



# Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc.

® Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

PO Box 628  
312 Osloski Road  
Eureka, MT 59917  
406-889-3301

[www.lincolnelectric.coop](http://www.lincolnelectric.coop)  
[memberservices@lincolnelectric.coop](mailto:memberservices@lincolnelectric.coop)

## 2018 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

### Contest Information

- \* High school sophomores and juniors, enter to win a week-long FREE<sup>†</sup> trip to Washington, D.C. on June 9-15, 2018. There will be an orientation in Great Falls at 3:00 p.m. on June 8, 2018.
- \* All expenses for flights, hotel accommodations, charter bus, tours, food, and t-shirts each day while in D.C. paid for by LEC.<sup>†</sup>
- \* Winning student may want to bring some money for extra snacks and to purchase souvenirs of their once-in-a-lifetime trip.

### Eligibility

- \* Applicant must be a sophomore or junior during the 2018-2018 school year.
- \* Applicant or their parent/guardian must be an active member of LEC.
- \* Application and supporting reference forms must be returned to the LEC office by **5:00 pm on Thursday, November 30, 2018**

### Application Process

- \* Student must complete both pages of the **Entry Form** (attached) and submit to LEC by the deadline with the **Additional Supporting Information Sheet** (per Section II of the Entry Form).
- \* Student must have a **Personal Reference Form and Evaluation Sheet** (attached) submitted by **three references** before the deadline. There must be at least one teacher reference and one community member reference. The third reference can be either of these.
- \* Finalists must perform a 30 minute interview with LEC's Member Services Committee. Finalists will be notified by phone to arrange for their interview date and time.

<sup>†</sup>The trip begins with a flight out of Great Falls. The student and/or their parent or guardian is responsible for travel to and from Great Falls.



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## 2018 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

### Entry Form - Page 1

**Must be returned with Page 2, Additional Sheet and Three Personal Reference Forms and Evaluation Sheets to LEC by:  
5:00 pm on Thursday, November 30, 2017**

#### I. Please type or print in black ink

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s): \_\_\_\_\_

LEC Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade:          Sophomore          Junior          (Choose One)

GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Ranking: \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Career Goals: \_\_\_\_\_

#### II. Additional Information

On a separate sheet, please complete the following:

1. List your school activities. Include any elected positions, special honors, awards, and accomplishments from school (i.e., class officer, plays, athletics, music, etc.).
2. List your activities outside of school and the years of participation, such as 4-H, church, community, and service clubs. Indicate honors, awards, and accomplishments.
3. Write a persuasive paragraph explaining why you would like to go to Washington, D.C. as a representative of LEC. Your comments will be judged on content, composition, neatness, and grammar.



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## 2018 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. Entry Form - Page 2

**Must be returned with Page 1, Additional Sheet and Three Personal Reference Forms and Evaluation Sheets to LEC by:  
5:00 pm on Thursday, November 30, 2017**

### III. References

Please list the names of the three people who will each submit a Personal Reference Form and an Evaluation Sheet (attached) on your behalf. You must have at least one reference each from a teacher and community leader. The third may be from either of these. The completed reference forms can be attached to your entry form or confidentially submitted directly by the reference to LEC.

Reference Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternative Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternative Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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## 2018 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

### Personal Reference Form

**Each of your three references must submit this form with the Evaluation Sheet to LEC by:**

**5:00 pm on Thursday, November 30, 2017**

*All references will remain strictly confidential and can be returned directly to Melissa Brandon at the LEC office or [mbrandon@lincolnelectric.coop](mailto:mbrandon@lincolnelectric.coop)*

**Note to Applicant:** Please give this form to a teacher or community leader who can provide an assessment of your skills and abilities.

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternative Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

1. In what capacity and for how long have you known this applicant?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. What words best describe this applicant?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. What contributions does this applicant make in the classroom and/or community?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



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## 2018 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. Evaluation Sheet

**Each of your three references must submit this form with the Personal Reference Form to LEC by:  
5:00 pm on Thursday, November 30, 2017**

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

*Mark the scale below with the option that best describes this applicant for each trait.*

| Trait                   | Excellent | Above Average | Average | Below Average | Poor |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------------|---------|---------------|------|
| Maturity                |           |               |         |               |      |
| Cooperative Nature      |           |               |         |               |      |
| Potential               |           |               |         |               |      |
| Leadership Ability      |           |               |         |               |      |
| Desire to Succeed       |           |               |         |               |      |
| Desire to Excel         |           |               |         |               |      |
| Attitude                |           |               |         |               |      |
| Self Confidence         |           |               |         |               |      |
| Sense of Responsibility |           |               |         |               |      |
| Social Skills           |           |               |         |               |      |

Additional Comments:

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



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## 2018 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. Interview Information Sheet

Judges will ask you questions about yourself - your abilities, school activities, goals, and accomplishments. They will also be interested in knowing what information you have learned about LEC by visiting our website ([www.lincolnelectric.coop](http://www.lincolnelectric.coop)) and about cooperatives in general. Applicants will be judged based on the following criteria:

- 20% Written application and paragraph
- 30% Poise (includes ability to express thoughts and ideas)
- 20% Knowledge of Lincoln Electric and cooperatives
- 20% Personality and interviewer's impression
- 10% Professional appearance

### Study Sheet

| Questions   | Answers   |
|---|---|
| Who is LEC's General Manager?   | <i>Ray Ellis</i>  |
| What is the governing body of the cooperative?  | <i>10 member Board of Trustees</i>  |
| What program and app allows LEC members to view their usage, pay their bill, and more easily and conveniently on their computers and devices? | <i>SmartHub</i>   |
| How does LEC's residential energy rate compare to the national average?   | <i>At 6.85 cents per kWh, about 1/2 the national average</i>                            |
| How many meters does the cooperative serve?   | <i>More than 5,800</i>  |
| When was LEC organized?   | <i>January 1948</i>   |
| How many miles of line does LEC own and maintain?   | <i>957 miles</i>  |
| When is the annual membership meeting?  | <i>March of each year</i>   |
| Who supplies LEC's wholesale power?   | <i>The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)</i>  |
| What energy sources does BPA use to supply power to LEC?  | <i>85% hydro from dams on the Columbia River System, 10% nuclear, and 5% renewables</i> |
| What program does LEC offer that allows members to pay in advance of their electric usage?  | <i>Pay As You Go program</i>  |

### -Bonus Questions-

- What are the differences between an electric cooperative and an investor owned utility (IOU)?
- What is the single largest issue you think LEC is facing today?
- What are 'margins' and why are they important to LEC and our members?
- What is net metering and what does it allow LEC members to do?

*\*It would be to your advantage to be able to give further information on any of these questions. Information can be obtained at [www.lincolnelectric.coop](http://www.lincolnelectric.coop), past issues of Rural Montana magazine, or by talking to an LEC employee or Trustee.*