2027 SWRE YOUTH TOUR

Contest Rules, Application Instructions & Resume Template

The annual Youth Tour Contest is open to high school juniors living in or attending school in SWRE's service territory. This includes juniors in Altus, Blair, Chillicothe, Crowell, Electra, Frederick, Harrold, Navajo, Northside, Snyder, Tipton, and Vernon. Co-op membership is not required to enter the contest. *Children and grandchildren of SWRE board members are not eligible to apply.*

Applications are open from October 1 to December 15 and must be submitted online at **SWRE.com/YouthTour by December 15, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.**

The application has two components:

1) **Submit a resume.**
2) **Submit a 1-2 minute video telling us why you want to go to Washington D.C.**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EACH APPLICATION COMPONENT ARE INCLUDED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES.

Applicants MUST be available these dates:

- January 20, 2027 from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. @ SWRE: Finalist Interview Competition
- February 24, 2027 @ 4 p.m. @ SWRE: Winner & Parent Q&A Meeting / Paperwork
- April 21-22, 2027: Oklahoma Youth Tour Orientation & Capitol Visit
- May 16 or May 17, 2027 @ 6 p.m.: Oklahoma Youth Tour Parent/Guardian Zoom Call
- June 9, 2027: Oklahoma Delegate Final Details Zoom Call
- June 18-23 2027: Oklahoma trip to D.C.
- June 15-23, 2027: Texas trip to D.C.
- June 24, 2027 6 p.m.: Winner Recognition Reception at SWRE

What's on the application?

- Is the applicant the child or grandchild of an SWRE board member?
- Student name, email address (must be accessible in summer), mailing address, phone number, gender, date of birth, school, graduation year, age as of June 1, 2027 and t-shirt/polo size
- Parent/Guardian #1 name, phone number, and email address
- Parent/Guardian #2 name, phone number, and email address
- Upload a signed copy of the Contest Terms & Conditions
- Upload your resume
- Upload your "Why I Want to Go to D.C." video to YouTube and share the link on the application
- Upload a headshot photo

Finalists Competition: Up to eight finalists will be selected to interview in front of a panel of independent judges on Wednesday, January 20 at SWRE headquarters in Tipton, OK. ****Participation in the interview is required to remain eligible for any of the prizes.*** Winners and parents will meet with SWRE's Youth Coordinator on February 24 to receive trip details and complete paperwork.

Prizes:

- **Two Winners**: a week-long, all-expenses paid trip of a lifetime on Youth Tour in Washington D.C. in June
- **All Finalists**: $250 cash prize after completing an interview
- **Nominators**: $100 cash prize for each finalist you nominate that completes an interview

Questions? Call Rebecca Chambless, SWRE's Youth Coordinator, at 1-800-256-7973.

CONTEST TERMS & CONDITIONS (SIGNATURES REQUIRED)

Please read the following terms & conditions carefully. Students and parents will sign this form & upload it to the online application.

Required Dates:

- January 20, 2027 from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. @ SWRE: Finalist Interview Competition
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***Youth Tour Cancellation & Reimbursement Policy:** Students selected and sponsored by Southwest Rural Electric Association, Inc. are expected to participate in required preparatory activities related to the Oklahoma and/or Texas Your Tour and the full duration of the student program, including group travel to and from Washington, D.C. The student experience has a program value of $4,375 per participant. While cancellations are unfortunate, cancellations received/processed 90-days prior to the day of registration are appreciated and needed to allow cooperatives to find alternate student participants. Families of selected students who cancel less than 90-days prior to the day of registration, may be responsible for reimbursing the sponsoring cooperative up to 50% of the program value. No shows and families of selected students failing to notify Southwest Rural Electric Association, Inc. of nonparticipation may be held responsible for reimbursing 100% of the program value.

Student Terms & Conditions: I would like to apply for the 2027 SWRE Youth Tour Contest. I am a high school junior and understand the material I submit in this contest becomes the property of Southwest Rural Electric, Oklahoma's Association of Electric Cooperatives and/or Texas Electric Cooperatives for use at its discretion. I agree to abide by the rules of the contest, to participate in all required events, and respect the judges' decision(s).

I CONFIRM that I am able to attend the 2027 Youth Tour (Oklahoma YT: June 18-23, 2027; Texas YT June 15-23, 2027). I understand that if I win the contest and forfeit the trip that I may be required to refund Southwest Rural Electric for all or some of the cost. I have read and accept the Youth Tour Cancellation & Reimbursement Policy.*

_____	_____	_____
Student Signature	*Student Printed Name*	*Date*

Parent/Guardian Terms & Conditions: I hereby give permission for my child to apply for the 2027 SWRE Youth Tour Contest. I hereby give permission for images of myself (or child), during the SWRE Youth Tour Contest application process through video, photo, and digital camera, to be used solely for the purposes of SWRE, Oklahoma's Association of Electric Cooperatives (OAEC), Texas Electric Cooperatives (TEC) or National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) promotional material and publication. I waive any rights of compensation or ownership thereto. I agree to abide by the rules of the contest, to aid my child in participating in all required events and respect the judges' decision(s).

I CONFIRM that my child is able to attend the 2027 Youth Tour (Oklahoma YT: June 18-23, 2027; Texas YT June 15-23, 2027). I understand that if my child wins the contest and forfeits the trip that I may be required to refund Southwest Rural Electric for all of some of the cost. I have read and accept the Youth Tour Cancellation & Reimbursement Policy.*

_____	_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Signature	*Parent/Guardian Printed Name*	*Date*

PLEASE NAME YOUR FILE: YT27_LastName_FirstName_Signed

RESUME INSTRUCTIONS (60 points)

Tell us about yourself! What makes you an outstanding choice to represent SWRE at the U.S. Capitol?

Resume submissions must be typed on the template provided by SWRE. A second typed page may be included with your resume if you run out of room in any of the categories.

IMPORTANT: DO NOT include your name, your school, or your contact information on the resume.

PLEASE NAME YOUR FILE: YT27_LastName_FirstName_Resume

"WHY I WANT TO GO TO D.C." VIDEO INSTRUCTIONS

(40 points)

Record a 1-2 minute video about why you want to go on Youth Tour to Washington D.C.

Show your enthusiasm! We are looking for excited and confident students who want to travel and will represent us well. What monument or museum do you want to see the most? Which founding father is your favorite? How will this trip impact your future career? Have fun with this and show off your creativity!

Watch these videos to learn more about Youth Tour: Oklahoma Hype Video, Texas Hype Video

IMPORTANT: DO NOT include your name, your school, or your contact information in the video.

The student's face should be visible in the video with original recorded audio. Please record your video horizontally (if using phone or tablet).

Upload your video to YouTube and make the video "**unlisted**" so that it is not available in search results. Once uploaded, go to your channel/library, find the video, tap the **share/more options icon**, and select **copy link**. Paste that link into the online Youth Tour application.

PLEASE NAME YOUR VIDEO: YT27_LastName_FirstName_Video

PHOTO (0 points)

Please upload a headshot photo of yourself. The applicant should be the only subject in the picture. Make sure the photo is taken in good lighting. This photo will be used for promotion should you win the contest!

PLEASE NAME YOUR FILE: YT27_LastName_FirstName_Photo

UPLOAD YOUR APP AT SWRE.COM/YOUTHTOUR

RESUME TEMPLATE

PLEASE NAME YOUR FILE: "YT27_LastName_FirstName_Resume"

***IMPORTANT**: DO NOT include your name, your school, or your contact information on the resume.*

ACADEMICS (15 points)

EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: _____ **CURRENT GPA:** _____

HONORS, AWARDS OR SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

ARE YOU ENROLLED IN COLLEGE COURSE(S) OR A TECHNICAL PROGRAM? *List them here.*

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (15 points)

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

LEADERSHIP ROLES (15 points)

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

COMMUNITY SERVICE / VOLUNTEER WORK (15 points)

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (0 points)

Include any other information that might be helpful to the judges in their selection: