



# What is YOUTH TOUR/CYCLE

**New-Mac Electric's tenth annual Youth Tour/CYCLE Contest will send students to Washington, D.C., or Jefferson City for expense-paid educational experiences this upcoming summer.**

Youth Tour is a week-long trip to Washington, D.C., sponsored by electric cooperatives from all across the country. Delegates are selected by each co-op, grouped together with peers from their state, and then sent to the nation's capital. Missouri will send over 100 delegates, who will join approximately 2,000 from other states at our nation's capital June 14-20.

The Missouri students will see sites such as the Jefferson Memorial, Washington Monument, World War I Memorial, Smithsonian Institution, International Spy Museum and many more. Also, they will learn

about the workings of our government while developing life-long friendships with their fellow delegates. To learn more about Youth Tour, visit [youthtour.coop](http://youthtour.coop).

CYCLE stands for Cooperative Youth Conference & Leadership Experience. It is a four-day trip to Jefferson City, where more than 100 students learn about our state government, cooperatives and leadership in general. Delegates will tour the City Museum in St. Louis, Missouri Supreme Court and State Capitol. They also will have the opportunity to debate a fictional bill from the actual floor of the House of Representatives. CYCLE will take place July 14-17.

## **DEADLINE: MARCH 20, 2026**

## **Who is eligible to apply?**

**The contest is open to high school juniors in the following school districts:**

- Carthage
- Diamond
- East Newton
- Joplin
- McDonald County
- Neosho
- Pierce City
- Sarcoxie
- Seneca
- Wheaton

Home or private school 11th-grade students residing in the aforementioned districts are also eligible. Immediate family members of New-Mac Electric employees or board members are not eligible to participate.



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# How to apply?

Each contestant is required to write and submit a written, double-spaced essay of 400-600 words on the following topic: ***In what ways does an electric cooperative strengthen its community beyond providing electricity?***

All essays **must** include a cover sheet with the following information:

- Name
- Address
- Telephone number
- Email address
- Parents'/Guardians' names
- School
- Word count of essay

Finalists will be selected from the essays and interviewed by a panel of judges at New-Mac's Neosho office. The top two winners will attend Youth Tour, June 14-20, in Washington, D.C. The third- and fourth-place participants will take part in CYCLE July 14-17 in Jefferson City.

## Essays should be sent to:

Youth Tour CYCLE, New-Mac Electric, PO Box 310, Neosho, MO 64850

Or emailed to [ttaylor@newmac.com](mailto:ttaylor@newmac.com), "Youth Tour/CYCLE" in the subject line

If you have additional questions about the contest, call our Member Services Department at 417-451-1515.

