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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Polar Offers Scholarship Opportunities to Students

PARK RIVER – January 24, 2014 In support of the continuing education for rural youth, Polar Communications and its subsidiaries are offering high school and college students the opportunity to apply for scholarships.

Polar's John G. Walters Scholarship:

Five \$500 scholarships will be issued to graduating high school seniors from our service area who plans to continue their education at an accredited 2-year or 4-year college/university or vocational-technical school.

Foundation for Rural Services (FRS) Scholarship:

FRS was established in 1994 and, along with the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA), promotes, educates and advocates to the public rural telecommunications issues. Polar is proud to be a member of NTCA and supports FRS in this worthy endeavor. If a graduating high school senior from our service area is selected for one of the FRS national scholarships (\$2,000 each), Polar will contribute an additional \$500, bringing the FRS award to \$2,500.

Foundation for Rural Services (FRS) Starulakis Family Scholarship:

FRS is proud to announce the creation of four new scholarships funded by Manny and Leo Starulakis, of JSI, in honor of their parents and to celebrate 50 years of service to the rural telephone industry. The FRS Starulakis Family Scholarship will provide four \$5,000 awards and will give preference to students with an interest in science, math, medicine, or engineering.

Telecom Management Services

A Scholarship of \$1,500, made possible by TMS's donation, will be awarded to a student whose parent or guardian is a customer of an NTCA member company.

Polar has simplified the application process for high school seniors to apply for all four scholarship programs using one application. Application deadline is February 14, 2014.

Polar's Retiree Scholarship:

Polar Communications, in cooperation with its retired employees and directors, offers the Polar Retiree Scholarship Program to recognize and reward students who, upon graduation, plan to work in the telecommunications industry within the state of North Dakota. These scholarships totaling up to \$5,000 (\$1,000 minimum/\$1,500 maximum) will be awarded to students who are currently in college or vocational-technical school and enrolled in a telecommunications field. Applicants must be a junior or senior at an accredited 4-year college or a student with one year remaining at an accredited technical school or 2-year college. Application deadline is February 14, 2014.

Minnesota Telecom Alliance (MTA) Foundation Scholarship:

The Minnesota Telecom Alliance Foundation is offering scholarships to high school seniors who graduate in 2014. Applicants must be Minnesota residents whose parents or guardians are current subscribers of Polar Communications or its subsidiaries. Each scholarship is in the amount of \$2,000. Scholarships are awarded after the student demonstrates successful completion of the first year of college or technical school. Application deadline is February 28, 2014.

Please encourage students to participate in these great opportunities. Applications and information regarding all of the scholarships can be found on Polar's website at www.thinkpolar.com. For applications, details, or questions on any of the scholarships, please contact Carol LaHaise at 701-284-4361 or email: clahaise@polartel.com