

ENERGY INSIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 2026

A newsletter for residential customers
of Holyoke Gas & Electric

For a Spanish version of this piece, please visit www.hged.com/newsletter.
Para obtener una versión en español de este artículo, visite www.hged.com/newsletter.

Engineering the Future

Meet 2026 Cadet Engineers: Nathaniel Gomes

From Holyoke's classrooms and soccer fields to the substations and hydro facilities that power our community, Nathaniel "Nate" Gomes has spent this summer learning firsthand what it means to be an engineer. As HG&E's 2026 Cadet Engineer, he is gaining valuable hands-on experience before beginning his studies in Electrical Engineering at the University of Massachusetts Amherst this fall.

A lifelong Holyoke resident, Nate attended Metcalf Preschool, McMahon Elementary School, and Holyoke High School, where he was a member of the Engineering and Life Sciences Academy. It was there that his interest in engineering took root.

While Nate always enjoyed math and science, he credits Holyoke High School mathematics teacher Mr. Slaney with helping him envision a future in engineering.

"Mr. Slaney was always asking what classes I was taking and making sure I was preparing myself for the future," Nate said. "He encouraged me to take multiple math courses sophomore year so I could be ready for AP Calculus as a senior. He really cared about his students and wanted to make sure they were on a pathway to success."

Nate continued on that path through Holyoke High School's Dual Enrollment partnership with Holyoke Community College, earning 15 college credits before graduation. Those credits have already transferred to UMass Amherst, giving him a head start on his degree.

Nate first learned about HG&E's Cadet Engineer Scholarship through former recipient Alex Dumas, now entering his junior year studying mechanical engineering. After hearing about the opportunities available through the program, Nate knew he wanted to apply.

This summer, Nate has worked under the mentorship of former Cadet Engineer Jason Arble at Cabot Street Station. His projects have included updating records, shadowing engineers from

various disciplines, learning utility operations, and observing real-world engineering applications in the field.

"The most interesting part about working here has been learning how many different things HG&E manages," said Nate. "I didn't realize how much hydroelectric generation we have. I've enjoyed getting out into the field, seeing substations, learning about equipment testing, and understanding how all the different parts of the business work together."



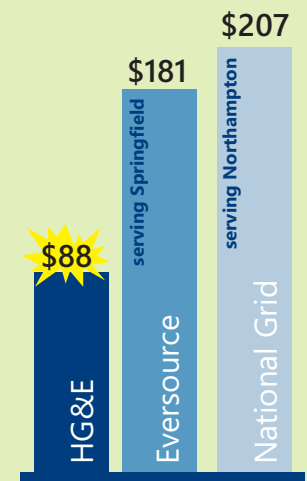
2026 Cadet Engineer Nathaniel Gomes



Cadet Engineer Alex Dumas (2024) and Nate Gomes (2026)
visiting the rubber bladder project at the Holyoke Dam.

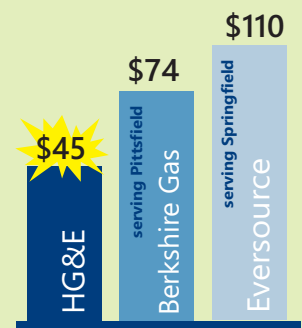
RATE COMPARISONS

LOWEST ELECTRIC RATE



August 2026: Residential customer consuming 500 kWh/month. Amounts shown include all discounts and use the fixed default generation supply price.

LOWEST NATURAL GAS RATE



August 2026: Residential customer consuming 28 CCF/month. Amounts shown include all discounts.

Engineering the Future, continued

The experience has reinforced his interest in engineering and shown him how classroom concepts translate into everyday utility operations. "I see math in everything we do here," Nate said. "There's a lot of calculus and physics behind the work, and it's been interesting to see how those concepts are actually used."

Outside the classroom and workplace, Nate has built an impressive resume of extracurricular and community involvement. At Holyoke High School, he participated in Chess Club, played volleyball and indoor track, and was a four-year member of the soccer program. His passion for soccer extends beyond the field, as he also referees youth soccer games throughout the area.

This summer, he spent much of his free time watching the FIFA Club World Cup and cheering on Portuguese National Team and legendary forward Cristiano Ronaldo.

"I was rooting for Portugal and Ronaldo to win it," Nate said. "Sadly, they didn't, but every World Cup I've watched, I've always rooted for them."

Nate's connection to Portugal runs deep. His family is of Portuguese descent, and his grandparents still live there, giving him opportunities to visit and stay connected to his family's heritage.

The son of two educators, Nate has developed a genuine love of learning. He shares that enthusiasm with his twin brother, Jack, and younger sister, Emilia. Looking ahead, he is excited to begin life at UMass Amherst, where he plans to study electrical engineering and hopes to remain involved in soccer, whether as a player or intramural referee.

We look forward to seeing what the future holds for our young engineers and what innovations and opportunities they will bring back to the City of Holyoke. Since 2024, HG&E has been awarded the American Public Power Association's DEED — Demonstration of

Energy & Efficiency Developments — grant, which is a program that supports public power scholarships, research and development. This grant opportunity has helped HG&E expand upon the prestigious Cadet Scholarship.



HG&E's Commissioner Cornelius J. Moriarty, Jr.

The program is dedicated to the memory of our late Commission Chairperson, Neil J. Moriarty, Jr. He often noted that the admission of new students into the program was one of the most rewarding actions that the Commission made each year.

The Cornelius J. Moriarty, Jr. Scholarship for Cadet Engineers is open to City of Holyoke residents who are in an accredited college engineering program or who are graduating from a duly accredited senior secondary school and have been accepted into an accredited engineering program. The Cadet Program has allowed HG&E to keep engineering talent local. Currently, 18 full-time employees came through the program at the start of their careers. For additional application criteria, please visit www.hged.com/cadet.

American Public Power Association



Important Customer Notice

HG&E uniformed personnel may be in your neighborhood completing a meter inspection or upgrade. HG&E must inspect your gas meter at least once every three years. In addition, HG&E regularly inspects and upgrades electric meters, in order to maintain safety and efficiency.

Please contact HG&E if you have any questions at (413) 536-9300.
Thank you!



EMPOWERING YOUR WORLD

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HG&E, 99 Suffolk Street
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Stop & Shop, 28 Lincoln Street
Stop & Shop, 2265 Northampton Street
Holyoke Senior Center, 291 Pine Street

Holiday Closings

Columbus Day
Monday, October 12

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