



# YOUTH TOUR 2026 CONTEST RULES

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**Dates: June 13-20, 2026**

The essay topic for the 2026 Contest Essay is:

*All cooperatives share a concern for their communities. Write about how your local cooperative supports your community or detail new ways they could get involved.*

Deadline: Contact your local cooperative for details; some cooperatives do not use the essay contest to select their participant.

## **YOUTH TOUR CONTEST RULES**

1. The student must be a junior or senior in high school in the fall of 2026. (Currently a sophomore or junior)
2. Student cannot be a prior winner of the youth tour.
3. The student and/or parent or guardian must be served by a rural electric cooperative that is a member of Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association.

The student must write an essay on the following topic (for those cooperatives using the essay to select their representative): *All cooperatives share a concern for their communities. Write about how your local cooperative supports your community or detail new ways they could get involved.*

4. Essays must include a cover page with the student's name, address, telephone number and the name of their rural electric cooperative and a copy of the attached application.
5. Cooperatives may run an applicant's essay through an AI detection program. Use of AI could prevent the application from being considered.