

## **2026 YOUTH TOUR INFORMATION**

(Sophomores & Juniors)

- March 2: Youth Tour application deadline
- March 13: Essay deadline
- April 1: Youth Tour judging 4:30 p.m. at Clarke Electric Cooperative
- June 14 – 20: Trip to D.C.

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### **YOUTH TOUR JUDGES**

(To Be Announced)

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### **JUDGING CRITERIA**

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|----|--|-----------|
| 1. | Essay (style, accuracy, and content)                     | 20 points |
| 2. | Knowledge of packet/judge's questions                    | 10 points |
| 3. | Articulation/Presence (positive representative for coop) | 10 points |

**Total possible points**

**40 points**

### **PACKETS TO CONTESTANTS**

(Will be sent upon receiving application)

Information included:

1. Letter of information
2. Fact sheet of Clarke Electric Cooperative, Inc.
3. Essay Topic

### **Essay Topic**

Rural Electric Cooperatives across our nation rely on seven principles to guide the cooperative's activities. A list of the "Seven Cooperative Principles" will be provided.

*"Of the Seven Cooperative Principles, which two do you feel are most important and why?"*

### **Essay guidelines**

1. Entries should be typed on one side of 8.5 X 11 in. paper.
2. Entries should be no more than 500 words and a minimum of 1 ½ pages.
3. Some resource material will be provided.

[www.cecnet.net](http://www.cecnet.net)

[www.iowaYouthTour.com](http://www.iowaYouthTour.com)