

EXPECTATIONS & GUIDELINES

Return by March 16, 2012

47th Texas Government-in-Action Youth Tour - June 14-22, 2012

Print copy of the [Expectations & Guidelines Form](#) and sign page two.

Submit page to: edomingz@texas-ec.org or Fax to: (512) 763-3378

Or Mail to: Esther Miranda Dominguez, 2409 Robin Road, Manchaca, TX 78652

You were selected by your sponsoring Electric Cooperative to join the **47th Texas Government-in-Action Youth Tour** because you have measured up to the highest standards of leadership and behavior. You will be representing your local cooperative, all the cooperatives in Texas, your local community and the State of Texas from the kick-off banquet to the return flight home. You have a responsibility to yourself and others to meet the following expectations.

Expectations/Guidelines:

Have a positive attitude and remain flexible. The nature of travel, combined with the size of our group, will mean constant adjustments. How you react to these adjustments will have a lot to do with what this experience will mean to you in the end. Remember, no matter what happens you choose the quality of your days. Stay flexible and enjoy every minute of this experience.

Be punctual. The schedule is super-tight. We want to experience as much as we can so **wear a watch** and be on time!

Participate in all planned activities. No one may leave the group at any time unless authorized by the Tour Director. There should always be at least three people in a group at **all** times.

Adhere to the dress code which includes wearing your name badge at all times during the Youth Tour.

CURFEW - be in your hotel room by curfew each night. Curfew is 10:30 p.m., and you must be in your room at 10:30 p.m. No exception unless approved by the Youth Tour Director.

Room Checks: Each night after curfew, chaperones will be doing room checks and they must see everyone assigned to each room. Chaperones will go over the schedule for the following day, do a general check on how the day was and check to see if you have any concerns or questions.

Rooms: We have blue rooms and pink rooms and never shall they be purple. In other words, under no circumstance shall guys enter girls' rooms or girls enter guys' rooms. If this happens there will be no questions asked, participants will be sent home at the expense of their parents.

Dress Codes: Each participant will follow the dress code as outlined in the Dress Code Memo.

Photo ID: All participants must have a Photo ID (a Driver's License or a school Photo ID).

Hotel: Remain at the hotel at all times except when you are participating in planned activities. You may not leave the hotel to visit relatives or friends.

Hotel Property: While we all will be bringing home souvenirs, just be sure they are not hotel property. Also, treat hotel property with care: any damage of hotel property will result in payment of damages by participant and an immediate trip home at the expense of your parents.

Participants may not possess or use alcoholic beverages, drugs, tobacco, weapons such as firearms, fireworks, knives or any other type of weapon. If you carry a pocket knife you will want to leave it at home for this trip. Security is tight in Washington and you will be going through security checkpoints frequently.

Respect the rights of others: You will share a room with two or more Youth Tour delegates, and will be expected to be tolerant of any differences. After curfew, you will be expected to stay in your room, be ready for bed and reasonably quiet so others may sleep.

Participants will, when sightseeing in groups without direct supervision of a chaperone, return to the designated gathering point on or before the time indicated by the tour director.

Participants should immediately report to the tour director or chaperone any activities/statements made by other participants that may endanger the healthy/safety of our group.

Participants who violate local, state or federal laws will be turned over to the appropriate legal authorities for prosecution.

Participants will abide by any and all verbal instructions issued by the tour director, staff and/or chaperones.

Lost Items: It will be the responsibility of each participant to keep up with their personal belongings. Items left should be considered gone.

Cell phones: Cell phones are permitted and are a good way to stay in touch during the tour. It is important, however, that each participant is attentive during touring hours; therefore, cell phone use should be limited. Cell phones may be used while in your hotel rooms or when we have free time. During room check, all cell phones should be turned off and/or conversations ended while your chaperone is in the room. Be respectful of your roommates and limit your conversation in the evening. It is not appropriate to sit in the hall and talk on your cell phone for long periods of time. Cell phone use will be monitored and phones will be confiscated if guidelines are not followed.

If a cell phone is lost and/or left at a location, consider it gone...we cannot disrupt the entire tour to try and retrieve your phone.

CD Players, MP3 Players, IPODs: The object of this trip is for you to interact with the other Youth Tour delegates. NOT to isolate yourself with your music. You can bring and listen to these devices ONLY at the hotel in your "off" hours – not on the bus, not on the plane, not during any tours – and confiscation is the risk you run if you break this rule. Leaving them at the hotel is a different kind of risk --- but it's your decision. They might be better left at home.

Participants who do not abide by these rules may, at the discretion of the tour director, be sent home in the most expeditious manner at the expense of their parent(s) and/or guardian(s).

We have read and understand the expectations (including dress code) of (youth name) _____ as a participant in the Government-in-Action Youth Tour and agree to abide them.

Youth Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Date: _____