Five Area Connect – FRS Youth Tour Application

Washington, D.C. | June 7- 11, 2027

What is FRS?

The FRS Youth Tour is an all-expenses-paid educational trip to Washington, D.C., designed to give high school students from rural communities a firsthand look at how our nation's government works. During the tour, students will:

- Visit famous historical landmarks such as the U.S. Capitol, the Lincoln Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, and the Smithsonian Museums.
- Meet with members of the Congressional staff and learn how legislative and policy decisions impact their local communities.
- Explore career opportunities in communications, public service, and technology.
- Build friendships and connections with students from rural areas nationwide.

This trip offers a unique blend of education, leadership, and fun. Students come away with a deeper understanding of civic responsibility and the importance of staying connected to their communities.

Five Area Connect and the Foundation for Rural Service cover the following costs for the selected student:

- Round-trip flights and transportation to and from Washington, D.C.
- Hotel accommodations during the tour
- All meals throughout the trip
- Guided tours and event admissions
- Educational sessions and materials
- Supervision and chaperones provided by FRS

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must have completed their sophomore year of high school and be classified as a current junior or senior at the time of application.
- Applicants must have a parent or guardian who is a current Five Area Connect or West Plains Communications customer.
- Applicants must be U.S. citizens, aged 15–17 at the time of the tour, and possess a valid ID.
- Applicants must be available to travel to Washington, D.C. during the scheduled tour dates in June 2027.
- A completed application and short-answer responses must be submitted by February 15th, 2027

Student Information

Full Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Age: _____ Gender: _____ Valid TX ID? _____ SSN: _____ Landline #:_____

Mailing Address: _____

Physical Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

High School attending? _____ Current Grade (Junior/Senior): _____

How did you hear about this trip? _____

Student Phone Number: _____

Student Email Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Parent/Guardian Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Student Signature

I certify that the information provided in this application is true and complete.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Consent

I grant permission for my child to apply and, if selected, participate in the FRS Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO:

Five Area Connect/ Baylee Helton

302 Uvalde Street
Muleshoe, TX 79347

bayleeh@fivearea.net

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 17TH 2026

Name: _____

Short Answer Questions

(Please answer the following questions. Be sure to include your name on the page and attach it to this application.)

Why would you like to attend the FRS Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

What do you hope to learn or gain from this experience?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

How has living in a rural community shaped who you are or how you see the world?

_____
_____
_____
_____
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_____
_____
_____
_____

Would you be willing to share your experience of the FRS Youth Tour at our annual meeting?

☐ Yes ☐ No