



Tallahassee Youth Tour

Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative (SVEC) will sponsor a tour of Tallahassee, February 20-21, 2019, for ten high school Juniors in our service territory. While in Tallahassee, the students will be introduced to the cooperative business model and Florida's legislative process. Possible activities include a tour of the state capitol, participation in a mock bill debate on the floor of the senate or house of representatives, and visits to the governor's mansion and the Florida Supreme Court.

To be eligible for the tour, the student must be enrolled in the 11th grade of a high school or home school in SVEC's service territory and have an unweighted grade point average of at least 3.0. The student must also be a dependent of an SVEC member, but cannot be a child or grandchild of a current SVEC employee or trustee.

Students will be chosen to participate in the tour based on a 250-500-word essay on how cooperatives can reach out and engage with people of their generation. The essay and a completed tour application form (attached) must be received by SVEC by 5:00 p.m., January 18, 2019. Essays and application forms can be e-mailed to communications@svec-coop.com, hand delivered to our office at 11340 100th Street, Live Oak, or mailed to:

Youth Tour
c/o Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 160
Live Oak, FL 32064

A Statement of Parental Consent and Release will be required for each student chosen for the tour. Students will miss two days of school, leaving Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 and returning on Thursday, February 21 at around 4:00 p.m. If a chosen student is unable to attend the tour, an alternate will go in their place.

SVEC will supply transportation and chaperones to and from Tallahassee. Hotel accommodations will be at the Fairfield Inn & Suites or Hampton Inn in Tallahassee, FL. Each room will be shared by two students of the same gender. All expenses will be paid by Suwannee Valley Electric, but students may wish to bring a small amount of money for personal use and incidentals.

Two of the students who go on the Tallahassee tour will also be selected to represent SVEC in Washington, D.C. for the National Rural Electric Youth Tour scheduled for June 15-20, 2019. They will be flown to Washington and join students from around the country on visits to sites such as the Lincoln Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, Smithsonian and Mount Vernon. SVEC will pay for the trip.

Students will be selected for the tour of Washington, D.C. based on their essay mentioned above, the quality of their participation during the Tallahassee tour, and their score on a written quiz covering facts they will learn about SVEC.

TALLAHASSEE YOUTH TOUR APPLICATION

(Please Type or Print and return to SVEC by 5:00 p.m., January 18, 2019)

- 1. Name of Student/Applicant: _____
- 2. Name of Parent/Guardian(s): _____
- 3. Parent/Guardian’s Cooperative Account Number: _____
(Used only for member verification purposes)
- 4. Home Address: _____
City *State* *Zip*
- 5. Telephone Number: (_____) _____
- 6. School Attended: _____
- 7. Grade in School: _____
- 8. Unweighted GPA (9th-11th Grade): _____
- 9. Adult t-shirt size: S M L XL XXL
- 10. Please write and attach an essay of 250-500 words titled “How cooperatives can reach out and engage with people of my generation.”

By signing below, we acknowledge that we have each read and understand the entire application form and do hereby certify that we understand the contents of the application package. Also, by signing below, we each certify that the information provided on the application form is true and correct. If any of the information provided on the application form is found not to be true and correct, the student applicant will be immediately disqualified and, if the student applicant has been chosen to participate in the Youth Tour, an alternate will take his or her place on the tour.

Date: _____ Signature of Student/Applicant: _____

Date: _____ Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____