



YOUTH TOUR

2022



Clarke-Washington Electric
Membership Corporation

WHAT IS YOUTH TOUR?

The Rural Electric Youth Tour is a group of more than 1,600 high school students who visit Washington D.C. every June from all over America. They come because the people who lead electric cooperatives believe education is important-education about electric cooperatives and education about America.

Clarke-Washington EMC has been sending high school students from southwest Alabama to Youth Tour since the early 70's.

Goals of the program are to provide an opportunity for outstanding young people to:

- Increase their understanding of the value of rural electrification;
- Become more familiar with the historical and political environment of the nation's Capitol through visits to monuments, government buildings and museums;
- Visit elected officials to increase their knowledge of how the federal government works.

AM I ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE?

Of course! Any high school junior from the Clarke-Washington area is eligible to participate in the competition. You DO NOT have to be a member of CWEMC!

HOW ARE THE PARTICIPANTS SELECTED?

Those interested in participating are required to write an essay. All essays will be reviewed and the top two essay winners from each school will be asked to come in for an interview. The top four winners from the interview will attend the Alabama Rural Electric Association's Montgomery Youth Tour and receive a \$500 scholarship.

The top two winners will have the opportunity to join other students around Alabama and fly to Washington D.C. for an all expense paid, weeklong trip and receive an additional \$500 scholarship. The Washington D.C. Youth Tour delegates will be announced March 21, 2022.



HOW TO APPLY

This contest is open to all high school juniors in Clarke, Washington, Wilcox and Monroe counties, or if your parents/guardians are members of Clarke-Washington EMC, you are eligible to apply. **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER.**

Students must research and submit an essay of 500 words or more on the topic below.

Identify the seven cooperative principles and explain how they relate to Clarke-Washington EMC.

The essay must be typed and the font size should be no larger than 12 point. Students must write their school name followed by the last four digits of their social security number on the front page of their essay, NOT their name. The essays will not be returned to the students.

Students must complete and submit an essay by January 17, 2022. There are two ways a student can submit their essay:

- Students may drop off the essay at the Jackson or Chatom office;
- Students can turn their essay in to the guidance counselor.

Judges will review the essays and select the top two from each school to participate in the interview portion of the contest. Essay winners will then be notified and given an assigned interview time. Interviews will be held at Clarke-Washington EMC's Jackson office at 9000 Highway 43.

Visit www.cwemc.com/youth-tour/ to download your interview study guide. This study guide will be a great tool to help write the essay.

Four students will be selected from the interview process to attend an all-expenses-paid trip to the Montgomery Youth Tour in March. They will also receive a \$500 scholarship courtesy of Clarke-Washington EMC.

Of those four, two students will be selected to be awarded an all expenses paid trip to Washington D.C. in June. Those two students will receive an additional \$500 scholarship courtesy of Clarke-Washington EMC.

The scholarships shall be transmitted to the accredited school selected by the scholarship recipient upon graduation.

DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY 17	ESSAYS DUE
JANUARY 25	INTERVIEWS
MARCH 15-17	MONTGOMERY YOUTH TOUR
JUNE 19-24	D.C. YOUTH TOUR

INTERVIEW TIPS

You will be interviewed by a panel of three judges. They will ask questions about Clarke-Washington EMC, electric cooperatives and yourself. You may be asked about school activities, family and college or career plans.

The judges will be considering your knowledge of cooperatives, communication skills, poise and appearance.

Always remember to speak up, do not chew gum during the interview, make eye contact with the judges and be personable.

WHAT TO WEAR:

We ask that you dress in business attire. Listed are example of what to wear.

Girls: Dress, pantsuit, dressy blouse with slacks. Skirts and dresses should be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee. No strapless or spaghetti straps.

Boys: Dress slacks/khakis, button down, tie, and optional sports coat.

HELPFUL LINKS

CWEMC.COM

NRECA.COM

POWERSOUTH.COM

COOPERATIVE.COM

AREAPOWERS.COOP

TOUCHSTONEENERGY.COM

YOUTH TOUR.ORG

For more information or questions contact:

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