2020 Rural Electric Youth Tour

Essay Contest Information Packet

Sponsored by:

United Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
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 write a 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 six finalists on the written portion of the competition will be interviewed by a panel of three judges for the oral competition in Maryville on Wednesday, December 11. Following the oral competition, we will name the top two winners 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 19-25, 2020.

The third and fourth place winners will receive an expense-paid trip to the Cooperative Youth Conference and Leadership Experience (CYCLE), in Jefferson City July 15-17, 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
United Electric Cooperative, Inc.

2020 Youth Tour Contest Application

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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<tr>
<th>2020 Youth Tour Contest Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Entries may be submitted by high school juniors in United Electric Cooperative’s service territory.</td>
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<td>2. Entries must include a completed application and a minimum essay of 600 words on the topic:</td>
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<td>“Where do you see yourself in 10 years?”</td>
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<td>3. Entries must be typed using 12 Arial or Times New Roman font. Double-spaced on one side of each page.</td>
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<td>4. Entries must be received by Friday November 15, 2019.</td>
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You may deliver to the United Electric office in Maryville or Savannah or mail to:

Pat Walter  
United Electric Cooperative  
PO Box 757  
Maryville MO 64468

5. The top six final written scores will comprise the list of finalists. Each finalist will then be invited to be interviewed before a panel of three judges at 6 p.m. December 11 at United Electric’s office in Maryville.

**WINNERS**

**Expense Paid Trip to Washington, D.C.**…..The top two finalist will receive an expense paid trip to Washington D.C. June 19-25, 2020. These students will represent United Electric Cooperative and the State of Missouri at the Youth Tour Conference in Washington D.C.

**Expense Paid Trip to Jefferson City, MO**…..The third and fourth finalist will win a trip to the "Cooperative Youth Conference and Leadership Experience" (C.Y.C.L.E.), a three day leadership conference in Jefferson City scheduled for July 15-17, 2020

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<th>Important Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Applications &amp; Essays Accepted…………………………….October 1-November 15, 2019</td>
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<td>Finalist Oral Presentation……………………………………December 11, 2019</td>
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<td>Youth Tour to Washington, D.C…………………………….June 19-25, 2020</td>
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<td>C.Y.C.L.E. to Jefferson City Mo……………………………July 15-17, 2020</td>
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<th>Judging</th>
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<td>A detailed description of the judging process can be found in this application.</td>
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<tr>
<td>For additional information, please call Pat Walter at 1-800-748-1488 or email him at <a href="mailto:pwalter@ueci.coop">pwalter@ueci.coop</a></td>
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2020 Youth Tour Contest Judging

United Electric Cooperative has two stages for scoring the contest. Total scores are cumulative. The Written Essay and Oral Presentation scores are combined to determine contest winners.

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

**Written Score:**

Knowledge of Subject.........................30 points
(Demonstrates a basic understanding of the topic as it relates to.)

Originality.............................................30 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 writer's opinions.)

Composition.........................................10 points
(Essay is composed in an organized format, flows well, and has good transitions.)

Grammar, Spelling and Neatness............10 points
(Words, sentences and paragraphs follow the standard rules of grammar; words are spelled correctly, and essay is typed or computer generated without messy corrections.)

**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 writer's 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 six final written scores will comprise the list of finalists. Each finalist will then be invited to be interviewed by a panel of judges on December 11, 2019. Each finalist’s combined written score will be added to each of the oral judges’ scores for a final contest score. The top two scores will be United Electric’s delegates and the winners of an expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C.

The third and fourth highest score will be United Electric’s delegates and the winners of a trip to the Missouri Cooperative Youth Conference and Leadership Experience (C.Y.C.L.E.), a three-day leadership conference held in Jefferson City, MO.