



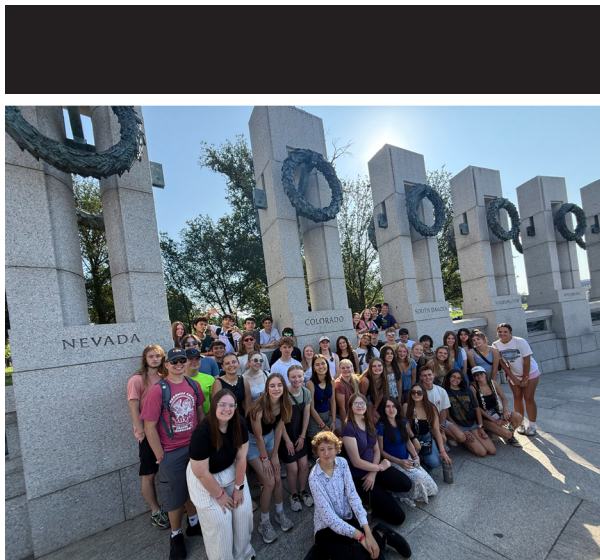
THE IDEA

came from President Lyndon B. Johnson who advocated for rural electrification and youth development. In 1957, when he was still a U.S. Senator, Johnson suggested “**sending youngsters to the nation’s capital** where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents.”



THIS NOTION EVOLVED

into a nationwide effort to send youth on an organized, fun and educational trip in the 1960s. Now, some 60 years later, electric cooperatives from across the country send **over 1,500 youth to the nation’s capital** every summer.



How to Apply

Contact your local electric cooperative to learn more about how to apply for the June 2026 Washington, D.C. Youth Tour trip.

Applications are due before the end of the year.

This scholarship is valued at over \$2,500.

Julie Baker

Colorado Rural Electric Association
455 South Pierce Street
Lakewood, CO 80226
720-407-0700
jbaker@coloradorea.org
crea.coop

ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR 2026



June 15-21, 2026

**MAKE
Your
YOUR
2026
MARK**



WASHINGTON D.C.

**APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED IN THE FALL
FOR THE JUNE 2026 PROGRAM**

HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS & SENIORS

You Could Spend a Week in Washington, D.C., All-Expenses-Paid

Are you a high school junior or senior whose family gets its power from an electric cooperative? Do you have big dreams of seeing the country? Do you like history or want to shake hands with your member of congress? Or maybe you've never flown in a plane but want to travel? Do you want to meet new people from Colorado and across the country? Then the Washington D.C. Youth Tour is for you!

Candidates compete for a spot in the Washington D.C. Youth Tour, a week-long all-expenses-paid trip to Washington D.C.. The trip is sponsored by your local electric cooperative and organized by the Colorado Rural Electric Association, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and the Colorado Electric Educational Institute.



ABOUT MY TRIP...

"It can be tough to be with a group of kids you've never met before, but life begins when you step outside your comfort zone and where else is better to start your life than this beautiful nation's capitol ... and it was free!"

"It's an experience you wouldn't want to pass by."

"It's an amazing opportunity where you'll be able to meet new people and learn about our nation's history."

"Youth Tour was an unforgettable experience that has changed my life. I met incredible people and had an incredible time."

"Youth Tour was a once in a lifetime experience and an incredible opportunity. It was so good to meet new people and experience DC with them and all it had to offer!"

"It was an absolutely amazing experience! The places we went to held such significance in American identity. I have made friends that will now have a place in my heart forever."

"It was amazing, make the most of it, and meet new people, because it goes by fast!!"



Here's a Look at a Youth Tour Schedule*

DAY 1

- Meet in Denver to start our week together
- Tour the Colorado State Capitol
- Tour a co-op and learn about electricity
- Build a generation and transmission electric system model
- Have dinner with a state legislator

DAY 2

- Fly to Washington, D.C.
- Tour Fort McHenry
- Attend a Washington Nationals Baseball Game

DAY 3

- Visit with U.S. Senators and Representatives
- Tour the U.S. Capitol

DAY 3 Cont'd

- Tour Library of Congress
- Potomac River Dinner Cruise

DAY 4

- Meet students from other states
- Learn about cooperatives
- Visit the Pentagon and Air Force Memorials
- Visit National Cathedral
- Attend Youth Day with over 1,500 students from across the country

DAY 5

- Visit Ford's Theater
- See the Navy Memorial
- See the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution

DAY 5 Cont'd

- Visit your choice of Smithsonian museums
- Attend a dinner and dance with students from across the country

DAY 6

- See World War II, Vietnam War, Lincoln, & Korean War Memorials
- Visit Arlington National Cemetery
- See Martin Luther King Jr., Franklin D. Roosevelt, & Thomas Jefferson Memorial
- Visit the Holocaust Museum
- Night out in National Harbor

DAY 7

- Say goodbye to Washington D.C., and your new friends, say hello to life-long memories

*Schedule is tentative

