

**2025 FRS YOUTH TOUR**

**June 2 – 6, 2025**

DTC Communications (DTC) will be sending two high school students from within the DTC service area to the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Youth Tour in Washington D.C. June 2 – 6, 2025. The FRS Youth Tour will be a five-day, all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. sponsored by DTC Communications.

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 five days in the nation’s capital visiting famous historical sites, including the Arlington National Cemetery, Mt. Vernon, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, World War II Memorial, Washington Monument, the Smithsonian Institution, and the U.S. Capitol. 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.

DTC Communications will select two high school students within the DTC service area that 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 short essay contest.

Students must prepare a short essay, 500 – 1000 words, on the following topic:

***Connecting Communities: How Broadband Technology Transforms Rural Lives and Drives Economic Growth***

***DTC Communications has long championed the power of broadband to reshape rural communities, from enhancing education and healthcare to spurring economic development and fostering digital inclusion. Reflect on the role of broadband technology in your community and explore how it can address current challenges, unlock opportunities, and contribute to a brighter future for rural Tennessee. Share a personal story or vision that illustrates how you, empowered by broadband connectivity, can make a meaningful impact on your community.***

***This topic encourages applicants to think critically about the real-world implications of broadband, align their aspirations with DTC’s mission, and showcase their personal connection to the cooperative’s vision for community growth.***

The students’ essays will be judged on the clarity of message, and projection of idea, depth, originality, organization, reference, and grammar. The successful applicant(s) will be selected based on essay and all supporting documentation.

In order to participate in the essay contest, the student must maintain an overall B average. The student must be claimed as a dependent on the tax return of a DTC customer or its affiliate and also, must receive active telecommunications service from DTC Communications or its affiliate.

The application, a typed short essay – no less than 500 words and no more than 1,000 words, transcript of grades during high school to date, and resume that includes academic achievements and honors, leadership experience, extra-curricular and community activities, and work experience must be submitted to Anita Patrick by close of business on Friday, February 14, 2025. Questions concerning the FRS Youth Tour, essay contest or all other inquiries may be addressed to Anita Patrick at 615-464-2271 or apatrick@staff-dtc.com.



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**APPLICATION**

NAME\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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NAME OF

PARENT(s)/GUARDIAN\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

WHAT DTC COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE DO YOU CURRENTLY SUBSCRIBE?

 Landline Telephone (please list telephone number) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Broadband Internet

 DTC TV

WHAT SCHOOL DO YOU ATTEND? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_



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**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 2025 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 DTC Communications or its affiliate.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Not a previous winner of the FRS Youth Tour

**After meeting these criteria, the student must:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1) Complete the 2025 FRS Youth Tour application.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2) Prepare a typed, short essay, 500-1000 words, on:

***Connecting Communities: How Broadband Technology Transforms Rural Lives and Drives Economic Growth***

***DTC Communications has long championed the power of broadband to reshape rural communities, from enhancing education and healthcare to spurring economic development and fostering digital inclusion. Reflect on the role of broadband technology in your community and explore how it can address current challenges, unlock opportunities, and contribute to a brighter future for rural Tennessee. Share a personal story or vision that illustrates how you, empowered by broadband connectivity, can make a meaningful impact on your community.***

***This topic encourages applicants to think critically about the real-world implications of broadband, align their aspirations with DTC’s mission, and showcase their personal connection to the cooperative’s vision for community growth.***

The essay should **not** include your name or school information. This information should be included on a cover page attached to the essay.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ 3) Secure a transcript from the school guidance counselor for your high school years to

date.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ 4) Prepare a resume that includes your academic achievements and honors, leadership experience, extra-curricular and community activities, and work experience.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ 5) Return all supporting documents to DTC Communications no later than close of

business on Friday, February 14, 2025.

**PLEASE EMAIL OR MAIL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO:**

**EMAIL TO:** apatrick@staff-dtc.com

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\***

The subject line for your email with supporting documents MUST be:

**2025 DTC FRS Youth Tour-Your Name**

**MAIL TO:** DTC Communications, Attn: Anita Patrick, P.O. Box 247, Alexandria, TN 37012