

2012 Government in Action Youth Tour Contest

Sponsored by Cooke County Electric Cooperative

Cooke County Electric Cooperative holds a contest each year to select a participant for Texas Electric Cooperatives Government in Action Youth Tour. The trip is an extremely special one. By tradition and intent, the tour is set up to give youth an in-depth look at the nation's capital. Youth will meet their Legislator, tour dozens of interesting sites and learn a great deal about history, government and electric cooperatives.

Those who have taken the trip say what really makes it special are the relationships they build with other outstanding young people from around the state. The TEC provides excellent chaperones and leaders.

The tour has been a turning point in the lives of some. Former U.S. Rep. Bill Sarpaluis quietly vowed to return to Washington after he took the tour as a high school senior. Another former tour participant is Fred McLure, who served as Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs for President George Bush, Sr.

Cooke County Electric Cooperative pays travel expenses including meals and lodging. Winners need only money for snacks, souvenirs, film and personal items.

Contest Guidelines:

Eligible participants must be a high school junior or senior. Students must live in a home currently served by Cooke County Electric Cooperative and his/her parent(s) or guardian must be a CCEC member with an active **residential** account. Past winners, children, or grandchildren of CCECA Directors and Employees are not eligible.

Entrants must deliver the essay to the Cooperative office by **5:00 P.M. on Friday, February 10, 2012**. The essay must be an original composition by the student with the length being **500 words or more** (typed and doubled spaced). The United Nations General Assembly passed Resolution 64/136 proclaiming the year 2012 as the International Year of the Cooperatives is "Cooperative Enterprises Build a Better World". Write an essay explaining how the Electric Cooperative business model differs from an Investor Owned Utility.

Essays should include a cover page with information required. (See Page 2) For purposes of judging, the essay itself and inside pages should carry only one identification mark: the student's Social Security number in the upper right hand corner of the page.

A panel of qualified judges will select five finalists. On Sunday, **March 04, 2012, the five finalists will be interviewed by a panel of three judges**. This interview will allow the finalists the opportunity to convince the judges of their leadership qualities. The winner will be awarded the trip to Washington and other finalists will receive a prize. Judges will name a runner-up who will receive a \$1000.00 college scholarship. The runner-up is important, and will be asked to go on the tour in the event the winner cannot.

Students interested in entering the contest or who would like more information should contact Carolyn Powell at the Cooperative offices on Highway 82 East in Muenster. The telephone number is 759-5173, 1-800-962-0296, or email carolyn.powell@cceca.com.

2012 Youth Tour Contest Application

Name: _____

Parents or Guardian name: _____

CCEC Account Number # _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Social Security Number: _____

Size preference for T-shirt (Circle One): M L XL

All essays submitted become the property of Cooke County Electric Cooperative.