



EMPOWER 2021

JUNE 13-16, 2021

Irwin EMC tentatively plans to offer an all-expense paid, local, summer youth leadership experience for high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors. By participating in Empower 2021, students will have the opportunity to enhance their leadership skills, engage in team-building exercises, enrich their understanding of cooperatives, and network with students in the region. Students can expect to hear from insightful speakers on topics regarding the cooperative business model and its applicability to young leaders today, explore the many career opportunities in energy, practice leadership in action and, if possible, tour Roosevelt's Little White House in Warm Springs, GA. From the experience, students will become stronger leaders, empowered to build stronger communities.

If health and safety regulations permit, the program will be held June 13-16, 2021, at the Dooly Campground in Vienna, GA. The program is open to all high school students who live in or attend a school in Ben Hill, Irwin, or Turner County. Students who do not attend school in Ben Hill, Irwin or Turner counties are eligible to apply if their parents are members of Irwin EMC and they live within the cooperative's service area (Irwin, Ben Hill, Turner, Berrien, Coffee, Worth, Wilcox and Tift counties). For example, a student who lives at a home that receives power from an electric company other than Irwin EMC AND attends Turner County High School is eligible to apply. A student who attends Tiftarea Academy, for example, is eligible to apply only if his or her home receives power from Irwin EMC.

ELIGIBILITY:

1. Be a sophomore, junior, or senior in good standing with your school
2. The applicant must be 16 years of age by June 13, 2021
3. Must have parent's consent

HOW TO APPLY:

Complete the attached application form and submit the essay by April 12, 2021. (*See Essay Topic and Information Section*). Be sure to provide all the information requested.

THE SELECTION OF STUDENTS

The deadline to apply for Empower 2021 is **Monday, April 12, 2021**. The application and essay will be judged by Coordinators from other EMCs across Georgia. Once judging is completed, students who are chosen as finalists may be invited for an interview conducted by a panel of judges if an interview process is held. The final selection of our delegates is determined by the combined scores of the application, essay, and (tentative) interview process.

Application

Remember: Deadline is April 12, 2021

Name _____

Age _____ Date of Birth _____ E-Mail _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Current School: _____ Current Grade: _____

Mother's Name or Legal Guardian: _____

Mother's Address: _____

Mother's Phone: (home) _____ (work) _____

Father's Name or Legal Guardian: _____

Father's Address: _____

Father's Phone: (home) _____ (work) _____

Shirt Size (*T-shirt/Polo Style*): _____

If selected, applicants must set aside **June 13 –16, 2021**.

PARENT (LEGAL GUARDIAN) & STUDENT AFFIRMATION

We affirm that (1) all information provided on this application is correct, (2) the parent has given permission for the student to enter this contest and to participate in the program should he/she win, and (3) the student agrees to participate in the program on the scheduled dates should he/she win.

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

This section should be typed or neatly handwritten. If necessary, use additional sheets of paper and attach to the application.

ACADEMICS

Current cumulative grade point average: weighted GPA _____ non-weighted GPA _____
Please list any academic awards or honors that you have received in the past two years of school and tell which grade you were in.

ACTIVITIES

List your memberships in any school clubs, organizations, or athletic activities during the past two years. Tell which grade you were in and any leadership positions you held:

List your community service activities or involvement in community groups from the past two years (church groups, volunteer work, etc.) Indicate which years and any leadership roles that you had.

List any work experience you have had. Be sure to include the name of the business, your job and the time period you held this job. (Example: Cashier @ Belks of Cordele/June-Oct.2019)



**IRWIN EMC
EMPOWER 2021
Co-op Youth Leadership Program**

ESSAY TOPIC and INFORMATION

In order to enter the contest you are required to write an essay on the following topic:

TELL US WHY!

What does leadership mean to you? Please explain how you have been a leader in your school and/or community, what you have learned from these leadership experiences, and why we should choose you for this program.

Here is what you need to do:

1. Type an essay 300 to 600 words in length, double-spaced on 8.5 x 11 bonded paper.
2. Your application is due by **Monday, April 12, 2021 at 5 p.m.** You may deliver to the Ocilla or Fitzgerald offices, email to david.martin@irwinemc.com, or mail by postal mail. (The application needs to be RECEIVED by April 12, NOT postmarked. Allow plenty of time for mail delivery.)

Please remember to include the completed application with your essay. The finalists will be contacted once judging of the applications and essays has been completed. Good luck!

If you have any questions, please contact:

David Martin
229-468-2313
david.martin@irwinemc.com