

Valley TeleCom Group

Washington Youth Tour Competition



Valley TeleCom Group is inviting all high school juniors to enter the Washington Youth Tour Competition for an opportunity to visit Washington DC in May/June 2023. The competition will consist of an essay and interview.

Essay Topic: What moment in American History do you wish you had been a part of and what would you have contributed.

Essay Format: Write a 500-word essay. This must be typed and double spaced. Please do not include your name on your essay as copies will be sent to our judges. Submit your essay with the attached application for identification purposes.

Eligibility

1. The contest is open to all high school students, age 15, 16 or 17 at the time of the tour. (Tour dates May 31- June 4, 2023)
2. Student must be living with in the Valley Telephone Cooperative Service or Copper Valley serving territories. To add some guidance to the areas we serve these are the schools that are within our Cooperative service territory are: Animas Schools, Apache Elementary, Columbus Elementary, San Simon, Bowie, Bonita Elementary, Pearce Elementary, Ash Creek Elementary, Valley Union, Duncan, and Morenci. Homeschool students residing in the Valley Telephone Cooperative or Cooper Valley service area are also eligible to enter the competition. (Valley customers living in Safford, Wilcox or Tombstone are not eligible.)
3. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) must be a current active customer of Valley TeleCom Group for a period of at least a year.

4. Student must have a valid Driver's license or State issued ID suitable for identification purposes for plane travel.

Rules & Regulations

1. Entries must be received by February 28, 2023. Entries may be submitted by email: to heather.floyd@teamvtg.net, mail: Valley TeleCom Group Attn: Heather Floyd PO Box 970, Willcox, AZ 85644 or dropped off in person at our Willcox Headquarters at 752 E Maley, Willcox, AZ 85644.

2. Entries will be judged by the staff of Valley TeleCom group. Entries will be judged on the basis of originality, theme, communicative ability and format.

3. Students who submit essays will be interviewed at Valley TeleCom's Willcox and/or Animas office between March 6 & March 17, 2023.

4. Scores from the submitted essay and the interview will be combined to determine the final winners.

5. The winners must agree to allow Valley TeleCom Group to publish his/her name (on the Valley TeleCom website, social media platforms and in the Annual Meeting Notice booklet. Winner addresses and email addresses will be kept confidential and will NOT be published.

Winners

Two winners will be chosen as delegates to represent Valley TeleCom Group at the Foundation for Rural Service's Washington Youth Tour. The delegates will enjoy an all expensed paid 5-day trip to the Nation's Capital with visits to historic sites, national landmarks, and the opportunity to meet their peers in planned student activities. The tour will be from Wednesday May 31- Wednesday, June 4, 2023.

Valley TeleCom Group
Washington Youth Tour Application

Entrants full name: _____

Age: _____ **Grade in school:** _____

School's name: _____

Telephone number of entrant: _____

Entrant's Email address: _____

Parents/legal guardian's name: _____

Telephone number of Parent/legal guardian: _____

Parent/legal guardian's email address: _____

1. List your **school activities**. Include any elected positions, special honors, awards and accomplishments from your high school career (class officer, plays, athletics, music, etc.).

2. List **extracurricular activities** and the years of participation, such as the 4-H, FFA, church community and service clubs. Indicate honors, awards and accomplishments.

3. Attached a signed letter of recommendation (to be completed by principal, guidance counselor, teacher or community leader) to this application.

I will be 15, 16 or 17 at the time of the Washington Youth Tour (May 31- June 4, 2023) and my parent(s)/guardian(s) are currently active customers of Valley TeleCom Group.

I have read and understand that my application and essay are to be submitted to Valley TeleCom Group no later than February 28, 2023 or I will not be considered for the Youth Tour program.

I understand that if I am selected to represent Valley TeleCom Group and, for some unforeseen reason, I am not able to attend the 2023 Youth Tour, I must notify Valley TeleCom Group immediately so that an alternate may make the trip to Washington D.C.

I authorize Valley TeleCom Group to use the above information along with photos of me for publicity purposes. I understand that all entries become the property of Valley TeleCom Group and may be used or reproduced in any manner without additional consent or compensation.

Applicant's Signature

Signature of parent/legal guardian