2027 Youth Tour Application

Once in a lifetime trip to Washington, D.C. on June 15-22, 2027

MAKE YOUR MARK!

Deadline to apply is January 15, 2027

Youth Tour Overview

Columbus Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CEC) and New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NMRECA), are offering students from our service area a once in a lifetime opportunity to visit our nation's capital. Students will spend their time touring monuments, visiting museums, meeting with elected officials, learning about the cooperative business model, and getting to meet other young leaders from across New Mexico and numerous other states.

Application Overview

Columbus Electric Cooperative will cover all expenses for the selected students to attend the Youth Tour. Each selected student will receive $500 for spending money.

Application Requirements

- ✓ Currently be in the 11th or 12th grade when submitting an application
- ✓ Must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- ✓ Be an immediate family member of an active CEC member.
- ✓ Be able to participate in the Youth Tour in Washington, D.C on June 15-22, 2027
- ✓ If selected, the student must attend a personal interview with a parent/guardian at a Columbus Electric Cooperative office
- ✓ If selected, the student and parent/guardian will be required to complete additional forms from the New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Youth Tour and attend a virtual meeting prior to the trip. *(A CEC employee will be available to assist with the additional forms and virtual meeting)*

Selection Process

The selection committee appointed will review all completed applications blindly; all names, addresses, and any identifying information will be concealed.

Application Checklist

- ☐ Completed Application
- ☐ Completed Essay
- ☐ Completed certification and parent permission form
- ☐ Letter of recommendation and character evaluation form from a teacher, counselor, or principal.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Ways to submit your application

Deliver to:
Deming office located at
900 N. Gold
Monday – Friday
8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Mail to:
Columbus Electric Cooperative
Youth Tour Program
P.O. Box 631
Deming, NM 88031

Email to:
Leezondra Baca
Administrative Assistant
leezondrab@col-coop.com

Application

How did you hear about the Youth Tour? _____

Name_____

Date of Birth_____ Year in school_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Phone_____

Email address_____

High School_____ High School Phone_____

Grade point average_____ If applicable, Weighted GPA_____

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s)_____

_____

Parent or Guardian phone number_____

Parent or Guardian email address_____

Name on CEC Account _____Active Account #_____

Essay

Each applicant is required to complete an essay on one of the topics listed below. The essay should be no more than one page, font size 12, double spaced. Please include your name on the top right of the essay. Essay must be attached to application.

Topic 1

Who is your favorite United States president, and why?

Topic 2

What characteristics or qualities do you consider to be important in a leader?

Activities

Please list all school activities in which you have participated in during high school. (Example: athletics, school clubs, school government, etc.)

Activity	No. of years involved	Special Awards, Honors, Offices Held

Community Involvement

Please list all non-paid community activities in which you have participated in during high school. (Example: volunteer efforts, church, community service etc.)

Activity	Time Spent	What did you do?

Work Experience

Please list all work experience in chronological order, with your most recent job listed first.

Company	Position/Job Description	Dates of Employment	Avg. Hours Per Week

Certification

In submitting this application, I verify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I agree that the selection committee has my permission to verify any and all information. I understand that I must submit the completed application and any attachments by January 15, 2027.

I/We hereby give _____ permission to submit his/her name as a candidate for the Columbus Electric Cooperative Youth Tour contest, and if selected as a winner to give him/her permission to travel as required.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date_____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date_____

Character Evaluation and Recommendation Letter

This form is to be completed by your teacher, counselor, or principal.

Instructions for school official: Please complete and place this completed form and recommendation letter in a sealed envelope and return to the student so they can submit with their youth tour application.

Applicant's Name _____

High School _____

School Official's Name _____

School Official's Position _____

Phone Number _____

Email_____

Recommendation Letter

Instructions for school official: Please submit a recommendation letter on official letterhead describing the students' strengths and potential for future success. We welcome any information that would distinguish this student from others. Be sure to include in what capacity and how long you have known the student.

Character Evaluation

Compared with other high school students, how would you rate this student in the following below?

	Average	Good	Very Good	Excellent (Top 5%)
Optimistic Attitude				
Willingness to take Responsibility				
Pride in School and Community				
Leadership Qualities				
Maturity				
Respect for Others				
Academic Achievement				
High Principles and Values				

Signature of Evaluator _____ Date _____