

Howard Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Take a Trip of a Lifetime!

Youth Tour

Washington, D.C.

June 15-21, 2025

Investing in the Leaders of Tomorrow

2025 Official Youth Tour Contest Application

Student's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: (home) _____ (cell) _____

Parents or Guardian's Name: _____

Name of High School: _____ High School GPA: _____

High school teacher or counselor responsible for student sign-up: _____

High School Activities:

Any Public Speaking Experience:



2025 Official Youth Tour Contest Rules

1. Entries may be submitted by high school juniors attending school in Howard Electric Cooperative's service area (*except children, grandchildren, brothers or sisters of HEC employees or directors*).
2. Entries must complete this application in full.
3. Entries must be received by **February 21st, at the Howard Electric Cooperative office.**
 - You may deliver them to the HEC office (located at 205 Hwy 5 and 240 N. Fayette, MO 65248).
 - Mail them to: YOUTH TOUR, Howard Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 391 Fayette, MO 65248.
4. Application will be scored on the following criteria:
 - Application Neatness
 - High School Activities
 - Public Speaking Experience
 - Writing Experience
 - Short Essay

3 Finalists will be invited to have a short interview at the HEC office.

2025 Official Youth Tour Contest Awards

All-Expense Paid Trip to Washington, D.C.....The participant with the top score will receive an **all-expense paid** trip to Washington, D.C. June 15-21, 2025. This student will represent Howard Electric Cooperative and the State of Missouri at the 2024 National Youth Tour Conference in Washington, D.C. In addition, the Youth Tour winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship awarded their sophomore year of college.

Beyond this competition, once selected as the Howard Electric Youth Tour winner, and while on the trip in Washington, D.C., you will have an opportunity to be selected as the YLC winner to represent Missouri on the national level. Becoming the YLC winner gets you another \$500 scholarship, another trip to Washington, D.C., and a trip to the NRECA Power Xchange Meeting of 2026 in Nashville, TN!!

ENTER AND WIN

YOU COULD BE NEXT!



Youth Tour FAQ's

Q. What is the Youth Tour?

A. More than 1,500 students from all across America travel to Washington, D.C., where they will meet U.S. Representatives and Senators. This unique trip will give you the opportunity to watch history come alive as you explore the museums, memorials and monuments with students from your state. You will meet student leaders from nearly every state and hear dynamic leaders on Youth Day.

Q. Who is eligible for the contest?

A. Entries may be submitted by high school juniors whose families are members of the cooperative or all high school juniors who attend schools in Howard Electric Cooperative's service area are eligible. Children, grandchildren, brothers or sisters of employees or current board members are not eligible.

Q. How do I enter the contest?

A. The first step for students is to fill out a Youth Tour application.

Q. What is the deadline and dates for contest entries?

A. Entries must be received by February 21st, at the Howard Electric office.

Q. How are finalists selected?

A. If there are more than 5 entries, a preliminary judging committee will score each application submitted based on: **Application Neatness** (5 points). **High School Activities** (10 points). **Public Speaking Experience** (10 points). **Writing Experience** (10 points). **Short Essay** (15 points). The 5 students with the highest preliminary scores are selected as finalists. The preliminary score will carry with you as part of your overall contest score.

Q. What do I do if I am selected as a finalist?

A. Finalists will be notified prior to March 7, 2025 to set up a date and time for the interview. The final judging will be based on the highest combined score of application and short essay (50 points), and interview (50 points). The interviews will take place between March 11th and March 14th.

Q. How many students go to Washington, D.C.?

A. The student with the top overall score will be selected to represent Howard Electric and Missouri as a Youth Tour delegate on the all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C.

Q. What is the cost of the trip to Washington, D.C.?

A. **Nothing.** Absolutely nothing! Howard Electric will pay all of the expenses (\$2,850 value). The only cost to the student will be for incidentals such as extra souvenirs and personal items of interest.

Q. What will I see in Washington, D.C.?

A. Air Force Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, FDR Memorial, Ford's Theatre, Iwo Jima Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, Library of Congress, Lincoln Memorial, Mount Vernon, Potomac River Cruise, Smithsonian Museums, Supreme Court, The Pentagon, White House, U.S Capitol, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Washington Monument, World War I and II Monuments and so much more!

Q. Who will the chaperones be?

A. Ten to twelve Cooperative employees and spouses from across the state are designated to chaperone.

Q. How do we travel on the trip?

A. By bus from Columbia to the St. Louis airport and by plane to D.C. All touring in D.C. is via tour bus.

Q. OK, what's the catch?

A. There is no catch! We're offering you a trip of a lifetime to Washington, D.C. to learn about government, electric cooperatives and rural electrification. You will also visit historic monuments and museums. Add a few new friends to your social network! Don't miss out on this extraordinary opportunity!

Q. Where do I send my application?

A. You can mail or deliver your application to:
Howard Electric Cooperative
Attn: Youth Tour Coordinator
PO Box 391
205 Hwy 5 & 240 North
Fayette, MO 65248