

Rules for Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative's  
**YOUTH TOUR 2010**

*Contest*

**How to enter:**

1. Complete the entry form and return it to VVEC.
2. Write an original essay of 350 to 500 words on the topic below.
3. Essays must be typewritten and double-spaced on 8 ½" x 11" paper. Computer may also be used.
4. No name should appear on the essay, but must be included on the cover sheet along with school name, teacher's name and the date the essay is submitted.
5. Contest papers must be received in Verdigris Valley Electric's Collinsville office no later than 4:00 p.m. on March 12.

**Essay topic:**

*How can Smart Grid Technology Help America Meet Growing Power Demands?*

**Judging:**

A panel of judges knowledgeable about electric cooperatives will evaluate and rank the essays. The top four essays will be finalists in this year's contest. Criteria for judging will be as follows:

**Command of subject – 40%** - Includes a demonstrated understanding of material, relevance of information, direct treatment of subject.

**Strength of ideas – 25%** - Includes recognizable point being made, solid support for your view.

**Style – 20%** - Includes originality of approach, appealing presentation.

**Writing convention/grammar – 15%** - Includes correct use of words, punctuation, spelling and sentence structure.

**Final judging:**

Students who write the four highest scoring essays will be invited to give oral presentations of their essays and answer questions on cooperative-related topics at a banquet in their honor. Judges will determine the winners of the all-expense paid trip to Washington, D. C. at that time.

**Prizes:** The top two finalists will be awarded expense-paid trips to Washington, D.C. for National Youth Tour Week, June 11 - 17. The remaining two finalists will be runners-up and will each receive a \$500 scholarship. The \$500 scholarship must be given to the school or college of his/her choice on or before the first semester following his/her graduation from high school, unless prior arrangements are made with VVEC.

**Note:** Should any of the top two finalists be unable to attend the Youth Tour activities in Washington, D.C., a runner-up (in order of scoring) will then receive the trip. The runner-up's \$500 scholarship would then be awarded to the next-highest scoring essay.

For information call Paula in Member Services at 918-371-2584, extension 6204.

For material packets and entry forms write to:

**VVEC, Youth Tour Contest, PO Box 219, Collinsville, OK 74021**

Visit VVEC's Web site at [www.vvec.com](http://www.vvec.com) for resource materials.