



Additional information about Youth Tour

The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour has brought high school students to Washington, D.C., for a week in June every year since the late 1950s. America's electric co-ops believe that students should see their nation's capital up close, learn about the political process, and interact with their elected officials. Our goal is to educate and develop tomorrow's leaders.

Through educational and sightseeing activities, students gain a personal understanding of American history and their role as a citizen. They also have the opportunity to meet and interact with their U.S. Representatives and Senators. While student groups are organized at the state level, over 1,500 students from across the country come together for Youth Day, where they get to meet each other and hear featured speakers who provide insight into the important roles electric cooperatives play in their 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. Numerous skilled and knowledgeable chaperones from the community, including parents, teachers, and electric co-op employees, accompany students on the week-long 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 more than 1,500 students and over 250 chaperones in 2016, this popular and rewarding program has given nearly 50,000 students a chance to visit our nation's capital.

Firelands Electric Cooperative will select up to two students to attend the 2017 Youth Tour, scheduled for June 9-15. Applications and materials are now available at www.FirelandsEC.com and are due February 1, 2017.

Don't miss out on your chance to earn a spot on this all-expenses-paid experience!