



The Youth Tour Experience

Youth Tour has brought high school students to Washington, D.C., for a week in June since the late 1950s. America's electric co-ops believe students should see their nation's capital up close and learn about the political process. We feel that it is important to be a part of educating and developing tomorrow's leaders.

Through educational and sightseeing activities, students participating in Youth Tour gain a better understanding of American history and their role as a citizen. They have the opportunity to meet and interact with U.S. representatives and senators, as well as other government leaders. While student groups are organized at the state level, students from across the country come together for Youth Day, where they meet new friends and hear featured speakers who provide insight into the important roles electric cooperatives play in their local communities.

High school sophomores and juniors who reside in a home served by one of the nation's 900 electric cooperatives can apply for Youth Tour through their local co-op. Based on their applications, students are then selected by their local cooperative to participate in this **COMPLETELY FREE** program.

Approximately 40 students from cooperatives throughout Ohio participate in Youth Tour each year. Students meet at Ohio's Electric Cooperatives' headquarters in Columbus and then travel by chartered bus to Washington, D.C. Several knowledgeable chaperones from the community, including teachers and electric co-op employees, accompany students on the weeklong trip.

As part of Youth Tour, students also have the chance to be selected to represent their state on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA) Youth Leadership Council (YLC). One student from each state is selected to come back to Washington, D.C., in July for a leadership workshop, which focuses on the electric cooperative industry. YLC members also have the opportunity to attend NRECA's Annual Meeting the following spring.

From approximately 400 young people in 1964, to nearly 2,000 students and over 250 chaperones in 2023, this popular and rewarding program has given tens of thousands of students a once-in-a-lifetime view of our nation's capital.

***Don't miss out on your chance to earn a spot
on this trip of a lifetime!***