



CONTINENTAL DIVIDE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

200 E. High St. • P.O. Box 1087 • Grants, New Mexico 87020 • (505) 285-6656 • Fax (505) 287-2234

2012 Government-in-Action Youth Tour Essay Contest

The annual Government-In-Action Youth Tour is a collaborative effort between electric cooperatives across the country, the New Mexico Rural Electric Co-op Association and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. This year, the tour is scheduled for the week of **June 16-21, 2012**. Two high school juniors (and an alternate) will be chosen to represent CDEC.

The competition is open to high school juniors whose parents or legal guardians are active accountholders with CDEC. Contestants are required to complete the application form (**on the back of this letter**) and submit a 500- to 750-word essay, addressing the following topic:

Describe which of the following seven cooperative principles you think is most important to electric co-ops and why (definitions of each principle can be found at www.nmelectric.coop/principles):

- Voluntary and Open Membership
- Democratic Member Control
- Member Economic Participation
- Autonomy and Independence
- Education, Training and Information
- Cooperation among Cooperatives
- Concern for Community

A panel of three judges will grade the essays based on the following criteria:

- Essay is clearly written and grammatically correct.
- Student demonstrates firm understanding of the cooperative principle.
- Student offers examples to support essay premise.
- Essay is free of misstatements of fact.
- Student uses at least three (3) sources for facts and cites them within the essay (i.e., “according to...”) or in bibliography format.

Names, addresses and other identifiers of applicants and the schools they attend and areas they live will be removed from judges’ copies. **Entry deadline has been extended to Feb. 10, 2012. Winners will be announced by Feb. 24.**



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Official Entry Form

Entry Deadline Extended to: February 10, 2012

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

High School: _____

Parent or Legal Guardian's Name: _____

CDEC Account No.: _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Use one of the below methods to return entry form and essay

Hand-deliver: Grants Office is at 200 E. High Street. Gallup office is at 46 S. State Highway 602. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

Mail: Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc.
ATTN: Mac Juarez
P.O. Box 1087
Grants, NM 87020

Fax (505) 287-2234 **Email:** mjuarez@cdec.coop