



Citizens Electric Corporation

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Electric cooperatives always have had a strong commitment to their local youth. It's all part of a much larger "Commitment to Community," one of the seven cooperative principles that guide Citizens Electric. Each summer, a majority of Missouri's electric cooperatives back that commitment by sending nearly 200 youth, most entering their senior year of high school, on two different trips with similar goals.

The Youth Tour and CYCLE programs are two great ways Citizen Electric gets involved with helping develop leadership potential in future cooperative members. The future economic viability of rural communities depends on the cooperatives developing their rural leadership.

If you are a high school junior and your parents receive electric service from Citizens Electric, you are eligible to participate in the Youth Tour & CYCLE programs. Many past Youth Tour & CYCLE participants have also applied for and won CEC scholarships.



Youth Tour

"The trip of a lifetime"

Every year electric cooperatives in Missouri sponsor essay contests to select delegates to the annual Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. These fortunate high school students represent their local cooperative on a whirlwind tour of the nation's capital. They tour museums, visit America's most cherished monuments and even meet their elected officials. All the while they are learning about electric cooperatives and their role in the community.

CYCLE

Cooperative Youth Conference and Leadership Experience

The CYCLE program is a three day conference held in Jefferson City in late July. It brings in some of the brightest young leaders from across Missouri. The focus is to show students more about electric cooperatives, teach leadership skills, and experience Missouri state government. The program includes nationally know speakers and a day at the state Capitol. Participants draft proposed legislation and debate the bills on the floor of the General Assembly. A trip to the Churchill Museum in Fulton is also included.

COVID-19

If either event is canceled due to the pandemic, Youth Tour & CYCLE winners will receive a grant to be used to further their educations. Other awards to be determined will be given to contest runners-up.

You could win an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C.

Enter the 2021 Youth Tour/C.Y.C.L.E. Essay Contest!

Essay or video topic (500-750 words or 2 minutes): Youth Tour and CYCLE participants are often leaders in their school and community. Please explain what leadership role you play and how this opportunity will assist you to continue to be a leader in the future.

To participate: Fill out both pages and mail it with your essay or video to:



Youth Tour/CYCLE

Essay Contest

Citizens Electric Corporation

1500 Rand Avenue

P.O. Box 368

Perryville, MO 63775

WIN
a trip to
Washington, D.C. or
Jefferson City

Entries must be postmarked by Monday, March 1, 2021.

OFFICIAL ENTRY APPLICATION

Please enter me in the "2021 Youth Tour/CYCLE Contest," sponsored by Citizens Electric Corporation.

Name (print): _____ Age: _____

I am a junior at: _____

My parent(s)/guardian(s) are: _____

Our mailing address is: _____

Our phone number is: _____

My email address is: _____

As parent/guardian of the above-named student, I give my approval for him or her to enter the "2021 Youth Tour/CYCLE Essay Contest," and if selected to receive a trip, he/she has my permission to participate.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Signature of Student

YOUTH TOUR/ C.Y.C.L.E. STUDENT PROFILE

Name: _____ School: _____

1. List any extracurricular activities (teams, clubs, organizations, etc.) you participate in: _____

2. In what ways do you spend your free time? _____

3. What are your education/career plans after high school? _____

4. What is the one thing you would do to improve your community? _____

5. Why did you enter this contest? _____

Entries must be postmarked by Monday, March 1, 2021.