

## 2022 Youth Tour Essay and Scholarship Contest Guidelines:

Topic of Essay: **You are in charge of the energy efficiency program at your school. Describe a way you would recommend your school to use electricity more efficiently.**

Each entry must be an original essay by the student.

- Essay should consist of 750 to 1000 words.
- Please type the essay double spaced on a single side of the paper.
- Do not write your name on the essay, your name should only appear on the entry form.
- Staple the completed entry form to the essay in the upper left-hand corner.

### Essays will be judged and selected on the following Criteria:

Content	40%
Originality	35%
Grammar	20%
Neatness	5%

**ESSAYS ARE DUE TO THE CHEC OFFICE BY: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 16, 2022.** Essays must be emailed to [bmartin@cooksonhills.com](mailto:bmartin@cooksonhills.com) or dropped off at either the Stigler or Sallisaw Cookson Hills Electric office locations.

### Youth Tour Rules:

- Students must be a junior in an accredited high school or be homeschooled within the CHEC service territory.
- School teachers/sponsors are responsible for selecting up to two essays which must be submitted by the deadline to Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative for judging.
- Round 1 of judging: Submitted entries are initially judged and narrowed down to ten finalists.
- Round 2 of judging: The ten finalists must attend a short interview at the Stigler CHEC office on March 10, 2022. (Subject to change to a virtual format) Finalists will need to be familiar with the **Co-op 101** booklet. Each finalist will be asked questions from this booklet during the interview. You can download **Co-op 101**, and find YT entry forms on our website <https://www.cooksonhills.com> under the Community tab, then select Youth Tour. Four winners are selected from the finalists at the conclusion of the Round 2 interviews.
- Essay winners will attend a local banquet in April and present their essays orally before the CHEC Board of Trustees and staff – This is required to participate in the Youth Tour program and receive the scholarship. (Banquet subject to change/cancellation)
- Obtaining the first half of the scholarship funds - Students must submit a college/technical school class schedule verifying full-time enrollment status.
- Obtaining the second half of the scholarship funds - Students must successfully complete the first semester, submit a transcript verifying a minimum 3.0-grade point average for the first semester, and a college/technical school class schedule for the second semester verifying full-time enrollment.
- Students must conduct themselves in a respectable manner. If a student has presented themselves inappropriately, they may be removed from the program.

**\*Winners are eligible to receive scholarship money and potentially an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C.\***