



2027 YOUTH TOUR

DEADLINE: JANUARY 7TH, 2027



CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS!



Clarke-Washington Electric
Membership Corporation

- WIN THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME
- MAKE LIFELONG FRIENDS
- BUILD YOUR COLLEGE RESUME
- WIN SCHOLARSHIP MONEY

GET TO KNOW CLARKE-WASHINGTON EMC

Clarke-Washington Electric Membership Corporation is a member-owned electric cooperative serving more than 20,000 meters throughout Clarke, Washington, Wilcox and Monroe Counties. We were founded more than 90 years ago to meet the needs of the underserved people of rural Alabama.

Clarke-Washington EMC puts the needs of our members first, safely delivering reliable electric service at the lowest possible cost to the communities we serve.



ALL ABOUT YOUTH TOUR



Youth Tour is an opportunity for high school juniors to compete for trips to Montgomery and Washington, D.C., to learn about electric cooperatives and our nation's history.

In Montgomery, delegates will join other students from across Alabama for leadership activities, visits to the state capitol and museums, meetings with state legislators, a dinner dance and other fun activities.



In Washington, D.C., students will enjoy sightseeing and tour attractions including Arlington National Cemetery, Mount Vernon, Vietnam Memorial, Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, FDR Memorial, and many more. The group will also visit Mount Vernon and tour Smithsonian museums such as the Holocaust Museum, American History Museum, National Archives, Museum of Natural History and others. It's truly the trip of a lifetime!

HOW TO APPLY

This contest is open to all high school juniors in Clarke, Washington, Wilcox and Monroe counties, or if your parents/guardians are members of Clarke-Washington EMC, you are eligible to apply. **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER.** Students must submit an essay on the topic below. Students must also submit a resume to include academic achievements, work experience, extracurricular activities, volunteer work, employment, and any other accomplishments or endeavors that tell us about your character and work ethic.



THE ESSAY

Electric cooperatives were founded on determination, resilience, and the ability to overcome challenges. Many influential leaders have demonstrated these same traits in their own lives. Choose one of the leaders below and discuss how they showed resilience in the face of adversity. Explain how their story connects to your own life, what inspires you most about their example, and how you can apply their lessons to achieve your goals.

- Dr. Ben Carson
- Franklin D. Roosevelt
- Dolly Parton
- Octavia Spencer
- Siran Stacy
- Sandra Day O'Connor

THE RULES

Your resume and essay must be double-spaced using no larger than 12 point font. Students must also include a bibliography at the end of their essay to show their research.

All students must complete and submit their essay and resume on our website by **January 7, 2027, at 4pm.**

Judges will review the essays and resumes to select the top two students from each school for the interview round.

Essay winners will then be notified and given an assigned interview time. Interviews will be held at Clarke-Washington EMC's Jackson office at 9000 Highway 43.

SUBMIT ESSAY & RESUME AT [CWEMC.COM/YOUTH-TOUR](https://www.cwemc.com/youth-tour)



THE INTERVIEW

**PLEASE VISIT OUR
WEBSITE TO
DOWNLOAD YOUR
INTERVIEW STUDY
GUIDE:**

www.cwemc.com/youth-tour

Four students will be selected from the interview process to attend an all-expenses-paid trip to the Montgomery Youth Tour in March. They will also receive a \$500 scholarship.

Of those four, two students will be selected to represent Clarke-Washington EMC on an all expenses paid trip to Washington D.C. in June. Those two students will receive an additional \$500 scholarship.

The scholarships shall be transmitted to the accredited school selected by the scholarship recipient upon graduation.

INTERVIEW TIPS

You will be interviewed by a panel of three judges. They will ask questions about Clarke-Washington EMC, electric cooperatives and yourself. You may be asked about school activities, family and college or career plans.

The judges will be considering your knowledge of cooperatives, communication skills, poise and appearance.

Always remember to speak up, do not chew gum during the interview, make eye contact with the judges and be personable.

WHAT TO WEAR

We ask that you dress in business attire. Listed are example of what to wear.

Ladies: Dress, pantsuit, dressy blouse with slacks. Skirts and dresses should be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee. No strapless or spaghetti straps.

Gentlemen: Dress slacks/khakis, button down, tie, and optional sports coat.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Applications Due: Thursday, January 7, 2027

Interviews: Tuesday, January 25, 2027

Montgomery Youth Tour: March 3-5, 2027

Washington D.C. Youth Tour: June 17-23, 2027



HELPFUL LINKS

CWEMC.COM

NRECA.COM

POWERSOUTH.COM

COOPERATIVE.COM

AREAPOWER.COOP

TOUCHSTONEENERGY.COM

YOUTHTOUR.ORG



DO YOU NEED MORE INFORMATION?

PLEASE CONTACT KARA DURIE AT

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