



2026 Government-in-Action Youth Tour

Austin, TX to Washington, DC

June 14-21, 2026



Students selected for this opportunity join more than 100 of their peers from Texas and another 1,700 from across the U.S. on this trip of a lifetime. Inspired by Lyndon B. Johnson's desire to give youths insight into national government, Youth Tour expands participants' horizons while educating them about government and cooperatives. Electric cooperatives in Texas have participated in Youth Tour since 1965. Deep East Texas EC will send 2 students on the 2026 Youth Tour, scheduled for June 14-21, 2026.

The trip starts with a day in Austin, where students begin by touring the Texas State Capitol, Capitol Visitors Center, Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum and Texas State Cemetery. Activities include seeing a show at the Bullock IMAX and Texas Spirit Theater and dining at the famous food trailers in South Austin.

Once in Washington, students partake in guided tours of historic sites, museums and congressional offices, where they meet with their U.S. representatives. Entertainment opportunities on the trip have included seeing a performance at the Kennedy Center and going on a dinner and dancing cruise on the Potomac River. Participants also attend Youth Day, hosted by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, for a day of learning and inspiration.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Current high school sophomore or junior who live in the Cooperative's service area and whose parent or guardian is an active member receiving service from Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Application must include:
 - Two (2) letters of recommendation from two of applicant's current teachers.
 - Copy of your high school transcript.
 - Signature of both applicant and parent/guardian.

Application must be postmarked or emailed no later than February 6, 2026.

For more information, please contact:

Brittney Ford at 936-229-3907 or brittneyj@deepeast.com



APPLICATION

2026 Government-in-Action Youth Tour

June 14-21, 2026

Austin, Texas • Washington, DC

DEADLINE for RETURNING this APPLICATION is February 6, 2026.

Last Name First Name Middle Name

(Mailing Address – city, state, and zip code)

(____) _____
Home/Cell Phone Number E-mail Address Date of Birth

Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Mailing Address

(____) _____ (____) _____
Parent/Guardian Home/Cell Phone Number Work Phone Number E-mail Address

Name of Your High School HS Graduation Year

Rank/Number in Your Class High School Grade Average

Please list your high school activities, including leadership positions, organizations, class offices, academic awards, etc. (attach pages if additional space is needed)



Civic and Other Activities:

What are your goals and aspirations upon completing high school?

Have you ever applied to attend the Government-In-Action Youth Tour? Yes No (Circle One)

If “Yes,” did you attend? Yes No (Circle One)

Do you plan to attend a college, university or technical school after high school? Yes No (Circle One)

DETEC Member # (located on your bill): _____

Essay

Students selected to attend the 2025 Government-In-Action Youth Tour will serve as a representative of not only Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative but also as a representative of electric cooperatives from across the State of Texas. In at least 100 words, please explain why you would be a good representative and why you would like to attend the Government-In-Action Youth Tour. *(attach pages if additional space is needed)*



Lined area for writing.

I agree to permit the review of this Application and my school records by anyone representing Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative’s Youth Tour Committee.

Applicant’s Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date



Application Checklist

- ☐ Sign and complete all questions/requirements of this Application.
- ☐ Attach two (2) letters of recommendation from your high school teachers.
- ☐ Attach a copy of your high school transcript. *(please do not include students Social Security number)*

DEADLINE for RETURNING this APPLICATION is February 6, 2026.

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative
Attn: Government-In-Action Youth Tour Committee
PO Box 736
San Augustine, Texas 75972

-or-

brittneyj@deepeast.com