



**Central Valley Electric
Cooperative, Inc.**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Charles T. Pinson, Jr., General Manager

2026 Government-in-Action Youth Tour

Sponsored by Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

CONTEST RULES AND REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for the contest, the students must:

- ✓ Be a high school junior or senior.
- ✓ Be a dependent of an active Central Valley Electric Cooperative (CVE) member.
- ✓ Submit the completed application and two (2) short, typed essays to CVE.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applications will be considered when the following information has been received at Central Valley Electric:

1. Completed application with applicant's and parent/guardian's signatures.
2. Parent or guardian's current CVE customer number provided on the application (customer number will be printed on most recent bill).
3. Two (2) completed short essays written on the suggested topics. One (1) essay chosen by CVE and not limited to the number of words. One (1) essay is the applicant's choice from four (4) suggested topics and requires a minimum of 500 words.

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026
INTERVIEWS WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR
MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2026 (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)

Return completed application to:

CVE Headquarters, 1403 N 13th St., Artesia, NM

Or Mail to:

Central Valley Electric Cooperative
c/o Member Services
PO Box 230
Artesia, NM 88211

COMPLETED APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 5:00 P.M., JANUARY 16, 2026.

All information contained within the application is strictly confidential. The CVE Government-in-Action Youth Tour Selection Committee reserves the right to require verification of all information provided by the applicant, if deemed necessary.

APPLICANT INFORMATION		
Student Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	ZIP Code:
Phone:	Cell Phone:	Birth Date:
E-Mail:		
PARENT OR GUARDIAN INFORMATION		
Name of Parent or Guardian:		
Electric Service Address:		Customer No.:
City:	State:	ZIP Code:
Phone:	Work Phone:	Cell Phone:
E-mail of Parent or Guardian:		
SCHOOL INFORMATION		
Name of High School or Home School Association:		
Address:		Phone:
City:	State:	ZIP Code:
High School Principal or Counselor:		
Phone:	Fax:	Grade:

The 2026 Government-In-Action Youth Tour will June 15-21, 2026.

STUDENT RELEASE

Selection will be made without regard to the applicant's race, color, ethnicity, religion, gender, or physical handicap. One (1) winner from CVE will be selected for the Washington, D.C. trip. Selection is based on the completed application. The delegate selected to represent CVE is required to travel with their state delegation for the full tour. The delegate is not allowed to travel independently from the delegation to, from or during the trip to Washington, D.C., except in the case of an emergency. In the event of an emergency, arrangements must be approved and will be coordinated through the New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NMRECA). If a delegate cannot attend the entire Youth Tour, the delegate will be required to forfeit the trip and will become an alternate.

I certify that this information contained in this application is true, complete and accurate. I authorize release of information to confirm and/or verify this application. I further authorize release of my name and photos in connection with announcements of Youth Tour awards in the event that I am selected to be a CVE Youth Tour recipient.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

PARENT RELEASE

I/We hereby grant permission for (name of student) _____ to enter the CVE Government-In-Action Youth Tour competition. I/We further authorize release of the name and photos of my/our child in connection with announcements of Youth Tour awards in the event that he/she is selected to be a CVE Youth Tour recipient. I/We understand that my/our child must attend the entire Youth Tour and travel both to and from Washington with the state delegation. Only in the event of an emergency will my/our child be able to leave the tour. I/We understand that coordination of my/our child's return in the event of an emergency will be coordinated through NMRECA.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

FOR CVE USE ONLY		
Date Application Received:	Eligibility Verified:	CVE Employee:

Please answer all questions on separate sheets of paper. Please print neatly or type and double space each essay using a 12 point font. NO HANDWRITTEN CURSIVE SUBMISSIONS PLEASE. Title each essay response with the topic question(s).

Prepare a brief essay on the following topic:

1. Why should you be chosen as Central Valley Electric Cooperatives delegate for the Youth Tour? What would you expect to gain from the experience?

Prepare a 500-word essay on one of the following questions:

1. Of all the political leaders in our nation, past or present, who do you admire most and why?
2. What current issue interests you most and why?
3. Growing up in a rural area has certain advantages as well as disadvantages. Describe how living in Southeastern New Mexico has influenced your development.