



Co-Mo CONNECT
Powered by Co-Mo Electric Cooperative

YOUTH TOUR

2022-2023

Win a trip to Washington, D.C. in 2023!

They call it “the trip of a lifetime” and you could be on it!

Co-Mo Connect Powered by Co-Mo Electric Cooperative will sponsor four students to attend the Youth Tour trip in 2023, a whirlwind adventure in Washington, D.C., with more than 100 fellow Missourians and 1,500 high school juniors from across the country. All high school juniors residing or attending school in Co-Mo’s service territory who are not children or grandchildren of a Co-Mo board member or employee are eligible.

Do you want to win a trip to Washington, D.C.? You can earn your spot by entering a project that answers the contest prompt in this Youth Tour packet! For more information, go to www.co-mo.coop and click on Youth Tour.



Contact Patrick Wood at pwood@co-mo.coop if you have questions!

- All entries must be received by Oct. 28, 2022 -

This year, we are giving students the opportunity to pick between two prompts! For their chance to win a spot on the Youth Tour trip, students will need to create a project (video or essay) that focuses on only ONE of the available prompts.

PROMPT 1: Looking Forward

Technology is rapidly evolving. How do you think technology will have progressed in the next 50 to 100 years? How do you predict these changes will have altered society? At Co-Mo Connect, our mission is to improve the quality of life for the region we serve. In what ways do you predict that Co-Mo Connect will be able to continue to be true to that mission with your predictions of an evolved technological future?

PROMPT 2: Looking Back

In 1939, Co-Mo Connect, then known as Co-Mo Electric Cooperative, connected its first electric member and began providing electric services to the region it serves. In 2010, Co-Mo connected its first Internet subscriber and started bringing high-speed fiber internet to the mid-Missouri area. Pick one of these momentous occasions and state what life was like before those achievements by the cooperative, and how these instances helped to improve the quality of life for the region.

Write an essay:

Using between 500 and 750 words, answer ONE of the above prompts to demonstrate a thorough understanding of the topic. Essays should be typed. Attach a separate sheet of paper to the front of the essay with your name, address, telephone number, parent or guardian's name, and name of your school. Essays will be judged for creativity, accuracy, clarity, technical soundness (grammar, punctuation, etc.), and the level of independent research. Essays should be emailed directly to pwood@co-mo.coop or submitted by your teacher.

Make a video:

Create a video that is no less than three and no more than five minutes that answers ONE of the above questions to demonstrate a thorough understanding of the topic. Videos should be turned in via link (YouTube, Vimeo, Google Drive, etc.). Along with the video, you will need to submit your name, address, telephone number, parent or guardian's name, and name of your school. Videos will be judged for creativity, accuracy, clarity, technical soundness (lighting, sound, etc.), and the level of independent research. If you're not submitting your project through your school, you must email the video link to pwood@co-mo.coop.

Rules and Regulations

- All entries must be received by Oct. 28, 2022. No late projects will be judged.
- All projects must be submitted by your teacher or sent by you to pwood@co-mo.coop.
- To be eligible, students must be juniors currently residing in or attending school in Co-Mo's service area. They must also be living in Co-Mo's service area at the time of the trip. Students cannot be children or grandchildren of a current Co-Mo board member or employee.
- All submissions become the property of Co-Mo Connect Powered by Co-Mo Electric Cooperative and will not be returned.
- Nine finalists, three from each of Co-Mo's three service districts, will be chosen to appear at the final judging event in November.
- Four winners will be chosen from the finalists to attend the Youth Tour. Each finalist attending the Youth Tour will be given \$25 in spending cash.
- Five runners-up earn a trip to the Cooperative Youth Leadership Experience in Jefferson City. The decision of the judges is final.



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Your project (essay or video) will be scored using this guide. If you have questions about the guide, please ask your teacher or contact Patrick Wood at pwood@co-mo.coop.

Addresses the Prompt in an Understandable Manner – 20 Points

Your essay or video needs to address ONE of the available prompts clearly. The project should be easy to follow and fully answer the chosen prompt.

Grammatically Correct/Technically Sound – 20 Points

If you choose to write an essay for your project, it should be grammatically correct and include a citation page. If you decide to create a video, the video should be of good quality with adequate editing.

Independent Research – 20 Points

Students need to showcase research in their projects. Students who choose the “Looking Forward” prompt should include research to justify their predictions of future technology. Students who choose the “Looking Back” prompt should include research into their showcase of life before electricity or the Internet. Both prompts should include research into Co-Mo Connect and how the organization improves the quality of life for the region it serves.

Creativity – 40 Points

Make your project unique! Everyone will work from the same prompts, but only you have your distinctive perspective, creativity, and imagination. Make your project memorable and something that will truly stand out from the other entries.

Three judges from neighboring cooperatives will score your project. Each judge will score your project based on the guide above, and the scores will be averaged to provide the final score per project. The scoring of the judges is final. Questions about scoring should be directed to Co-Mo’s Youth Tour coordinator, Patrick Wood.

Following the project scoring, the finalists who will compete in the finalist competition in November will be announced. Nine finalists will participate in the finalist competition. Four will be selected based on their scores at the end of the competition to attend the 2023 Youth Tour trip. The five runners-up will earn a spot on the Cooperative Youth Leadership Experience in Jefferson City in 2023.

