

National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
Youth Leadership Council

The NRECA Board of Directors established the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Youth Leadership Council in 1977. The NRECA board objectives for the Youth Leadership Council are to:

- Foster and involve youth in the principles and practices of cooperatives
- Promote and encourage the program of rural electrification among America's youth
- Educate youth on all aspects of energy production and its uses

One representative from each state is selected for the Youth Leadership Council. Each local distribution cooperative selects candidates to be interviewed by a statewide panel. The distribution cooperative will select one candidate for every 10 students sent on the trip. Interviews will be held **Sunday evening beginning at 7 p.m.** Since we have a limited time, interviews are short and informal, consisting of three or four questions aimed at getting to know the student and how they handle themselves in an interview setting.

The student chosen for Youth Leadership Council will attend an orientation, Sunday evening of Youth Tour at 10 p.m. At this orientation, the selected student will meet other state representatives and hear about the upcoming year.

As part of their duties, they attended the NRECA Youth Leadership Conference, July 2018 in Washington, D.C., and the NRECA Annual Meeting in February 2019.

During the Youth Leadership conference the selected student will attend sessions about electricity and the nation's energy policy; presentation skills and tips; and business development. Their travel arrangements and housing will be handled by NRECA.

Youth Leadership Council duties include distributing programs, staffing information stations, and providing messenger services. For the trip, Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association (PREA), along with the student's local cooperative, will make travel arrangements and NRECA will provide housing and chaperones during the week.

PREA requests that at least one of the state representatives (PA or NJ) speak at the PREA Summer Meeting in July at the Nittany Lion Inn, State College, Pa.

We hope that you consider applying for this opportunity. Past Youth Leadership Council representatives have found the experience life-changing and rewarding in the development of their own leadership skills.