



Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour
Washington, DC | June 1-5, 2026

- Sponsored by West Carolina and National Telephone Cooperative Association's Foundation for Rural Service
- Student must be a rising high school senior (graduating in 2027) and must be under the age of 18 at the time of the tour
- Student will be selected by West Carolina selection committee (all names/personal information will be removed from applications before selection committee reviews them ensuring a fair selection process).
- Student will be expected to abide by the NTCA conduct guidelines
- **Legal Guardian must be a member of West Carolina.**
- Student will be required to tour West Carolina's facilities before departure
- Student will be required to report to the Board of Directors on their Washington experience.
- 31st year of participation by West Carolina.
- Approximately 100 students from all over the United States will be participating
- Focus will be on the critical role telecommunications plays in rural America and the impact policy development in the nation's capital has on this industry
- Tour includes U.S. Capitol, U.S. Supreme Court, Federal Communications Commission, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Smithsonian Institute, Arlington Cemetery, Roosevelt and Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument and several other landmarks.
- Meet with a member of Congress
- Costs paid by West Carolina Tel include: registration, air fare, meals, transportation to all activities, admission tickets to all ticketed events, T-shirt, "yearbook" and a provided \$100.00 visa gift card for checked bag and/or souvenirs. Student is responsible for any other personal spending money.
- Will be met at airport by NTCA staff and will be chaperoned at all times. There will be 1 chaperone per approximately 5 students.



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Application Form: Due February 11, 2026

Name of Applicant: _____

Name of Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s): _____

Home Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Applicant's Contact Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Contact Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Date of birth: _____ (Must be 16 or 17 at the time of the tour.)

High School: _____

☐ Essay (required)

- Please complete a one-page 200-word minimum essay addressing the following question: What is a cooperative and how do cooperatives impact the community?

☐ Applicant Profile (required)

- Please include a one-page Applicant Profile showing the applicant's participation in high school and community activities, including years of participation.

Note: You must be a West Carolina Customer to qualify.

Completed application, essay, and applicant profile can be dropped off at any West Carolina Office or emailed to marketing@wctel.com

Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on February 11, 2026.