

## 2024 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour Application

Please complete and return this application (along with required materials) to Salem Electric's office by 5:00 p.m. on January 16, 2024. Applicants must be a high school junior or senior and live in Salem Electric's service area to qualify. Visit [SalemElectric.com/youth-tour](http://SalemElectric.com/youth-tour) for more information or contact Salem Electric at 503-362-3601.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name of Parent: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade:  Junior  Senior

**List Current  
Classes:**

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**List School  
Activities  
(sports, clubs,  
etc.):**

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**Hobbies or  
Community  
Service:**

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**School  
Leadership  
Experience:**

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**What are your  
plans after high  
school?**

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**Additional Questions:**

In 500 words or less, please respond to the following questions.

- **What is an electric cooperative and how is it different from an investor-owned utility?**
- **Why should you be selected as Salem Electric’s 2024 Youth Tour delegate?**
- **What do you hope to learn from the experience?**

I understand the selection of the delegate will be based on content, neatness, and completeness of the application and essay. In addition to the application and essay, final candidates will be interviewed at Salem Electric’s office – 633 7<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Salem, OR 97304, in February 2024 (date and time to be determined) before a final selection is made.

**If selected, I agree to:**

- Attend the NRECA Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. on June 16-22, 2024 (all expenses paid, with the exception of spending money).
- Provide a presentation about my tour experience at the Salem Electric board meeting on July 23, 2024.
- Submit a 200-225 word article of my tour experience for Salem Electric’s Co-op Newsletter (deadline July 23, 2024).

Applicant Signature		Date		Parent/Guardian Signature		Date
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**Please return this completed application (along with answers to the additional questions) to Salem Electric’s office by 5:00 p.m. on January 16, 2024:**

Salem Electric  
Youth Tour Application  
Randi Johnson, Executive Assistant  
PO Box 5588  
Salem, OR 97304  
se@SalemElectric.com

# Seven Cooperative Principles:

## Open Voluntary Membership

Membership in a cooperative is open to all persons who can reasonably use its services and stand willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, regardless of race, religion, gender, or economic circumstances.

## Democratic Member Control

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. Elected representatives (directors/trustees) are elected from among the membership and are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote); cooperatives at other levels are organized in a democratic manner.

## Economic Participation

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital remains the common property of the cooperative. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative; setting up reserves; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

## Autonomy and Independence

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control as well as their unique identity.

## Education, Training, and Information

Education and training for members, elected representatives (directors/trustees), CEOs, and employees help them effectively contribute to the development of their cooperatives. Communications about the nature and benefits of cooperatives, particularly with the general public and opinion leaders, helps boost cooperative understanding.

## Cooperation Among Cooperatives

By working together through local, national, regional, and international structures, cooperatives improve services, bolster local economies, and deal more effectively with social and community needs.

## Concern for Community

Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies supported by the membership.

## Additional Resources

The Electric Cooperative Story – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vETdVpo8bGE>  
The Electric Grid Connects Us All – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KLS7WGN4kc>