



**STEP UP
AND
LEAD**

★

2026 YOUTH TOUR
WASHINGTON, D.C. | JUNE 15-20

- MEET ELECTED LEADERS
- EXPLORE CO-OP ENERGY ISSUES
- MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE
- INCLUDES ALL-EXPENSES-PAID DAY TRIP TO FRANKFORT AND WEEKLONG TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.
(application required)

High school juniors apply **TODAY!**

YOUTH TOUR
KY-2026



West Kentucky Rural Electric

Your Touchstone Energy®
Cooperative 

2026 Washington Youth Tour

Rules for Application Application Form

WEST KENTUCKY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION
P. O. Box 589, Mayfield, KY 42066

WEST KENTUCKY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION

2026 WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR PROGRAM

Two deserving high school juniors from the West Kentucky RECC service area will be awarded an expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. on **June 15-20, 2026** as participants in the Washington Youth Tour Program sponsored jointly by West Kentucky RECC and the Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives. West Kentucky RECC has sponsored the Washington Youth Tour Program for 25 years.

Youth Tour winners will spend a week along with many other Kentucky youth touring Monticello, the Smithsonian Institute, Arlington National Cemetery, National Cathedral, Library of Congress, U.S. Capitol, and the White House and will visit with Kentucky's congressional delegation.

To be eligible, students must be between their junior and senior years in high school and no older than 18 at the time of the trip. Students' parent or guardian must be a member of West Kentucky RECC and receive electric service at their principle place of residence from West Kentucky RECC. In addition, each Youth Tour participant must complete an application form, receive a favorable report from their guidance counselor and a high school teacher, be involved in school and community activities, complete an essay and agree to abide by the terms and conditions as specified by West Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation.

If you are interested in applying for West Kentucky RECC's Washington Youth Tour, **fill out the attached application form and mail it to Jodie Hansen, West Kentucky RECC, P.O. Box 589, Mayfield, Kentucky, 42066**
All materials must be submitted by Feb. 16, 2026.

If you have additional questions, you may call West Kentucky RECC's office at (270) 247-1321 or 877-495-7322 (toll-free) and ask for Jodie Hansen.

WEST KENTUCKY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION 2026 YOUTH TOUR PROGRAM - RULES FOR PARTICIPATION

1. Students who are currently juniors in high school, and whose parent(s) or guardian is a member of and receives electric service from West Kentucky RECC at their primary place of residence are eligible to apply. Children of West Kentucky RECC employees and directors are not eligible.
2. Participants must be between their junior and senior years in high school (at the time of the trip) and no older than 18 at the time of the trip.
3. West Kentucky RECC will sponsor two students to the 2026 Washington Youth Tour.
4. Eligible students must receive a written favorable recommendation from their guidance counselor and a high school teacher. (See attached form.)
5. YOUTH TOUR AWARD: Two winners will receive an expense-paid, week-long trip to our Nation's Capital as members of the Washington Youth Tour. The 2026 Washington Youth Tour is scheduled for **June 15-20, 2026**.
6. Each participant must submit:
 - Completed West Kentucky RECC WYT Application Form
 - Recent photo
 - Guidance counselor written recommendation
 - High school teacher written recommendation
 - Typewritten 500-word essay on the following topic:
"What makes you a good candidate to represent WKRECC on the 2026 Youth Tour and what do you expect to gain from your Washington, D.C. experience?"
6. All materials must be submitted to Jodie Hansen at West Kentucky RECC, P. O. Box 589, Mayfield, KY 42066, by **February 16th, 2026**. This information will become the property of West Kentucky and will not be returned.
6. Essays will be judged on the basis of originality, composition, grammar and neatness.
7. The winners will be recognized at the Cooperative's Annual Meeting in 2026.
9. For clarification, West Kentucky RECC defines an eligible student as:
 - A) a student who, in all probability, will be promoted at the completion of this academic year
 - B) who has established as excellent academic record in high school
 - C) has been actively involved in extracurricular activities
 - D) has demonstrated leadership abilities through community activities
 - E) has, in the view of school officials, the inclination to be a serious, enthusiastic and well-behaved youth tour participant.

WEST KENTUCKY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION
1218 West Broadway, P.O. Box 589, Mayfield, KY 42066

**2026 RURAL ELECTRIC YOUTH TOUR
APPLICATION FORM**

Note: This is a four-page Application Form - all sections must be completed.

Please do not staple application!

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Social Security # _____ High School _____

Parent/Guardian - List names of your natural parents, step-parents and/or legal guardians:

Father: _____ Phone: _____

Mother: _____ Phone: _____

Step-Father: _____ Phone: _____

Step-Mother: _____ Phone: _____

Legal Guardian(s): _____ Phone: _____

With Whom Do You Live? _____

Location of Principle Residence: _____

West Kentucky RECC account number: _____

Name on your West KY RECC account: _____

1. School and class activities - (include offices held, if any):

2. Extracurricular activities - (include offices held, if any):

3. Plans for future education:

4. Hobbies and special interest:

5. Additional information - optional

WEST KENTUCKY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION
2026 Rural Electric Youth Tour Application

Student Applicant Participation Commitment

I hereby certify that I wish to participate in West Kentucky RECC's 2026 Washington Youth Tour Program and that the information provided in this Application Form is true and correct:

Signature of Student Applicant _____
Date _____

Parent Permission

I hereby grant my permission for the above applicant to enter West Kentucky RECC's 2026 Washington Youth Tour competition and that he/she meets the Cooperative's eligibility requirements for participation. In addition, I certify that I'm a member of West Kentucky RECC, that my principle residence is served by the Cooperative and that the applicant is a member of my immediate household. My West Kentucky RECC customer account number is _____.

Submit All Requested Material by February 16, 2026 to:

Jodie Hansen, West Kentucky RECC, P O Box 589 Mayfield, KY 42066

1. Application Form completed/signed by the participating student and parent.
2. Typewritten 500-word essay completed by the student on the following topic:
"What makes you a good candidate to represent WKRECC on the 2026 Youth Tour and what do you expect to gain from your Washington, D.C. experience?"
3. Reference Form completed by guidance counselor.
4. Reference Form completed by a high school teacher.
5. Recent photo of applicant (will not be returned).

WEST KENTUCKY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION
1218 West Broadway, Mayfield, KY 42066

**2026 WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR REFERENCE FORM**

My records indicate _____, a ***junior*** at _____
_____ High School, is in good academic standing and is eligible
to enter West Kentucky RECC's 2026 Washington Youth Tour competition.

In my judgment this student will conduct himself/herself in a manner that will reflect
credit upon our school, West Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation and the
State of Kentucky as a participant in the Rural Electric Youth Tour.

Date

Guidance Counselor

**2026 RURAL ELECTRIC YOUTH TOUR
HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER REFERENCE FORM**

My records indicate _____, a ***junior*** at _____
_____ High School, is in good academic standing and is eligible to
enter West Kentucky RECC's 2026 Washington Youth Tour competition.

In my judgment this student will conduct himself/herself in a manner that will reflect
credit upon our school, West Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation and the
State of Kentucky as a participant in the Rural Electric Youth Tour.

Date

Teacher