



## 2026 Government-In-Action Youth Tour

Bailey County Electric Cooperative (BCEC) has committed to sending two (2) area high school students to Washington, D.C. each year with the Government-In-Action Youth Tour. The 2025 Government-In-Action Youth Tour will be held June 14-21, 2026. All area high school students are encouraged to enter the BCEC Youth Tour contest.

Winners of the Texas Youth Tour delegation will meet in Austin on June 14 and will depart for Washington D.C. on June 15. They will join more than 1500 students from across the United States for this fast-paced week. While in Washington, highlights will include a visit to your congressional offices, tours of historic monuments, memorials and the Smithsonian Institute. They will travel to Arlington National Cemetery, Washington National Cathedral, the Supreme Court, the Library of Congress, enjoy a performance at the Kennedy Center, a night-time dinner and dancing cruise on the Potomac River along with other special attractions.

**Eligibility:** Students are required to submit an application and must have completed their sophomore 0.year in high school, or classified as a current junior or senior. Students must have a valid Texas Drivers License or Texas ID and be a United States citizen. **Students cannot be older than 19 years of age by May 31, 2026.**

**Contest Rules:** Participants will be required to appear before an independent panel of judges and be prepared to discuss the following topics:

1. Why should you be chosen as a BCEC Youth Tour delegate and what do you expect to gain from the experience in the 2025 Youth Tour.
2. Explain what you know about BCEC (what counties does BCEC serve, Board of Director's and their responsibilities, who owns BCEC, etc.)
3. What is a Cooperative and what is an Investor Owned Utility (IOU)?
4. Who is Texas Electric Cooperatives and what is their function?

Applicants will have between 5 to 7 minutes of interview time with the panel of judges. Judges will ask questions such as those listed above. Applicants should know about the cooperative business model and understand how cooperatives work.

**Judging:** Judging criteria is based 80% on answers to the questions and 20% on the ability to speak, poise and appearance. Please dress as you would to go to church or for a job interview.

**To apply:** Fill out the application and return it by the deadline. Click [here](#) to download the application.

**Applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 5, 2025**

**to Bailey County Electric Cooperative, 610 E. American Blvd. in Muleshoe, Texas.** Applications returned after the deadline will not be considered. Applications are available at your high school counselor's office, the main office of BCEC in Muleshoe, Texas or by downloading the application.

**Interviews will be Sunday, November 9, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. at Bailey County Electric Cooperative in Muleshoe.**

Please direct any questions regarding the interviews or trip to Suzie Brown or Gladys Saenz with BCEC at 806-272-4504 or toll free at (800) 869-7049. For even more information, please visit [Texas Electric Cooperatives](#) for more information about Youth Tour.



# YOUTH TOUR CONTEST INTERVIEW ENTRY FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

(Cell) \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have a valid Texas ID: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, teacher/counselor who encouraged your participation in this contest: \_\_\_\_\_

High School grade completed by May 31, 2026? (Sophomore, Junior, Senior) \_\_\_\_\_

High School attending? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about this trip? \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Guardians: \_\_\_\_\_

## Youth Tour Winner Requirements:

- ★ Must be able to participate in the Youth Tour trip to **Washington, D.C. on June 14 - 21, 2026.**
- ★ Must be able to ride in a car or bus for up to 12 hours (with breaks) in a single day.
- ★ Must be able to fly in an airplane.
- ★ Must be able to (and agree to) reasonably assist Bailey County Electric Cooperative in presentations promoting the Youth Tour program and the Cooperative, including a presentation at the local membership meeting.
- ★ The Cooperative reserves the right to select the runner up or another contestant for the Youth Tour trip if the winner is unable to participate.
- ★ The winner's parents/guardians must give the Cooperative written permission and a waiver of release for the winner to participate on the Youth Tour.
- ★ The winner will be covered by the Youth Tour's insurance from home and back.
- ★ Must be a United States citizen
- ★ Must be able to provide a valid Texas driver's license or Texas state issued ID card.
- ★ The winners must abide by the Youth Tour rules, participate in all activities of the Youth Tour and agree to wear a mask at all venues and activities as required.

## Contestant's Statement:

I have read the Youth Tour Contest Eligibility Rules and Winner Requirements. By signing below, I attest that I fully understand all of the rules and requirements of this contest and what will be required of me in the event I should win the contest.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit this entry form to:

Bailey County Electric Cooperative Association, Attn: Suzie Brown  
P.O. Drawer 1013 or 610 East American Blvd, Muleshoe, TX 79347 – Fax (806) 272-4509

**Entries MUST be received by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 5, 2025**

**Interviews will be conducted on Sunday, November 9, 2025**