

# WTS CONNECTION/Hereford

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## Last call for scholarships

It's the last call for eligible individuals to submit their applications for 2016 scholarships from WT Services. Crunch time has arrived as applications are due by 5 p.m. on April 8.

WT Services will be awarding scholarships for the third consecutive year to graduating seniors from Hereford, Friona, Bovina, and Bushland high schools, with recipients to be announced in May.

**Likely the most readily available way to apply at this late hour is the downloadable**

**application forms and rules available at the WT Services home page at [wtservices.net](http://wtservices.net).**

Forms have been provided to school counselors at Hereford, Friona, Bovina, and Bushland high schools.

In Hereford, applications are still available at the WT Services office at 119 East 4th.

Applications and rules may be picked up at the WT Services office in Friona at 1010 Columbia,

Scholarships are open only to students whose

parents or guardians are WT Services customers, or, to students who are WT Services customers themselves. Applicants must be high school seniors who are candidates for graduation this spring.

Scholarship monies will be disbursed in increments per semester.

An official application form, accompanied by two letters of recommendation, and a wallet-size photo must be submitted. One of the letters of recommendation must be from a teacher, principal, or counselor from the high school that the applicant is currently attending.

To be considered, applications must be fully completed, legibly typed or written, have no attachments other than the photo and two required letters of recommendation, and must be received at the offices of WT Services, Inc. P.O. Box 1776, Hereford, Texas 79045, no later than April 8, 2015.

Applicants may be asked to attend an interview at the discretion of the board of parent company West Texas Rural Telephone

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## Radio shops offer digital two-way radios

Digital two-way radios are a stellar communications offering of WT Services radio shops in Hereford and Amarillo. Customers can go to [wtstx.com](http://wtstx.com) to browse merchandise and services offered. Digital two-ways provide an exceptional choice and have advantages over cellular phones, particularly in remote areas and in business settings.

Hereford and Amarillo radio shops sell, install, and repair Motorola radio communications equipment, and design radio systems and repeaters. Contact the WT Services Radio Shop in Hereford at 364-7311 or in Amarillo at 372-6765.

## WT Services can design telephone systems

Telephone systems customized to your needs are available from WT Services.

Systems can be designed for your unique business and office needs.

A representative from WT Services will visit your location to determine needs, including multi-line service, paging, call waiting or forwarding, determine what equipment would best serve those needs,

write a proposal, and arrange for installation by WT Services team members once a plan receives customer approval.

WT Services is experienced in providing telephone systems for business offices, school systems and government offices, among other applications.

Contact Doug Baker at WT Services, 364-7311, to discuss your phone system needs.

**Hereford: A Smart Community—with Fiber to the Premise—by WT Services.**

# Beware 'spoofing' e-mail seeking W-2 information

OK, heads up! This tax season there is a widespread new scam that specifically targets Human Resources and Accounting professionals at businesses. They get an urgent email from "the CEO" who asks them for all W-2 information of all employees. People are falling for this phishing scheme in droves. The reports are coming in by the hundreds and even the IRS has put out an alert about this scam.

## Deadline ...from Page 1

Cooperative.

Mechanics of the scholarships include the following:

- \* WT SERVICES scholarships may be used at any state or church-sponsored college or university, or at any accredited vocational or technical school.

- \* Recipients must maintain a minimum of twelve credited hours throughout each semester, or have full-time student status at vocational or trade schools.

- \* Upon enrollment or pre-enrollment for the fall semester, recipients must send WT SERVICES a confirmation from the registrar's office. Should a recipient drop out of school for any reason, the unused portion of the scholarship will be rescinded.

If the IRS is jumping in you know it's serious.

**DO THIS FIRST** : Before anything else, warn your Accounting and HR teams NOW that there is a new strain of CEO Fraud asking for W-2's. Watch out for fraudulent emails asking for W-2 information, and always verify requests like that using something other than email (phone, text). Warning these teams immediately may prevent a host of problems.

Here is what the IRS said: "This is a new twist on an old scheme using the cover of the tax season and W-2 filings to try tricking people into sharing personal data. Now the criminals are focusing their schemes on company payroll departments," said IRS Commissioner John Koskinen. "If your CEO appears to be emailing you for a list of company employees, check it out before you respond. Everyone has a responsibility to remain diligent about confirming the identity of people requesting personal information about employees."

IRS Criminal Investigation already is reviewing several cases in which people have been tricked into sharing Social Security numbers with what turned out to be cybercriminals. Criminals using personal information stolen elsewhere seek to monetize data, including by filing fraudulent tax returns for refunds.

This phishing variation is

known as a "spoofing" email. It will contain, for example, the actual name of the company chief executive officer. In this variation, the "CEO" sends an email to a company payroll office employee and requests a list of employees and information including SSNs.

The following are some of the details contained in the e-mails:

- Kindly send me the individual 2015 W-2 (PDF) and earnings summary of all W-2 of our company staff for a quick review.

- Can you send me the updated list of employees with full details (Name, Social Security Number, Date of Birth, Home Address, Salary).

- I want you to send me the list of W-2 copy of employees wage and tax statement for 2015, I need them in PDF file type, you can send it as an attachment. Kindly prepare the lists and email them to me asap.

The scam prevention firm KnowBe4 was alerted early by customers that are using its free feature that allows employees to click on just one button to delete phishy emails and forward them with the headers to security. Here are just a few other posts that illustrate the danger, but there are many, many more:

- 11,000 W-2's stolen from Health Care Workers
- SnapChat Employee Falls For W-2 Phishing Scam

- W-2 Tax forms for more than 2,500 GCI employees stolen in email scam.

- Seagate Phish Exposes All Employee W-2's

Again, be careful out there. If you suspect that there's something fishy about an email or information request, there probably is. Better to check it out and make sure.

## Reshuffled cable channel identities

A reshuffling of identities of some WT Services cable channels in Hereford and Bushland has occurred.

H2 on Channel 110 has changed to Viceland.

La Tele Novela on Channel 163 is now Tele N.

Mun 2 has changed to Universo on Channel 165.

ABC Family has changed to Freeform on Channel 68.

For a full channel lineup come by the local WT Services office or visit our website at [wtservices.net](http://wtservices.net).

## Expanded Hours

To better accommodate the needs of customers the WT Services office at 119 East 4th in Hereford offers expanded weekday hours from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, allowing extra weekday time to pay bills and conduct business.