

## 2026 PEC Youth Tour Contest – Application Guidelines

High school students in the PEC service area could win a week-long trip to Washington, D.C.! Students selected will join other youth from across the country on a June 2026 trip to our nation's capital to meet their congressional representative, make lifelong friendships, further leadership skills, and visit amazing sites.

The Youth Tour delegation will tour several historical sites, such as the Arlington National Cemetery, Capitol Hill Tour, Mount Vernon, the Lincoln Memorial, Washington National Cathedral, the U.S. Supreme Court, the Smithsonian Institution, and much more.

### Eligibility Requirements

- Student must have completed their high school sophomore, junior, or senior year by June 2026.
- Student must have a parent or legal guardian who is a PEC member in good standing.
- Student must be available for the following:
  - In-Person Interviews: Thursday, January 15, 2026 for selected semi-finalists
  - Orientation: Sunday, February 1, 2026 for selected delegates and parent or guardian
  - Local Government Day: Thursday, June 11, 2026 for selected delegates
  - Youth Tour Trip: June 14-21, 2026

### Application requirements

Students must submit an online application, answer one short-answer question, attach a copy of their current resume, and attach a copy of a recommendation letter completed by a non-relative adult.

- Applications and required attachments will only be accepted via our PEC website, <https://mypec.com/youth-programs/youth-tour/>.
- Applications must be fully submitted through PEC's Submittable platform by **Monday, November 10, 2025 at 11:59pm**.
- Entries submitted after this deadline are ineligible.

### Short-answer Response Criteria

- Response must be 300 words or less.
- Question: Tell us about an issue or challenge you are passionate about in your school, community, or a local organization. Share how you would raise awareness of or improve this issue or challenge.

### Resume Criteria

- File format should be in Adobe pdf (.pdf) only. Resume should not include pictures, graphic images, or diagrams.
- Resume should not exceed two (2) pages in length.
- Resume will be scored based on information such as work experience, extracurricular involvement and activities, examples of leadership positions held, and honors and awards.
- Visit <https://mypec.com/youth-programs/led/> for helpful resume writing tips.

### Recommendation Letter Criteria

Recommendation must come from an adult 18 years of age or older and have no relation to the applicant.

- A work manager, a church leader, a school organization sponsor, or a coach are examples of adults who can write a recommendation letter on your behalf.

**Finalist Selection**

- Semi-finalists will be invited to an in-person interview on Thursday, January 15, 2026. Failure to attend will forfeit the applicant's ability to move forward in the selection process.
- Selected contestants will be declared PEC delegates and receive an all-expense-paid Youth Tour trip to Washington, D.C. Delegates will be notified by a PEC representative and are expected to attend an orientation meeting on Sunday, February 1, 2026, with a parent or guardian.