2027 GVEC Government-in-Action Youth Tour Contest – Application Guidelines

GVEC is looking for high school sophomores or juniors who are GVEC members to apply for this life-changing experience! GVEC will sponsor local students for the 2027 Government-in-Action Youth Tour—an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., from June 15 to 22, 2027! Plus, each attendee will receive a $2,500 scholarship for their senior year, to be used toward the college or trade school of their choice.

The Youth Tour delegates will tour several historical sites, including Arlington National Cemetery, Capitol Hill, Mount Vernon, the Lincoln Memorial, the U.S. Supreme Court, the Smithsonian Institution and more!

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicant's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) must have an active GVEC electric account in their name, in good standing.
- Applicant must be a high school sophomore or junior during the 2026–2027 school year.
- Applicant must reside in the GVEC electric service territory.
- Applicant must be able to travel from June 15 to June 22, 2027.
- Applicant must be physically able to travel for several hours by car, bus, boat and plane, and walk extensive distances.
- Applicant must be available for in-person interviews and pre-trip orientation.
- Children of the GVEC Board of Directors and employees are eligible to apply.

Application Requirements

Applicants will need to provide basic personal, parent/guardian, and school information, in addition to the items below. As part of the selection process, applicants will be interviewed by GVEC staff. You can save your progress and return later before submitting. All materials must be completed and submitted by the deadline.

- Applications and required attachments will only be accepted on GVEC's website at gvec.org/community/youth-tour/.
- Applications must be received by Monday, November 30, 2026, by 5 p.m.

Short Answer Question Criteria

Question: Who is a public servant or leader you admire, and what about them stands out to you?

- Short Answer response must be 300 words or less.
- Short Answer response is worth 30 points of your total score—content (20 points); organization and development (5 points); grammar, spelling and punctuation (5 points).

Resume Criteria

- File format should be a PDF only, not to exceed two (2) pages in length.
- Resume should not include pictures, graphic images or diagrams.
- Resume is worth 40 points of your total score—based on work experience, extracurricular involvement and activities, examples of leadership positions held, achievements, honors and awards.

Recommendation Letters Criteria

- Provide two (2) recommendation letters from either a school employee or coach, a community leader, a church leader or an employer, aged 18+ and of no relation to the applicant.
- The recommendation letters are worth 30 points of your total score—based on information from the reference, such as positive feedback about the applicant, how the applicant works well with others and the mention of leadership qualities about the applicant.

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High School Transcript Criteria

- File format should be a PDF.
- Transcript should be from the current school year (unofficial is accepted)

Applicant Headshot Criteria

- File format should be a JPEG, JPG or PNG, max file size 20 MB.
- Photo should be recent, in color, and a clear photo of your face and shoulders (headshot).

Semi-Finalist Selections

- Semi-finalists will be invited to an in-person interview with GVEC staff.
- Semi-finalists and winners will be notified by February.

Delegate Expectations

- Selected delegates will be expected to attend a pre-trip orientation with a parent or guardian.
- Selected delegates must represent GVEC responsibly.

Questions

Contact Community Relations Representative Jeff Kerlick at jkerlick@gvec.org or 830.263.4353.