legal profession as well. My sincere thanks to all the NTCA members who so generously donated in Jim’s memory.”

Jacque Beckman, Nex-Tech Youth Services/Training Specialist said, “What an amazing opportunity for those entering as first-year law students this fall. It is our privilege to help share this opportunity with students in the rural communities we serve.”

The deadline to be considered for the spring 2021 James L. Bass Scholarship is April 16, 2021. Application materials and more information about the scholarship can be found [here](#).

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*The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS), the philanthropic arm of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association and its members, seeks to sustain and enhance the quality of life in rural America by advancing an understanding of rural issues. Through scholarships, grants, and a variety of educational programs, FRS focuses on educating rural youth, encouraging community development and introducing policymakers to challenges unique to rural communities. Visit us at [www.frs.org](http://www.frs.org).*

*NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association is the premier association representing nearly 850 independent, community-based telecommunications companies that are leading innovation in rural and small-town America. In an era of transformative technological advancements, regulatory challenges and marketplace competition, NTCA members are leading the technological evolution for rural consumers, delivering robust and high-quality services over future-proof networks that make rural communities vibrant places in which to live and do business. Because of their efforts, rural America is fertile ground for innovation in economic development, e-commerce, health care, agriculture and education, and it contributes billions of dollars to the U.S. economy each year. Visit us at [www.ntca.org](http://www.ntca.org).*



## **About Nex-Tech**

*Nex-Tech connects thousands of people and businesses through a robust broadband network. Nex-Tech's powerful fiber-to-the-premise technology delivers leading-edge enterprise solutions to clients nationwide including cloud services, servers, security, phone systems, hosted PBX, managed IT, advertising solutions, and network operations monitoring. Nex-Tech employees are customer focused on providing the most effective technology solutions with unsurpassed user-friendly support. Headquartered in Lenora, Kansas, Nex-Tech has been delivering exceptional service for 70 years. Visit us at [www.nex-tech.com/](http://www.nex-tech.com/).*

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