Guthrie County REC
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

IOWA YOUTH TOUR APPLICATION

Sponsored by Guthrie County REC
PO Box 7, Guthrie Center, IA 50115

GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR IOWA YOUTH TOUR JUNE 17-22, 2027

Iowa's locally owned electric cooperatives have been sending high school students to Washington D.C. every June since 1958! On the week-long tour, students learn about electric cooperatives, American history and U.S. government and walk away with a greater understanding of their role as an American citizen. They participate in National Youth Day, visit with their elected legislators, and explore the sights around the nation's capital. High school sophomores or juniors with a passion for government and public service are encouraged to apply.

Approximately 40 high school students are chosen by local electric cooperatives from across the state of Iowa every year. The Iowa students join with more than 2,000 students from co-ops around the country for the national Youth Tour in Washington D.C. in June.

Students are selected for this program through the overall strength of the applicant. If you want to take advantage of this incredible leadership opportunity, please complete this application and return to Guthrie County REC by **February 1, 2027**.

Some of the things students will do and see on Youth Tour:

- Washington Monument
- World War II Memorial
- Albert Einstein Memorial
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- The National Mall
- Boat cruise on the Potomac River
- Holocaust Memorial
- Ford's Theater
- Korean War Veterans Memorial
- Lincoln Memorial
- Washington National Cathedral
- Mount Vernon
- Iwo Jima Sunset Parade
- White House
- U.S. Capitol

For more information, please visit www.IowaYouthTour.com. Please see attached pages for application.

Guthrie County REC is seeking candidates with the following traits: good leader, respectful to others, will represent the REC well, good communication skills, knowledgeable about the REC and government officials, community involvement (character), dependable, team player.

1.) Youth Tour applications are open to all high school sophomores or juniors within our service territory-members and non-members in these school districts: AC/GC, ADM, Audubon, CAM, CR-B, DC-G, Exira-EHK, Panorama, Perry, WCV, and Woodward-Granger.

2.) Three semi-finalists will be selected for an interview at the Guthrie County REC office.

3.) The winner will be **required** to attend two Guthrie County REC board meetings: the April or May board meeting before the trip, and one board meeting after the trip; complete a job shadow with Guthrie County REC personnel in April or May before the trip; and give a presentation of their trip at the Guthrie County REC Annual Meeting in January 2028.

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YOUTH TOUR APPLICATION FOR GUTHRIE COUNTY REC JUNE 17-22, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone number: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Phone number: _____ High School: _____

Date of birth: _____ Grade: (check one) Sophomore ☐ Junior ☐

Any health concerns? _____

Please provide your recent transcript and a typed sheet of community and extra-curricular activities, groups and organizations you are involved in, achievements/honors, work experience and goals.

Please limit responses to 250 words or less per question. Responses may be typed on a separate sheet if necessary.

Please tell us why you think rural electric cooperatives are important: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please tell us why you would like to go to Washington, D.C.: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please tell us specific issues or topics you would discuss with your congressional representatives if given the opportunity: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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What is your stance on alternative energy resources and power supply? What are the advantages and disadvantages of current sources of energy? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

What characteristics do you possess that will help you represent yourself, Guthrie County REC, and Iowa while on the trip? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

*Please include a wallet-sized photo of yourself. The photo will have no bias in determining the finalist for the trip. The photo of the student awarded the trip will be used in the Guthrie County REC newsletter and on the Guthrie County REC Facebook page. The student will be photographed during the trip and updates will be posted on the Iowa Youth Tour Facebook page. Photos will be used for Iowa Youth Tour resources.

As an applicant, I understand and agree to the guidelines stated on this application for Guthrie County REC Iowa Youth Tour. The information included on my application is true. I understand the information supplied becomes property of Guthrie County REC for whatever use they deem appropriate. I agree to cooperate with Guthrie County REC in promotional activities related to Iowa Youth Tour and should I be selected for Iowa Youth Tour, I will represent myself, Guthrie County REC, and Iowa in an honorable manner.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

As the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the above applicant, I/we give our permission for him/her to participate in Iowa Youth Tour as a representative of Guthrie County REC if selected as the winner. I/We understand and agree to the guidelines stated on this application.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

(All entries must be submitted by February 1, 2027)

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The following are interview questions/topics that the Youth Tour Committee will discuss with you during your interview, if selected as a top three semi-finalist. Please be prepared to answer these questions and have a discussion with our committee. Please do not fill out these questions and submit them with your application, we just want you to be prepared for the interview ahead of time if chosen. The Committee may reference back to the application questions for follow-up during the interview. Good luck!

Please tell us a little bit about yourself and your future goals. What are your expectations for this trip? What do you expect to learn, experience, etc.? In your opinion, what makes a good leader and why would you be a good representative to attend the Iowa Youth Tour for Guthrie County REC.

What do you think is the best sustainable energy source to maintain a reliable electric grid?

What do you do to conserve energy and use energy efficiently? In your opinion, what energy conservation program has been the biggest failure and why?

What roles do rural electric cooperatives play today and in the future?