

Overhead School

September 15–18, 2026

The 2026 Overhead School offers a unique training opportunity that will focus on working through a mutual aid event. This is an opportunity for everyone from line personnel to crew chiefs and management.

Participants will be divided into groups to work through the event as if it were an actual emergency—from dispatch to initial repair.



MMUA Training Center
1004 Michigan Rd, Marshall, MN

2026 Overhead School program details

Two class options - one specifically for CREW, the other for LEADERSHIP

Mutual Aid Response: Crew

As with any mutual aid response, crews will not know their specific tasks until they arrive. Lineworkers will be dispatched to different areas across the training center field, with priorities established for what should be addressed first, second, and so forth. Safety will be the top concern, emphasizing best practices and techniques to safely complete each task.

The training may cover topics and scenarios such as:

- Proper techniques for switching, grounding and tagging
- Identifying potential dangers and hazards, such as back feed
- Tree trimming in an emergency
- Splicing
- Pole replacement
- Transformer banking
- Transmission/substation repair
- Single and three phase structure damage

Agenda

Tuesday, September 15

- 1:00 Registration/check-in
- 2:00 Mutual aid response: Pre-event group walk through
- 5:00 Reception and Rodeo awards presentation

Wednesday, September 16

- 8:30 Hands-on mutual aid response: Crew and Leadership
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:30 Hands-on mutual aid (continued)
- 5:00 Optional evening activities: Archery, sporting clay shoot or golf (at participants expense)

Thursday, September 17

- 8:30 Hands-on mutual aid response: Crew and Leadership
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:30 Hands-on mutual aid (continued)
- 4:00 Wrap-up

Friday, September 18

- 8:30 Hotwash and group debrief
- 12:00 Wrap-up

Mutual Aid Response: Leadership (Advanced class)

Participants in the advanced class to focus on the management and system operations of an ongoing mutual aid event. Leadership personnel will have the opportunity to utilize and further develop essential skills to collaborate effectively.

Learning opportunities include:

- How to prioritize and organize a large-scale mutual aid response
- Becoming familiar with and leading using MMUA's standardized system for damage assessment and other tools/resources
- Locating crews and needed equipment and resources
- Leading/assisting system operations
- Mapping and prioritizing system restoration
- Managing your critical customer base
- Greeting and deploying outstate crews/resources
- Managing crew needs (lodging, food, etc.)
- Tracking crews and resources after deployment
- Leading in difficult situations—when to call for help/support; accident/injury situations; stranded crews and equipment breakdown; managing switching, testing and grounding
- Managing and mitigating potential dangers (customer's portable generators, debris, etc.)

What to bring

Please bring appropriate attire and materials, including:

- High-visibility clothing/outerwear
- Hard hat
- Harness
- Safety glasses
- Work gloves
- Rubber gloves
- Safety footwear
- Fall restraint (required for climbing, regardless of experience)

Registration information

Regular member: \$585 per person

Associate/affiliate: \$685 per person

Nonmember: \$880 per person

Registration fee includes school tuition, materials, Tuesday reception, Wednesday and Thursday lunch and refreshment breaks. MMUA will issue a refund (less \$50 processing fee per person) provided MMUA is notified of the cancellation by 4:30 pm on August 20. Visit mmua.org/events/overhead-school-2026 to register. Register by August 6 for best rate. Registration fees increase \$50 after that date. Advanced registration ends August 20.