

2025

GOVERNMENT-IN-ACTION YOUTH LEADERSHIP TOUR APPLICATION



The deadline for submitting this completed application is **Friday, January 31st, 2025 at 5:00pm** through one of the following avenues:

Online: www.nueceselectric.org/youth-leadership-tour

Mail: Nueces Electric Cooperative, Attn: Communications, 14353 Cooperative Ave., Robstown TX 78380

Email: communications@nueceselectric.org

Fax: 361-933-1178

For additional information or assistance, please contact communications@nueceselectric.org or call 361-387-2581.



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Details and Itinerary:

The Government-In-Action Youth Leadership Tour 2025 is an all-expense paid trip for high school students to learn about different aspects of the government, meet their members of Congress and visit historical sites. This year, we're sending two delegates from the cooperative to participate. The trip will begin in Austin, Texas on June 15th and continue on to tour sites in Washington D.C. before the trip concludes in Austin on June 22nd. Transportation between NEC and Austin will be offered by the cooperative. Each winning applicant will receive the travel package, valued around \$3,600, and will join more than 120 high school students for a tour of the Texas State Capitol, Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, the U.S. Capitol, the Supreme Court, Washington National Cathedral, Arlington National Cemetery, Smithsonian Institution and many other national sites. The travel package includes air transportation to and from Washington D.C., hotel stay, meals, admission fees, and a \$250 cash stipend for miscellaneous expenses.

PLUS: Each winner will also receive a **\$1,000 scholarship**, should they attend an accredited Texas college or university.

Eligibility and Guidelines:

- Applicant must be a high school student at a junior year grade and must not have already participated in Youth Tour through any Texas electric cooperative.
- Applicant must have consent of and reside in the home with a parent or legal guardian who is a current member of Nueces Electric Cooperative.
- Applicant must return the completed application and video submission along with a recent head and shoulder digital photo by **Friday, January 31st, 2025**.
- **Video submission** must be **3-5 minutes**, and no longer, on the topic of: **“Understanding my Electric Cooperative.”** All video submissions become NEC property. Instructions for video essay are included on the following page.
- Applications will be scored on accuracy of information, grammar, originality and content. Applicants must be able to interview in-person if they are selected as Finalists.
- From the group of Finalists, the winners will be selected based on the score from their essay and their interview with a panel of judges where they will be scored based on simple knowledge of government, poise, and communication skills. Interview questions will be provided to Finalists ahead of time.
- Each winner must be able to participate in all aspects of the Youth Leadership Tour from **June 15th - 22nd, 2025** and must be able to fly in an airplane and ride in a car or bus for up to 12 hours a day (with breaks).
- Each winner must also be able to attend the October Annual Meeting to speak on behalf of Youth Tour to encourage others to apply.
- The winner's guardian must sign a waiver of release for the winner to participate in Youth Tour.
- A first runner-up will be named to take the place of the winner should they be unable to meet these requirements or is found to be a poor representative of the cooperative.



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Instructions for Video Essay Submission

Please follow the instructions below to ensure your video submission meets all requirements:

1. Personal Introduction: Begin your video with a brief personal introduction. Include:

- Your full name
- The high school you currently attend
- An interesting fact(s) about yourself (hobbies, passions, goals, etc.)

2. Topic: “Understanding My Electric Cooperative”

- The body of your video should explain what you know or have learned about your electric cooperative.
- Discuss how being a member of the cooperative has impacted your life, and how you believe it can enrich your life moving forward.
- Conclude your video by sharing what you learned from exploring the topic. This can include new insights, skills, or how your perspective has changed.

3. Video Format

- Your video should be at least 3 minutes long and no longer than 5 minutes.
- Make sure the audio is clear, and your face is visible throughout the video.

4. Submission Instructions

- Upload your file to Google Drive and share to this email: communications@nueceselectric.org. Ensure that anyone with a link can access your file.
- Complete the video submission by Friday, February 10th, 2025 at 5:00pm.

Tips for Success:

- Be clear and concise in your responses.
- Follow all instructions and adhere to the deadline.
- Speak confidently and ensure good audio and video quality.
- Express your thoughts creatively and authentically.

We look forward to receiving your video! Good luck!

Should you have any questions or concerns, email communications@nueceselectric.org or call 361-387-2581. An NEC representative will contact you should any issues with your video file arise.



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2025 Video Topic:

Understanding Your Cooperative

Applicant's Full Name: _____ **T-Shirt Size:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Email Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ **High School:** _____

HS City: _____ **HS County:** _____

By signing below, I attest that I fully understand all of the rules and eligibility requirements of this contest and what will be required of me in the event that I should win. I hereby acknowledge that the attached application and submitted video was prepared by me and I agree to permit NEC to review this application.

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian Name: Mother _____ **Father:** _____

Contact Phone Number: Mother _____ **Father:** _____

Email: Mother _____ **Father:** _____

NEC Account #: _____ **Account Holder: Mother Father**

I understand that my child is competing to win an all-expense-paid trip to Washington D.C. from June 15th to June 22nd, 2025 sponsored by NEC. I further acknowledge that I am an NEC member, and the above named applicant is my child and is living in my home. In the event that they are selected to be an NEC Youth Tour recipient, I grant my unrestricted permission for my child's name and image to be used in print, video, and digital media. I agree that images may be used by Nueces Electric Cooperative for a variety of purposes and that these images may be used without further notifying me.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____