



## Rita Blanca Electric Cooperative, Inc.

### 2026 Youth Tour Application Form

Student Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Student Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth & Age: \_\_\_\_\_

High School Name & Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email & Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Parent/Guardian Permission Form

I/We give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to apply for the  
2026 Youth Tour trip with Rita Blanca Electric Cooperative.

*We expect all students to follow the rules and meet behavior expectations throughout the trip. If a student is removed due to misconduct, parents/guardians will be responsible for arranging their return home and covering any associated costs.*

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## School Activities

List clubs, sports, honors, or other high school activities you've been involved in.

## Community Involvement

List your participating in 4-H, church, volunteering, and other community groups.

## Tell Us Why!!

Tell us in a short paragraph why you want to be part of the Youth Tour, and what do you hope to gain from the experience?

## References

Provide **two** references:

\*One teacher

\*one community leader (pastor, employer, coach, etc.)

Reference name and title \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference name and title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Important:

*Each reference will be required to send a recommendation letter directly to RBEC, either by email, mail or in person. The **only requirement** for the student is to obtain a **signature** from each reference, confirming they were asked to submit a letter on the student's behalf.*

**Recommendation letters should be sent to:** [youthtour@rbec.coop](mailto:youthtour@rbec.coop)

You will be notified if your application was denied for the following reasons: If you do not meet eligibility requirements, complete your application or are not a part of the top selected candidates.

## Essay Topic

What is the greatest energy issue facing your generation, and how can youths be part of the solution?

- Essays must be typed, double-spaced, in 12 point font with 1-inch margins on all sides.
- Essays should be a minimum of 500 words long and no more than 750 words long.
- Essays must include a bibliography that contains all sources.
- Do not include your name on any portion of the essay.
- Essays will be judged on content, grammar, originality and creativity

**Rita Blanca Electric Cooperative**  
**2026 Youth Tour**  
**Eligibility Requirements and Contest Rules**

**Eligibility Requirements**

A contestant must:

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Have completed 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> grade by June 1, 2026.
- Reside and/or attend a high school in the RBEC service area.

**Essay Topic**

- What is the greatest energy issue facing your generation, and how can youths be part of the solution?

**Essay Format**

- Essays must be typed, double-spaced, in 12 point font and with 1-inch margins on all sides.
- Essays should be a minimum of 500 words long and no more than 750 words long.
- Essays must include a bibliography that contains all sources.
- Do not include your name on any portion of the essay.
- Essays will be judged on content, grammar, originality and creativity.

**Application Submission**

- Submit applications by mailing to Rita Blanca Electric, PO Box 1947, Dalhart, TX 79022 – Attn: Dawn Stephens or email to: [youthtour@rbec.coop](mailto:youthtour@rbec.coop)
- Entries must be submitted by February 23, 2026.

**Finalist Selection**

- One finalist will be chosen by from the submitted essays.
- The top contestant will be declared the winner of the Youth Tour. They will be notified by email and mail.
- 2 alternates will be chosen to attend in the event that winner cannot attend the trip. They will be notified by email and mail.

**Questions?**

Contact Dawn Stephens at Rita Blanca Electric Cooperative at [dstephens@rbec.coop](mailto:dstephens@rbec.coop) or call 806-249-4506.