

DSEC Government-in-Action Youth Tour Contest 2025

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND CONTEST RULES

Eligibility Requirements

A contestant must:

- Be a current 10th, 11th, or 12th grader at a school in Deaf Smith EC's service area, including the school districts of Hereford, Dimmitt, Nazareth, Bovina, Friona, Farwell, Adrian, Lazbuddie and Vega. Any home-schooled student who meets the age requirement (16 at the time of the trip, June 15-23, 2025, and attend all parts of the Youth Tour, no exceptions, per Texas Electric Cooperative rules), residing in these school districts is also eligible to compete.
- Students' parents/guardians **MUST** be members of Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative to compete in and win the Youth Tour contest.
- Previous Youth Tour contest winners are not eligible to participate.

Application Submission

- Application form can be found on our website under the Member Services → Youth Tour tab. If you prefer, you may download the printable version and submit to Elaina Burkhalter at communications@deafsmith.coop, or drop by the office at 1501 E. 1st Street, Hereford. Applications are due by Thursday, February 6, 2025. The speech contest will be at 6 pm, Monday, Feb. 10th, at DSEC headquarters in Hereford.

Speech Topics and Scoring

- Pick one of the topics below and create an original speech between 3 and 5 minutes long:
 1. What is the greatest energy issue facing your generation, and how can youths be a part of the solution?
 2. What would life be like without electricity?
 3. Describe a service project that would benefit your community.
 4. Washington Youth Tour students have an opportunity to visit with their congressman or woman. As a member of an electric co-op, discuss the concerns and questions you would talk about with your representative. Explain why these are important issues to you.
 5. If you could have only 1 electrical device or appliance to use, what would it be & why?

Be unique, be creative, be yourself and have fun!

- Winners will be selected on a competitive basis, using the following points for scoring:
 1. Knowledge of Subject 50% (40 points)
 2. Presentation and Interview Quality 40% (30 points)
 3. Time limits 10% (10 points)

Finalist Selection

The winning contestants will be chosen by an independent panel of judges to represent DSEC on the Government in-Action Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., June 15-22, 2024. An alternate will also be chosen in the event a winner cannot make the trip.

Questions? Contact Elaina Burkhalter at 806-364-1166 or communications@deafsmith.coop