

2020 YMCA YOUTH CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Minnesota Delegation

We hope you will consider applying to be a Minnesota Delegate to the YMCA Youth Conference on National Affairs. This is a signature experience – it can help you prepare for future program participation at a higher level or be a “capstone” experience. In either case, this trip is not to be equaled!



This conference is an assembly of more than 600 YIG participants from around the country who develop and debate solutions to problems of national and international importance.

The YMCA Youth Conference on National Affairs was started in 1968 as a follow-up to the outstanding state Youth in Government programs conducted throughout the United States. Young people from more than 30 states and the District of Columbia now participate in the conference.

Conference Objectives:

- To gain an awareness of National concerns and issues
- To increase understanding of Federal Government and its relation to State, National and International matters
- To explore concerns about national and international affairs
- To develop increased understanding of needs, responsibilities and opportunities
- To work creatively together with young adults and adults

25 delegates will be selected to represent Minnesota programs at this premiere leadership conference by an impartial committee of program alumni. If selected, you will be expected to attend 2 delegation meetings and a weekend retreat leading up to the group's departure.

On Friday, June 26, 2020, the Minnesota Delegation, with adult chaperones, will travel by motor coach to Black Mountain, North Carolina. After the conference adjourns, the group will spend an extra day in the Black Mountain area, then proceed to Atlanta, GA for a variety of fun and educational experiences, while exploring the country and expanding their cultural horizons. The Delegation will return to Minnesota on Tuesday, July 7, 2020. The total cost for the 12-day trip is \$1,625 and covers transportation, conference fees, conference room & board, hotels, one group meal and all group side trip tours.

To learn more about the Youth Conference on National Affairs and what happens there, go to the conference website www.ymcacona.org

Eligibility and application instructions are included on the following page. Applications will be accepted in two phases:

The first deadline is January 30, 2020

15 of 25 National Affairs slots will be awarded

The second deadline is April 13, 2020

The remaining 10 National Affairs slots will be awarded

Applicants from the first deadline not designated as “delegates” will automatically have their materials considered in the second deadline, unless they notify the State Office that they want to withdraw or that they wish to revise and resubmit.

Good luck as you pursue this honor!

Orville Lindquist
State Program Executive

Sam Alley
State Program Director

Joe Fifield
State Program Director

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To apply for the Youth Conference on National Affairs, carefully follow the application procedure on this page. Incomplete applications cannot be properly evaluated and may be disqualified.

PLEASE BE SURE TO READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS AND FOLLOW THEM COMPLETELY!

- Delegates in grades 10, 11 or 12 are eligible
- Sign the application and have a parent or guardian sign as well
- Include a \$350.00 deposit (via check or credit card number). Payment will be processed at application but will be refunded or credited to your account later on if not selected as a delegate or alternate
- Put the page number (1/7, 2/7, etc.) on the upper right corner of each page
- Attach all sheets with a paperclip. Please do not use staples in your application packet
- DO NOT put your name on any of the pages (except for the Vital Data Form)
- Return the completed packet to the YIG State Office by the deadline
Mail or Deliver 1801 University Avenue SE – Minneapolis, MN 55414
Scan yig@ymcamn.org
Fax (612) 676-7701
- Digital versions of the registration materials will be accepted but must be in Word or PDF – no Google Docs and no pictures from a camera

CANDIDATE RESUME

Please address the following items, with a maximum of four (4) typed 8.5" x 11" pages

1. Outline (in list or bullet points) your participation in YIG Activities. Include relevant experience or program area participation that qualifies you for debate-oriented or judicial-oriented experiences.
2. Outline (in list or bullet points) your school activities and community involvement. Describe your favorite activity (other than YIG, of course) and what makes that experience special.
3. How do you hope to grow during your summer experience and how will you plan to use that growth to impact Minnesota YIG (if you will be a returning delegate) or to impact your college/university/workplace (if you are a graduating Senior)?
4. Special notes and circumstances you wish to share.

CANDIDATE ESSAY

Please address the following items, with a maximum of two (2) typed 8.5" x 11" pages

In essay form describe a national or international issue you feel is of particular importance today and offer your best idea for a solution this issue:

- * State the overview of the issue in no more than two sentences
- * Provide brief background/history of the issue
- * Why is this issue significant AT THIS MOMENT
- * What SPECIFIC solution do you offer in regard to this issue
- * What new approach or outcome does your idea bring forward

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CANDIDATE APPLICATION - VITAL DATA FORM

First Name _____ Middle _____ Last _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Birth Date _____ Age as of Application Date _____ Sex M F
Delegation _____ E-mail _____
Home Phone _____ Student Cell Phone _____
T-Shirt Size _____

- African American/Black American Indian Asian/Pacific Islander
 Hispanic/Latino Other/Multi-Ethnic White

High School _____ Grade (as of May 1) _____
Parent/Guardian Name _____ Cell Phone _____
Parent/Guardian Name _____ Cell Phone _____
Parent Emergency Contact Email _____

Once a student is accepted as a delegate, it is understood that the student is making a firm commitment to the trip, unless otherwise discussed with the State Office. Trip rosters are final by May 15 – no cancellations will be permitted after this date. Alternates may be asked to step in any time there is an opening on the trip roster. The State Office will work to communicate schedules, openings and processes with Alternates as events occur.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

OPTION 1 – EFT AUTHORIZATION (choose one):

- Full Fee – Charge entire State Fee for the trip. Full payment will be charged upon registration into the Y system.
 Installment Plan – Charge deposit now, remaining balance split in 3 payments – charged on the first Tuesday of May, June and July.

PER PCI COMPLIANCE, CREDIT CARDS ARE NOT STORED IN THE SYSTEM. NUMBERS ARE NOT ON FILE.

Name on Card _____ Card # _____ Exp. Date _____
I agree to pay total amount according to card issuer agreement X _____

OPTION 2 – DIRECT PAYMENT (choose one):

- Cash (not recommended due to security issues) Amount \$ _____
 Check Check # _____ Amount \$ _____

If paying installments, deposit now, remaining balance split in 3 payments – due May 1, June 1 and July 1.
Other payment plans are available, if needed. Please call the YIG State Office for more information.

PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

STUDENT AGREEMENT

As a participant in Minnesota YMCA Youth in Government, I realize that such a privilege involves certain responsibilities. I have read and agree to abide by the Code of Conduct, understanding that all rules and regulations exist for the good of the program. I further understand that if my conduct does not meet these standards, I relinquish the right to all program opportunities and I may be returned home immediately, at my own or parents' expense without refund of fees or other amounts paid. I acknowledge that my participation in Minnesota YMCA Youth in Government programs indicates personal acceptance of the Code of Conduct and all program rules. I have read this registration agreement; have read the Code of Conduct and agree to the terms in each document.

PARENT AGREEMENT

I hereby authorize my child to participate in all activities of Minnesota YMCA Youth in Government and all side trips. I understand that my child will participate in various meetings and program events; will travel to the meeting facilities and other sites as designated; and reside in a designated hotel/conference center under the supervision of the Youth in Government State Office.

I understand that some of my child's biographical data may be included in a participant directory for distribution to other delegates, adult advisors, program sponsors and others. I understand that all photos, images and recordings (audio, visual and others) are property of the YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities; that they can be used hereafter without further permission, which may include use for promotional purposes, marketing materials and YMCA websites. I have read this registration agreement; have read the Code of Conduct and agree to the terms in each document.

In consideration of participating in Youth in Government activities and for other goods and valuable consideration, I hereby agree to release and discharge from liability arising from negligence, the local Delegation, the YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities and their owners, directors, officers, employees, agents, volunteers, participants and all other persons or entities acting for them (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Releasees", on behalf of myself and my children, parents, heirs, assigns, personal representative and estate and also agree as follows:

- (1) I acknowledge that participating in these activities involves known and unanticipated risks which could result in physical or emotional injury, paralysis or permanent disability, death and property damage. Risks include but are not limited to broken bones, torn ligaments or other injuries as a result of falls or contact with other participants; medical conditions resulting from physical activity; and damaged clothing or other property. I understand such risks simply cannot be eliminated, despite the use of safety equipment, without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activity.
- (2) I expressly accept and assume all of the risks inherent in these activities or that might have been caused by the negligence of the Releasees. My child's participation in these activities is purely voluntary and we elect to participate despite the risks. In addition, if at any time I believe that even conditions are unsafe or that my child is unable to participate due to physical or mental conditions, then I will immediately discontinue participation.
- (3) I hereby voluntarily release, forever discharge and agree to indemnify and hold harmless Releasees from any and all claims, demands or causes of action which are in any way connected with my child's participation in these activities or our use of their equipment or facilities, arising from negligence. This release does not apply to claims arising from intentional conduct or conduct that constitutes greater than ordinary negligence. Should Releasees or anyone acting on their behalf be required to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce this agreement, I agree to indemnify and hold them harmless for all such fees and costs.
- (4) I represent that I have adequate insurance to cover any injury or damage I or my child may suffer or cause while participating in this activity or else I agree to bear the costs of such injury or damage myself. I further represent that my child has no medical or physical conditions which could interfere with his/her safety in these activities or else I am willing to assume – and bear the costs of – all risks that may be created, directly or indirectly, by any such condition.
- (5) In the event that I file a lawsuit, I agree to do so in the state where the Releasee's facility is located and I further agree that the substantive law of that state shall apply.
- (6) I agree that if any portion of this agreement is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.

In the event that my child needs immediate medical attention, I authorize YMCA staff to give my child reasonable first aid and to arrange for transport to a health care facility for emergency services as needed. I agree to the release of any records necessary for treatment, referral, billing or insurance purposes. The YMCA receives medical information on participations that may need to be shared with medical providers.

I give permission for my child to be transported by the YMCA as needed for field trips, inclement weather or late pick up. I also give my permission to participate in walking field trips. I hereby acknowledge that the YMCA will assume that either parent of the child may pick up the child at any time during the program unless there is pertinent court documentation on file at the YMCA that indicates otherwise.

If my child requires use and administration of an epi-pen, prescription or over-the-counter medication, it is my responsibility to ensure that the epi-pen or medication are on my child or within his/her personal belongings every day of the program. If YMCA staff is required to administer and use the epi-pen and/or medication, I agree to forever release and discharge the YMCA and its directors, officers and employees from any and all liability arising out of or resulting from use or administration of the epi-pen and/or medication.

By agreeing to this document, I agree that if my child is hurt or has property that is damaged during participation in these activities, then I or my child may be found by a court of law to have waived or right to maintain a lawsuit against the parties being released on the basis of any claim for negligence. In consideration of my child being permitted to participate in these activities, I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless Releasees from any claims alleging negligence which are brought by or on behalf of my child or are in any way connected with such participation by my child.

I have had sufficient time to read this entire document and, should I choose to do so, consult with legal counsel prior to agreeing. Also, I understand that these activities might not be made available or that the cost to engage in these activities would be significantly greater if the YMCA did not utilize waivers as a method to lower insurance and administration costs. I acknowledge that certain sections of this waiver may not apply to me or my child but agree to be bound by any applicable language. I have read and understood this document and the Code of Conduct and agree to be bound by their terms.

I understand that the deposit is not refundable if my student is selected – that the commitment to participate is final on May 15 – and that no fees or other amounts paid will be refunded if my child is sent home for disciplinary reasons.

We attest that all the facts contained in this application packet are true and that the student has permission to participate and travel to the conference and side trips.

Signature of Candidate

Date

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date