FTC 2026 FRS YOUTH TOUR

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative (FTC) will be sending two high school students from within the FTC service area to the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., June 1-5, 2026. The FRS Youth Tour will be a five-day, all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., sponsored by Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative.

The FRS Youth Tour provides students from rural areas with a first-hand look at the telecommunications industry. It educates students about the legislative and governmental processes. It also gives students the rare opportunity to spend four days in the nation's capital visiting famous historical sites, including the Washington Monument, the Smithsonian Institution, the National Cathedral, the U.S. Capitol and Arlington National Cemetery. This trip will present the opportunity for students to meet other high school students from rural communities across the country and form friendships that will last a lifetime.

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative will select two high school students within the FTC service area who will represent the company and community well. The students must be in high school, age 16 or 17, at the time of the tour. FRS will not accept any student 18 years of age and over. No exceptions will be made. The students will be selected by participating in a speaking contest sponsored by Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, where the students will give a 3-5 minute speech on "Which Technology Is Most Important to Me and Why". The students' speeches will be judged on the clarity of message and projection of idea, depth, originality, organization, reference, grammar, posture, voice, and the attention of the audience. The top two speakers from the speaking contest will be the ones who will get to participate in the 2026 FRS Youth Tour. In order to participate in the speaking contest, the student must maintain an overall B average. And the student must be claimed as a dependent on the tax return of an FTC customer or its affiliate, and must also receive active telecommunications service from Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative or its affiliate. The speaking contest will be on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, beginning at 1:00 pm at the FTC business office in Rainsville.

The application, a typed copy of the speech, and a letter from the high school counselor must be sent to Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative no later than Friday, March 6, 2026.

Questions concerning the FRS Youth Tour, speaking contest, or all other inquiries may be addressed with Kim Williams at 256-638-2144 or kwilliams@staff.farmerstel.com .

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APPLICATION

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____STATE_____ZIP CODE_____

CELL NUMBER_____

DATE OF BIRTH_____

NAME OF
PARENT(s)/GUARDIAN_____

WHAT FTC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE DO YOU CURRENTLY SUBSCRIBE TO?

Landline Telephone (please list telephone number) _____

Broadband Internet _____

FTC Security _____

WHAT SCHOOL DO YOU ATTEND? _____

EMAIL ADDRESS_____

CONTACT NAME & TELEPHONE_____

CRITERIA SHEET

For your convenience, please use the criteria sheet, checking off each requirement as it is met. To be eligible to win an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C., to participate in the 2026. FRS Youth Tour, the following criteria must be met:

☐ Must be a high school student, age 16 or 17, at the time of the tour. FRS will not accept any student 18 years of age and over. (NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.)

☐ Must maintain an overall grade average of 80.00 or above

☐ Receive telecommunications service from Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative or its affiliate

☐ Prepare a 3-5 minute speech on "Which Technology Is Most Important to Me and Why" for the speaking contest on March 24, at 1:00 pm at the FTC business office in Rainsville

After meeting these criteria, the student must:

☐ 1) Complete the online application.

☐ 2) Prepare a typed copy of the speech. The speech should not include your name or school information. This information should be included on a cover page attached to the speech.

☐ 3) Secure a signed statement from the school guidance counselor on school stationery, which includes the student's name, age, date of birth, and grade average (carried out to the nearest hundredth).

☐ 4) Present a 3-5 minute speech on "Which Technology Is Most Important to Me and Why" at the speaking contest on Tuesday, March 24, at 1:00 pm at the FTC business office in Rainsville

☐ 5) Return the supporting documents to Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative no later than Friday, March 6, 2026.