

Houston County Electric Cooperative, Inc. Announces Its

2026 Government-in-Action Youth Tour

The Board of Directors of Houston County Electric Cooperative, Inc. ("HCEC") in conjunction with Texas Electric Cooperative (TEC), and National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) will sponsor two deserving students for the 61st Annual Government-in-Action Youth Tour. The tour will take place from Sunday, June 14th through Sunday, June 21st, 2026. The chaperoned, all-expense-paid trip will cover airfare, transportation, hotel rooms, food, and the cost of the various sightseeing outings.

Delegates will travel to Washington, D.C. and join more than 1,900 high school participants from across the nation. They will have the opportunity to meet with their elected Texas representatives as well as visiting historically significant national sites, touring some of Washington, D.C.'s most moving memorials, and browsing the campus of our nation's capital.

Requirements

- Candidate's parents or guardians must be active HCEC members and maintain a permanent residence currently using HCEC's electrical lines.
- Candidate must be a high school student enrolled as a sophomore, junior or senior in the 2025-2026 school year and 16 years old with a **state issued driver license or ID.**
- Candidate must submit **an application** and a **500-word typed essay**.

This year's essay topic should address: **"What I wish lawmakers knew about my hometown: what legislative actions, whether new laws or repeals of existing ones, would help your hometown?"**

An independent panel will judge the application and essay, and the top candidates will be interviewed. Candidates will be notified of the date and time of their interview, which will be conducted at the HCEC office.

Applications are available from your local high school counselor, U.S. History teacher, Government teacher, and online at www.houstoncountyelec.com/YT.

HOUSTON COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE. INC

Government-in-Action Youth Tour

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Please complete the application and attach your essay. **DO NOT put your name on the essay.**

Student Information

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Home Phone Number _____

Email Address: _____

Date of Birth _____ Grade Level _____

High School _____

Address of High School _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

School Sponsor-Teacher-Counselor _____

Phone Number for school sponsor _____

Parent's Name: _____

Houston County Electric Cooperative's Account Number _____

Billing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Application Due: January 30th, 2026.

Signature of Student

Signature of Parent-Guardian-Member

Please review and carefully answer the questions below. Please write legibly. **Attach your typed essay** to the application, enclose in an envelope and mail or deliver to Houston County Electric Cooperative at:

Houston County Electric Coop. Inc.
Attention: Youth Tour
P.O. Box 52
1701 East Loop 304
Crockett, TX 75835

1. List any organizations and activities you are involved in as well as any offices held.

2. List any awards you have received.

3. Please list any information you care to present concerning yourself, your scholastic achievements or your extracurricular activities.

4. Please tell us about your educational plans.

5. Please tell us why you think you should be considered for this Government-in-Action tour.
