



2024 WASHINGTON RURAL ELECTRIC YOUTH TOUR INSTRUCTIONS

REQUIREMENTS

- ♦ Applicant must be enrolled as a **high school junior** for the current school year.
 - ♦ The **primary residence of the applicant must have an active member account with Aiken Electric Cooperative, Inc.**
 - ♦ Completed **APPLICATION AND REFERENCES** must be postmarked by **Monday, February 26, 2024**. If invited, applicant must participate in an interview session.
 - ♦ Members of immediate family of Trustees and employees of Aiken Electric Cooperative are eligible to participate.

APPLICATION FORM

- ♦ All pages of the application form must be completed accurately and neatly. If additional space is needed, please attach additional pages.
- ♦ The cooperative reserves the right to contact the applicant, school or references to clarify answers and check records for accuracy.
- ♦ Applications for the Washington Youth Tour are available at www.aikenco-op.org and at AECO offices.

REFERENCES

- ♦ Two "Personal Reference" forms must be submitted. One reference form must be from a teacher and the other from a non-relative.
- ♦ Applicant should encourage each person completing a reference form to complete and mail the form as soon as possible.
- ♦ An application is not complete without the two completed reference forms. All references must be postmarked by **Monday, February 26, 2024**.

INTERVIEW

- ♦ **If chosen for an interview, it will be conducted at Aiken Electric Cooperative headquarters, 2790 Wagener Road, Aiken SC, in March 2022. Applicants chosen for an interview will be contacted with an assigned interview time.**
- ♦ The applicant will be questioned about past experiences, future plans, and basic knowledge of rural electric cooperatives. A cooperative study guide is available at www.aikenco-op.org.

Washington Youth Tour

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WINNERS

- ♦ Up to seven high school juniors will be selected to represent Aiken Electric Cooperative on the cooperative paid 2022 Washington Youth Tour. **The tour will be held June 13 – 20, 2024.**
- ♦ Winners will attend the Youth Tour orientation which will be held 1-2 weeks before the tour in Columbia with parents.
- ♦ A first and second alternate will also be selected. Should a winner be unable to attend, the first, then the second alternate will be given the opportunity to represent Aiken Electric Cooperative on the Tour. Also, alternates may be invited to attend the cooperative paid Cooperative Youth Summit conference in July 2024.
- ♦ Winner selection is based on the student's participation in school and community activities, scholastic aptitude (both displayed and on record), honors and awards received, recommendations or references, and poise and intelligence displayed in the interview.
- ♦ The decisions of the judge(s) are final.

SCHOLARSHIP

- ♦ Students attending the Tour as Aiken Electric Youth Tour Representatives will be eligible to apply for the R. D. Bennett Community Service \$5,000 scholarship offered by the Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina.