2020 Rural Electric Youth Tour

Essay Contest Information Packet

Sponsored by:

United Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Dear Student,

Thank you for your interest in the 2020 Rural Electric Youth Tour essay contest and trip to Washington, D.C.

This packet contains a list of contest details, and various sections of information which should help you produce the winning essay. Information is also available from several web sites, addresses for which you will find on the contest details sheet.

The essay topic is listed on the contest details sheet. Please follow the directions listed on the contest details sheet carefully.

The top three finalists on the essay portion of the competition will be interviewed by a panel of three judges on Wednesday, December 11. Following the interviews, we will name the winner who will receive an expense-paid trip to the Rural Electric Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.

This year’s Youth Tour trip is June 18-25, 2020.

Again, thank you for your interest in the Rural Electric Youth Tour. Good luck writing your essay and we hope to see you in Maryville on December 11, 2019 for the oral competition and reception!

Pat Walter
Youth Tour Coordinator
Full Name: _______________________________________________________________________________

Street Address: __________________________________________________________________________

City: ____________________ State: _________ Zip Code: __________

Phone Number: ( ) _______________ Email Address: ______________________

Parents or Guardians Name: ___________________________ Parents Phone Number ( ) __________

Name of School: __________________________________________________________________________

Teacher: ___________________________ School Phone Number: ( ) ________________

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**2020 Youth Tour Contest Information**

1. Entries may be submitted by high school juniors in United Electric Cooperative’s service territory.
2. Entries must include a completed application and a minimum essay of 600 words on the topic: "Where do you see yourself in 10 years"
3. Entries must be typed using 12 Arial or Times New Roman font. Double-spaced on one side of each page.
4. Entries must be received by Friday November 15, 2019.
   You may deliver to the United Electric office in Maryville or Savannah or mail to:
   
   Pat Walter  
   Youth Tour Coordinator  
   United Electric Cooperative  
   P.O. Box 757  
   Maryville, MO 64468

5. The top three final essay scores will comprise the list of finalists. Each finalist will then be interviewed by a panel of three judges at 6 p.m. December 11, at United Electrics office in Maryville.

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**Winner**

**Expense Paid Trip to Washington, D.C.**...The top finalist will receive an expense paid trip to Washington D.C. June 18-25, 2020. The student will represent United Electric Cooperative and the State of Iowa at the Youth Tour Conference in Washington D.C.

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**Important Dates**

Applications & Essays Accepted .............................................. October 1-November 15, 2019

Interviews ........................................................................................................ December 11, 2019

Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. ................................................................. June 18-25, 2020

**Judging**

A detailed description of the judging process can be found in this application.

**More Information**

For additional information, please call Pat Walter at 1-800-748-1488 or email him at pwalter@ueci.coop.
2020 Youth Tour Contest Judging

United Electric Cooperative has two stages for scoring the contest. Total scores are cumulative. The Essays and Interview scores are combined to determine contest winners.

Each essay receives a score of up to 100 points from each of three judges. The lowest of these three scores will be dropped, with the two highest scores added together for total of 200 points.

**Essay Score:**

- **Knowledge of Subject**.................................20 points  
  *(Demonstrates a basic understanding of the topic as it relates to.)*

- **Originality**............................................20 points  
  *(Essay shows thought beyond the facts given in the resource packet, not just a regurgitation of the materials provided.)*

- **Content (ability to adhere to topic)**..............20 points  
  *(Essay clearly elaborates on the topic chosen with facts to back up the producers opinions.)*

- **Creativity** ...........................................20 points  
  *(Essay shows creative side of student that sets them apart from competition.)*

- **Presentation**.......20 points  
  *(Words are clearly spoken, essay is appropriate for the topic given.)*

**Oral Presentation:**

- **Speaking Ability**....................................30 points  
  *(Student is able to speak clearly, has eye contact and expression, speaks rather than recites.)*

- **Knowledge of Subject**.................................20 points  
  *(Demonstrates a basic understanding of the subject as it relates to the chosen topic.)*

- **Content (ability to adhere to topic)**..............20 points  
  *(Essay clearly elaborates on topic chosen with facts to back up the producers opinions.)*

- **Originality**............................................20 points  
  *(Practice will help you keep your composure and self-assurance. Be yourself - your best self. Let your enthusiasm for your excellent composition show through.)*

- **Presentation of Self**.................................10 points  
  *(Neat appearance, demonstrates a positive attitude and poise, seems excited to be a part of the contest, and exhibits a strong desire to be chosen as a delegate for the Rural Electric Youth Tour.)*

The top three final essay scores will comprise the list of finalists. Each finalist will then be invited to be interviewed before a panel of three judges on December 11, 2019. Each finalist’s combined essay score will be added to the interview scores for a final contest score. The top score will be United Electric’s delegate and the winner of an expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C.