2025 68th Annual

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West Virginia Youth in Government

April

Youth Governor Thomas Sibold

James Monroe YLA

Youth Chief Justice Shelby Plants

23-2

Point Pleasant YLA



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2024 West Virginia's Next Generation of Civic Leaders Report



Leadership – Character – Service – Entrepreneurship – Philanthropy

Students say:

"I loved it and hope more people find YG because it really helps to give people confidence and a voice."

"It is an amazing experience. Younger people should come because it teaches you how government works & how bills are passed."

"Helped me learn a lot about the government and judicial process as I wasn't really interested in it and now, I definitely am!"

"I love this program! Thank you to everyone who makes it possible."







Youth in Government is an invaluable learning experience for our youth and for adults to learn what today's teenagers believe will improve our state. All YLA programs help youth direct their lives to achievement and active citizenship.

Today's generation is our future. We count on you to learn all you can and do all the good you can to build better futures for all our citizens.







Youth Leadership Association

Email: <u>yla@ylaleads.org</u> Website: https//ylaleads.org Phone: (304)-675-5899



YLA Youth in Government Builds Our Future Leaders









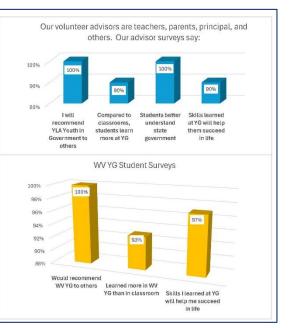






2024 YLA WV Youth in Government Officers

Governor – **Ella Waters**, Hedgesville Senate President – **Thomas Sibold**, James Monroe House Speaker – **Liam Savage**, Preston County Chief Justice – **Cole Thomas**, James Monroe House Clerk – **Caitlin Hall**, Hedgesville Senate Clerk – **Gavin French**, James Monroe House Chaplain – **Hannah Willis**, James Monroe Senate Chaplain – **Sarah McBee**, John Marshall



- Research
- Public Speaking
- Oral Communication/Debate
- ♦ Legislative Process
- ♦ Critical Thinking
- Writing
- Professional Dress and Behavior
- Social Interaction
- Problem Solving & Collaboration
- ♦ Judicial Process
- Cooperation and Compromise
- ♦ Life Skills



	2024 WEST VIRGINIA YLA YOUTH in GOVERNME	NT SEN	ATE BIL	LS		
BILL #	TITLE	СОМ		ISPOSITIC	DN	
			СОМ	SENATE FLOOR	GOV	Override
1	To Provide Increased Financial Assistance for Veterans' Housing Through the Creation of a State Coffee Beverage Tax	S 01	PC	PS	GV	Yes
2	Pornography Crimes and Punishments Act	S 02	PAC	PAS	GS	
3	To Grant Extended Family Leave	S 02	C Def			
4	Implementing Tax Incentives on Professional Theatric Touring	S 01	PC	PA	GS	
·	Companies with Sufficient Revenue					
5	Modernization of Virtual Learning Options in West Virginia	S 01	PAC	PAS	GS	
6	To Provide Foster Children in WV Free Post Secondary Education	S 02	PC	PS	GV	Yes
7	Increasing the Salary of all Public Educators in West Virginia	S 02	PC	PS	GS	
8	Requiring Humane Treatment of Animals in Food Industry	S 01	C Def			
9	Not attending					
10	To Amend West Virginia Code 20-2-5 Legalizing Whistling Underwater	S 02	PAC	PAS	GS	
11	Not Attending					
12	Allowing West Virginia High School Educators to Carry Firearms on School Grounds	S 01	C Def			
13	To Require Mental Health Specialists in All Public Schools in West Virginia	S 01	PC	PAS	GV	No
14	To Offer Self-Defense Classes for All Highschool Students	S 02	C Def			
15	Sexual Education Courses in Schools	S 02	PC	PS	GV	
16	Early Graduation Option	S 01	PC	PS	GS	
17	Peace Land and Bread Act	S 01	PAC	PAS	GV	
18	Future for Veterans	S 02	C Def			
	2024 WEST VIRGINIA YLA YOUTH in GOVERNMI	ENT HOU	JSE BIL	LS		
1	To Expand Free and Reduced Cost Ambient Broadband for Public Access	H 01	PC	PH	GS	
2	Require Schools to Carry Naloxone	H 02	PAC	PH	GS	
3	To Legalize Human Composting	H 03	PAC	PH	GS	
4	Law Enforcement Accountability and Universal Disciplinary Protocol Act	H 03	PC	PH	GS	
5	Prohibiting Flavored Vape Products	H 02	PC	DH		
6	Mandated School Resource Officer	H 01	PC	PH	GV	Sustained
7	Mandating a Rotation of All WVSSAC State Championship	H 01	PC	PH	GS	
8	To Add a Needle Exchange Program in Every County	H 02	PC	PH	GS	
9	To Help Prevent the Use of Vapes and Other Nicotine Products in West Virginia High Schools	H 03	PAC	PH	GV	Override
10	Prohibiting People Over the Age 70 to Run for or Hold West Virginia State or Federal Government Positions	H 03	PC	PH	GS	
11	Removing the Imposed Tax on Feminine Hygiene Products	H 02	PC	PH	GS	
12	Youth Voices in Education System Act	H 01	PAC	PH	GS	
13	The Traveling Wildlife Protection Act	H 01	PAC	PH	GV	
14	Homeless Housing Act	H 02	PC	PH	GS	
15	Law Enforcement Body Camera Act	H 03	PAC	PH	GS	-
16	Accurate Homeless Reports in West Virginia	H 03	PAC	PH	GV	
17	To Mandate Athletic Trainers in All Secondary Schools	H 02	PAC	PH	GS	
18	To Forgive and Cease Interest on College Student Loans	H 01	PC	DH		
19	Making the Death Penalty Available for Cases Involving Murder	H 01	PC	DH		
20	To Mandate Retired Police Officer/Armed Security Guard to Every School in the State of West Virginia	H 02	PC	DH		
21	4 Day Work Week	H 03	C Def	D 4 11	A 1/	<u> </u>
22	State Animal Act of 2024	H 03	PC	PAH	GV	

YLA's Distinctive Difference

On-going process – Leadership preparation is a process, not an event;

Learn by doing – Leadership requires action best learned by doing;

Time away – Leadership preparation thrives with time away from everyday distractions—YLA offers Youth in Government, Model UN, Entrepreneurship and Leadership Summits at Horseshoe, plus teen leadership retreats and conferences;

Making a real difference – The value of leadership training must be measured by differences youth make in their homes, schools, communities, and world.





YLA Connects Youth to their Communities





YLA Opens windows on the world ~ YLA Connects Youth with Peers beyond their Communities and State

YLA Model United Nations

YLA Model United Nations is a great opportunity to learn about the world and experience what a UN Assembly is like.



This is a great experience for anyone who is interested in world events. Not only do you see conflict from another point of view, but you also get to meet great people in the friends you make. MUN participants write and debate resolutions as they represent member nations in Council and General Assembly.



Current global issues are always front and center at Model United Nations. Many students wear traditional clothing of the nation they represent and share cultural and historical perspectives they have unearthed through research.

YLA Fall Leadership Conference

One of the best weekends of the year! The informal and inclusive atmosphere of YLA's Fall Conference allows students to develop essential leadership skills, meet new people, and further personal involvement in their community. A great conference to train your student body government for a successful school year.



Students say:

"Fall Conference is more than just a normal conference. The atmosphere is vibrant and beautiful."

"The people I meet through YLA are more than my friends – they are family. YLA events are the best things I started doing." "It is a family reunion you don't want to miss."

Correlation of West Virginia College-and Career-Readiness Standards with YLA Youth in Government Social Studies

Standard Name	Description	YLA Program to Address Standard
	United States Studies	
<i>Civics:</i> SS.US.1	Evaluate, then defend, the importance of the fundamental democratic values and principles of U.S. constitutional democracy. Consider conflicts between individuals, communities and nations, liberty and equality, individual rights and the common good, majority rule and minority rights, and the rule of law vs. ethics (e.g., civil disobedience).	 Experience the principles of constitutional democracy firsthand by writing, defending, and voting for bills that address relevant issues.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.US.2	Define the duties of citizens that are necessary to preserve US democracy (e.g., become informed and active in a democracy-through jury duty, paying taxes, public forums (local, state, and/or federal), voting and conscription.).	 Participate as a member of the legislative, judicial, or executive branches, or as a page, member of the press, or lobbyist at the Capitol Complex in Charleston.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.US.3	Identify the issues regarding the evolution of United States citizenship and evaluate responsibilities and rights of United States citizens (e.g., landownership, race, gender, and age).	• Demonstrate an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of civic involvement by running for an office in local and state Youth in Government chapters.
<i>History:</i> SS.US.19	 Demonstrate an understanding of the establishment of the United States as a new nation. Explain the impact of the Declaration of Independence and the American Revolution on the American colonies and the world. Explain the strengths and weaknesses of government under the Articles of Confederation. Summarize events leading to the creation of the U.S. Constitution (e.g., country's economic crisis, Shay's Rebellion and purpose outlined in the Preamble). Explain fundamental principles and purposes of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights (e.g., through the Magna Carta, the English Bill of Rights, colonial charters and the political philosophies of the Enlightenment). Trace the emergence of the American two party political system (Federalists-Anti-Federalists, election of 1800, etc.). Compare and contrast the position of the political parties and leaders on a variety of issues (e.g., economic development, territorial expansion, political participation, individual rights, 	 Learn the importance of the founding documents of the United States and established principles of governance while participating in legislative and judicial sessions at the WV State Capitol.

	 states' rights, slavery and social reforms). Analyze the impact of United States Supreme Court decisions (e.g. <i>Marbury</i> v. <i>Madison</i>, <i>McCullough</i> v. <i>Maryland</i>, <i>Dred Scott</i> v. <i>Stanford</i> and <i>Plessy</i> v. <i>Ferguson</i>). 	
	United States Studies – Compre	hensive
Civics: SS.USC.1	Identify the issues regarding the evolution of United States citizenship and evaluate responsibilities and rights of United States citizens (e.g. landownership, race, gender and age).	• Demonstrate an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of civic involvement by running for an office in local and state Youth in Government chapters.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.USC.2	 Evaluate, then defend the importance of the fundamental democratic values and principles of U.S. constitutional democracy in a global context including conflicts between individuals, communities and nations: Liberty and equality Individual rights and the common good Majority rule and minority rights The rule of law and ethics (e.g., civil disobedience) Patriotism 	 Experience the principles of constitutional democracy firsthand by writing, defending, and voting for bills that address relevant issues. Exhibit patriotism by participating in traditions at opening and closing sessions of Youth in Government.
Civics: SS.USC.3	Compare various citizens' responses to controversial government policies and actions by monitoring and debating government decisions, and create a cooperative and peaceful solution to controversial policies and actions.	Practice discussion and civil discourse skills in committees and sessions in the Senate and House chambers and State Supreme Court.
Civics: SS.USC.4	Analyze multiple media sources and their influence on public opinion and policy issues.	 Produce a daily newsletter highlighting Youth in Government events.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.USC.5	Evaluate court cases essential to fundamental democratic principles and values (e.g., <i>Brown c. BOE Topeka, Miranda</i> <i>v. Arizona, Roe v. Wade, Mapp v. Ohio,</i> <i>Schenck v. U.S.,</i> and <i>Doe v. Holder</i> (<i>P.A.T.R.I.O.T. Act</i>).	• Serve as a member of the judicial branch, presiding over actual and mock judicial cases in the WV State Supreme Courtroom.
History: SS.USC.30	 Demonstrate an understanding of America's continued role in the complex global community. Evaluate the causes and effects of acts of foreign and domestic terrorism before and after 9/11. (e.g. Iran hostage crisis, 1993 World Trade Center, Oklahoma City, USS Cole, 2001 attacks on World Trade Center & Pentagon, PATRIOT Act, death of Osama bin Laden) Identify the positive and negative consequences of the advancement of technology. Evaluate and explain modern American policies (i.e., foreign and domestic), immigration, the global environment, and other current emerging issues. 	 Address domestic and foreign policies as they affect relevant issues in judicial cases, legislative committees, and legislative sessions in the chambers of the WV House and WV Senate.

	Contemporary Studies	5	
<i>Civics:</i> SS.CS.1	 Evaluate, then defend, the importance of the fundamental democratic values and principles of U.S. constitutional democracy in a global context including conflicts between individuals, communities and nations. Liberty and equality Individual rights and the common good Majority rule and minority rights Rule of Law and ethics (e.g., civil disobedience) Patriotism 	•	Experience the principles of constitutional democracy firsthand by writing, defending, and voting for bills that address relevant issues. Exhibit patriotism by participating in traditions at opening and closing sessions of Youth in Government.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.CS.2	 Justify the duties of citizens that are necessary to preserve global democracy. Public forums (local, national, and/or global) Analysis of voting apathy and resulting consequences Personal freedoms throughout the world Role of international government and non-government organizations (e.g. League of Nations and U.N.) 	•	Engage in public discourse on the state level by sponsoring, defending, and voting for bills on relevant, student-selected issues, judging judicial cases, lobbying, or serving as a member of the press at the WV State Capitol.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.CS.3	Analyze and apply ways U.S. and world conflicts can be resolved in a cooperative and peaceful manner.	•	Practice discussion and civil discourse skills in committees and sessions at the WV Capitol.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.CS.4	Evaluate court cases essential to fundamental democratic principles and values (e.g.; amendments since 1920, <i>Brown v. BOE Topeka, Miranda v. Arizona,</i> <i>Roe v. Wade</i> and the <i>P.A.T.R.I.O.T. Act</i>).	•	Learn the judicial system by participating as an appellant, justice, or clerk evaluating real and mock judicial cases in the WV State Supreme Courtroom.
Economics: SS.CS.7	Assess how various executive initiatives and legislative acts influence the United States economy (e.g. Fourteen Points, New Deal, Domino Theory, Great Society, Space Race and Strategic Defense Initiative). <i>Civics</i>	•	Practice writing bills, presenting them in committees and general sessions, and experiencing the legislative and executive process in the WV House and Senate.
		T	
Civics: SS.C.1	Strive to become vigilant, informed citizens who actively participate in the preservation and improvement of American government through community service and service- learning (e.g., individual service projects, patriotic events, mock trials, group initiatives, community volunteerism).	•	Participate as an engaged citizen by writing bills on real-life, relevant issues, engaging in mock trials and mock legislative sessions, and running for an elected state or local office in the YLA Youth Government.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.C.2	Explore social contracts and the establishment of the rule of law, and evaluate how limited government and the rule of law protect individual rights.	•	Study the rule of law, government limitations, and individual rights while authoring bills that make positive changes for citizens.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.C.3	Demonstrate that the purpose of American government is the protection of personal, political and economic rights of citizens as evidenced by the <i>Declaration of</i> <i>Independence</i> , the <i>U.S. Constitution</i> , Constitutional Amendments and the ideas of those involved in the establishment of American government.	•	Examine the purpose of government and the founding documents while preparing for and presenting in the legislative, judicial, or executive branches of Youth in Government.

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<i>Civics:</i> SS.C.4	Consider factors that subvert liberty (including lack of education, voter apathy, disenfranchisement, civil inequalities, economic issues, loss of public trust and misuse of government power), then collaborate, compromise, and by consensus, create a model that informed citizens can use to defend and perpetuate the American Republic.	•	Work on teams to co-author bills to address issues that subvert liberty, then work in committees to present, amend, and pass legislation that achieves the goals of the American Republic.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.C.7	Evaluate the elements in the U.S. Constitution that make it a living document with democratic principles that are modified and expanded to meet the changing needs of society.	•	Study the U.S. Constitution while preparing for bill presentations or judicial cases during Youth in Government at the State Capitol.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.C.11	Analyze how the freedoms of speech and press in a democratic society enable citizens to develop informed opinions, express their views, shape public policy and monitor government actions.	•	Practice freedom of speech and democracy while presenting in committees and in legislative sessions, or as a member of the press at Youth in Government.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.C.12	Determine how conflicts between the rights of citizens and society's need for order can be resolved while preserving both liberty and safety.	•	Engage in democratic discourse to make legislative, judicial, and executive decisions for the good of society at the State Capitol.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.C.13	Compare and contrast the original and appellate jurisdictions of local, state and national judicial systems to show how America's court system addresses criminal and civil cases.	•	Study judicial systems on the local, state, and national levels while preparing for and participating in mock judicial cases in the WV Supreme Court.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.C.15	Develop an understanding of the American legal system through examining existing ordinances, statutes and Federal Acts, exploring the differences between criminal and civil law and determining the legal obligations and liabilities of American citizenship.	•	Study the American legal system while preparing for legislative sessions and judicial sessions at the State Capitol complex during the Youth in Government conference.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.C.18	Investigate the impact that special interest groups have on shaping public policy at local, state and national levels.	•	Engage in public policy making by participating as a lobbyist at Youth in Government.
<i>Civics:</i> SS.C.20	Examine how decisions and policies of state and local government impact the lives of citizens –such as local issues and problems, structure of local government (e.g., differences in incorporation, providing public services and mayoral styles), zoning and annexation, land use and urban sprawl, and ordinances and jurisdiction.	•	Evaluate the impact of state and local government decisions by writing, rating, sponsoring, and voting for or against bills authored by students from all over West Virginia.
	Economics		
Economics: SS.E.13	Describe and compare relationships among economic institutions (e.g., households, businesses, banks, government agencies and labor unions.	•	Experience the role of government in economics by considering and passing legislation impacting local and
Economics: SS.E.36	Describe the aims of government fiscal policies (taxation, borrowing and spending) and their influence on production, employment, and price levels.		state economics.



68th WV YLA Youth in Government April 23 - 25, 2025 Student Legislature and Model Supreme Court PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

This Form is due by December 5, 2024

(Participation accepted after this date if space permits.)

Your group's participation in WV YLA Youth in Government all starts with this piece of paper. Please print legibly and complete the information for your entire group. The form will help you organize yourself and collect the money and information you need to have a fantastic experience.

FIRST—Your Group Info:

Delegation/School Name		Advisor/Adult Contact					
Mailing Address		_City	_State	Zip			
Daytime Phone :	-	Cell Phone:		-			
E-mail Address:							

SECOND—How much does it cost?

Fees for WV Youth in Government are set well below our actual costs. Our organization finds donors and scholarship monies to ensure that every student who wants to participate has the opportunity, regardless of their financial situation. Your group's efforts to make the process efficient will ensure that we can continue to help. Simply put, please submit your materials ON TIME, so we can do it right the first time.

YLA Students pay \$295 total (includes housing—4/room) Non-YLA Students pay \$320 total (includes housing—4/room) YLA Adults in a shared room pay \$175 **with an adult from your delegation** (includes housing—2/room) Non-YLA Adults in a shared room with an adult from your delegation pay \$200 (includes housing—2/room) YLA-Adults in a private room pay \$275 (includes housing—1/room) Non-YLA-Adults in a private room pay \$300 (includes housing—1/room)

\$10 Additional Fee per person that uses paper registration forms and not online!

THIRD—Get your group organized.

Complete the PARTICIPATION ROSTER (page 3) to identify who will be working in each program area. **Legislative** delegates write their bill proposal (in pairs) to create, change, or amend a law in West Virginia. **Judicial** delegates work in groups of 2-4 students to write, argue, and present their case before the Model Supreme Court.

Press delegates attend the event and cover the happenings through traditional print media, but also on social media platforms.

Page delegates serve committees and legislative bodies to keep the process running smoothly. **Lobbyist** delegates select 6-8 pieces of legislation written by other students and bring information to the Legislature to influence the passage/defeat of the proposals.

Officer delegates are elected/ appointed prior to the event to serve in their official capacity during the 3-day session.

FOURTH—Determine How You Will Pay Fees

As the advisor for the group, choose the plan that works best for you:

____All monies will be paid through a school/organization account. You will handle all of the collection and check requisitions. (Students may still register online.) Our Purchase Order # is _____Mixed Payment— Our deposits (\$75/person) will be paid (circle one)School Check / Online

Our final fees will be paid by (circle one) School Check / Online

___Everything Paid Online—Each individual (both students and adults) will register and pay the total fee online with a credit or debit card.

FIFTH—Submit This ENTIRE Packet [Pages 1-3—Participation Agreement and Roster]

with Non-refundable Deposit (December 5th).

You may mail this Participation Agreement and Roster by postmark 12/5 to: WV YLA Youth in Government 522 Sandhill Road Point Pleasant, WV 25550 OR Fax this entire form to (304) 675-5977 and have the Treasurer mail the check by postmark 12/5

OR Scan the entire form and e-mail to alicia@ylaleads.org with the check mailed separately by

postmark 12/5.

MAIL ALL PAYMENT TO: YLA Business Office 522 Sandhill Road Point Pleasant, WV 25550

SIXTH—Prepare your Group for the Conference

- Invite our staff to come to one of your meetings to help you prepare.
- Use the online manual to ensure you are using the correct format for bill submission.

• Download the Word template for bill submission.

- Identify & submit Officer Candidates as a group for the 2026 WV YG session (before March 1).
- Practice, practice, practice... Hold several sessions to allow each member to become

comfortable with the process. Help is just a phone call away.

SEVENTH—Submit your Final Fees and Bills/Casesbefore the Deadline (February 10)

Using the resources online, make sure that everyone completes and submits their work to be included in the Bill Book / Case Book prior to the February 10th deadline to receive the lowest rate.

As soon as the books are complete, you will receive an electronic version and hard copies will be given at the program. Continue your practice sessions and show up in Charleston ready to debate, meet new people, and strengthen West Virginia's future.

\$25 Additional Fee per person that doesn't meet the February 10th deadline!

PARTICIPATION ROSTER WV Youth in Government 2025 DUE: December 5

DELEGATION: _____ ADVISOR: _____

	FIRST	LAST	Pd?		FIRST	LAST	Pd?
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6				2			

TOTAL COUNT ______ X \$75/EACH = _____ REQUIRED DEPOSIT

April 23-25, 2025 (We	edFri.)	Registratio	on due F	ledical R eb. 10		YOUTH LEADERSHIP ASSOCIAT
Delegation (School/YLA)		Birth Date		Sex	Male	Female
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My registration certifies that I						
		endix – Calen				conduct.
Did you submit your \$75 dep					No	
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, Affiliated , \$220 is your	-	•			•	
If you have NOT submitted you before February 10	r \$75 deposit	but your FUL I	L paymer	it will be po	ostmarked	on or
Affiliated, \$295 is your 1	inal fee.	Unaffi	liated, \$3	320 is your	final fee.	
		by each persor				
ALL Materials, Reg						
Students – Student Registration is on the w	ebsite at <u>www.yla</u>	lleads.org/progran	n <u>s/WVYG</u> . P	lease register	ONLINE and	
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Students – Student Registration is on the war our Chapter your fees do so before the dead rom attending.	ebsite at <u>www.yla</u> lline set by your / NIZATION 8	Advisor. If you do	ns/WVYG. P not, be pre	lease register pared to pay	ONLINE and a late fee or	be disqualified
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Students – Student Registration is on the wo your Chapter your fees do so before the dead rom attending. IMMU etanus Booster dT or TdaP(dat s the participant up to date with all immuniza f no, please explain OVID-19 Vaccine (not required)YES	ebsite at <u>www.yla</u> Iline set by your / NIZATION 8 e) Itions required for NO	Advisor. If you do MEDICAL IN Diptheria, Teta r schoolYE Epi-pen	ns/WVYG. P not, be pre IFORMA nus, Pertuse SNC Yes	lease register pared to pay TION sis DTaP or To	ONLINE and a late fee or	be disqualified
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If you cannot sign this document for religious reasons, please contact the Ohio–West Virginia YLA

CODE OF CONDUCT: YLA FAMILY OF PROGRAMS Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association



YLA, Fall Conference, Youth & Government Seminars, Youth in Government, Model United Nations, Horseshoe, Cave Lake

YLA programs work to build responsible life-long good citizens of character who work to build better homes, schools and communities for all.

Participation in all parts of a YLA program shall be maintained on an intellectual and productive level. A level of conduct is expected of all participants (youth, advisor and staff) that requires self-control, individual decision-making, responsibility and adherence to a dress code that is appropriate to each program.

Responsible conduct must be the concern of each participant for the responsibilities and rights of every individual and that of the group. Being responsible for one's own behavior at all times is a necessary part of self-government. It is essential that all students, advisors and staff act responsibly to ensure that their own conduct and attitude are beneficial not only to themselves and all other participants but also to ensure the continuation of the program. By choosing to participate, it is expected that each individual has read, understands and agrees to follow the Code of Conduct while attending any conference sponsored by YLA.

All participants share equally the responsibility for their actions when violations of the Code of Conduct are witnessed. Those who decide to be present when a violation occurs shall by their own choice, be considered a participant in the violation. In this program there are no "innocent bystanders."

Each person must recognize that their failure to carry out the Code of Conduct may lead to their own and perhaps their total delegation's dismissal from the program. Each person & delegation is to support the purpose & procedures of the YLA program they are attending in both spirit, action & work for the success of the program for everyone. In general, the behavior that is expected can be summarized in these four (4) points:

1) Treat others as one wants to be treated. 2) Do not do anything that hurts another person, place, or thing. 3) Do not do anything that could potentially bring harm to another person, place, or thing. 4) Do not fail to do something that would help others, make the place we are using cleaner, safer and a better experience for all.

More specifically, this Code of Conduct has been developed to identify the type of personal behavior that is consistent with the purpose of YLA programs. The items in the Code are based upon performance and are designed to protect everyone involved including the welfare of these programs for future generations. Participation in a YLA program indicates personal acceptance of this Code of Conduct.

Individuals, delegations and Advisors are to carry out the Code. Where necessary, YLA Staff will assist and reserve the right (*discretion*) for the "final say" as these programs are YLA programs. We, the participants, advisors and staff taking part in YLA programs are to uphold the following CODE OF CONDUCT.

Each participant shall conduct themselves in an orderly and responsible manner in transit to and from, and during all functions of YLA programs. Personal behavior reflects upon the quality of the program, one's delegation, YLA, school and one's self. Participants are expected to conform to this Code of Conduct on the honor system. (Discretion of YLA Staff) and possibly (Lose position or privileges) and/or (Call parent-send home) and/or (Notify school officials).

Participation in all parts of a YLA program shall be maintained on an intellectual & productive level. (Discretion of YLA Staff) & possibly (Lose position or privileges). Nametags shall be worn visibly on the front of the upper torso at all times at conferences when outside assigned lodging facility room. (Discretion of YLA Staff) and possibly (Lose position or privileges).

Each participant shall attend all scheduled program functions, activities, meetings, etc. (Discretion of YLA Staff) and possibly (Lose position or privileges) and/or (Call parents- send home) and/or (Notify school officials).

Harassment or intimidation by words, gestures, body language or any other menacing behavior will not be tolerated at any YLA function, activity, meeting and training session. (Discretion of YLA Staff) and possibly (Lose position or privileges) and/or (Call parents-send home) and/or (Notify school officials) and/or (Call security) or (Summon police).

The use, possession or concealment of incense, candles, tobacco products, alcoholic beverages or non-prescription drugs are forbidden at any YLA program, function, activity, meeting, and training session. (Call parents-send home) and/or (Notify school officials) and possibly (Call security) and/or (Summon police).

The use, possession or concealment of any weapons are forbidden at any YLA conference or function. (Call parents-send home) and/or (Notify school officials) and possibly (Call security) and/or (Summon police).

The use, possession or concealment of electronic devices including but not limited to compact disc or tape players, video games, radios, TV's, cell phones, etc. shall not be permitted during official program functions. They are not permitted anytime at YLA programs held at Horseshoe. (Discretion of YLA Staff) and possibly (Lose position or privileges) and/or (have the item(s) taken for the duration of the conference, camp or activity).

Each participant is legally and financially responsible for any removal, defacing or willful damage to public or private property. This includes the property of other participants, advisors and staff, organizations, businesses, lodging and conference facilities and the State. (Discretion of YLA Staff) (Call parents-send home) and/or (Notify school officials) and possibly (call security) and/or (Summon police).

Materials of lodging and conference facilities, State and state officials at Youth in Government, and any other facility in use by a YLA program shall not be removed or tampered with in any way. (Discretion of YLA Staff) and possibly (Call parents-send home) and/or (Notify school officials) and possibly (Call security). No participant shall leave a program function unless the approval of their advisor AND YLA Staff is secured. The participant is to be picked up and returned by a parent or legal guardian. (Call parents-send home) and/or (Notify school officials).

Participants shall not leave the lodging facility except while in transit to or from an official program function or activity. Participants may not use or be transported in private vehicles during any program function without approval of a parent or legal guardian and adult Advisor and YLA Staff. (Discretion of YLA Staff) and possibly (Call parents-send home) and/or (Notify school officials).

Lodging facility room switches are not permitted without the approval of the delegation advisor and YLA Staff. (Discretion of YLA Staff) and possibly (Call parents-send home) and/or (Notify school officials).

There is NO coed visiting in lodging facility rooms or in coed delegation meetings in lodging rooms. (Discretion of YLA Staff) and possibly (Call parents-send home) and/or (Notify school officials).

Participants shall observe quiet hours in consideration of those who choose to rest. Participants shall be in and remain in their assigned lodging facility room by the curfew listed for the program. Curfew will remain in effect until 7:00 a.m. the next morning. (Discretion of YLA Staff) and possibly (Lose position or privileges) or (Call parents-send home) and/or (Notify school officials).

Participants shall not invite or receive visitors. Visitors, alumni, etc. are not permitted in the lodging facility unless approved by the Advisor and YLA Staff. Visitors, alumni, etc. are not permitted in lodging facility guest sleeping rooms at any time. (Discretion of YLA Staff) and possibly (Lose position or privileges) or (Call parents-send home) and/or (Notify school officials).

Guests are restricted to lobbies and visitor areas unless approval is secured from YLA Staff. (Discretion of YLA Staff) and possibly (Call security) or (Summon police). Participants, advisors and=staff will dress appropriately for the program they are attending. Of particular concern is YG where appropriate dress for men is suits or dress pants-dress shirt - tie and jacket. Appropriate dress for women is a business suit or business dress. YG is in the State Capitol where proper business dress is expected. See YG=manual for complete description. For recreation at YG, casual dress is appropriate. (Discretion of YLA Staff).

Chewing gum, candy, food and beverages are not permitted in the Capitol, Supreme Court, and in certain areas of other programs. (Discretion of YLA Staff) and possibly (Lose position or privileges) or (Call parents-send home) and/or (Notify school officials).

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUND POLICY

The best laid plans can go awry. Due to the significantly lower fees charged to participants, YLA has no flexibility to provide refunds. Therefore, our policy is NOT to provide refunds. Your deposit is a down payment (your word) that you will attend. We will make advance payments to other parties to hold space for you. Please do not ask for this deposit money to be applied to another's final payment—it has already been used to hold your space and is not refundable. Groups MAY substitute another individual for the cancelling student.

Things to remember

- A. Local YLA groups who want to provide refunds to anyone who cancels need to set aside money to provide such refunds locally.
- B. Delegations do not refer parents, participants, school, or other administrators to YLA with refund questions. Handle these questions locally.
- C. Once a delegation registers, that delegation is responsible for the entire payment for that number of student & adult delegates.
- D. Local groups may want to consider purchasing an insurance policy that pays, if for some reason the group needs to cancel out of the program. Check with your insurance company about coverage (i.e. trip insurance).
- E. Weather Our first priority is always safety. If a weather event happens in your area and you are unable to attend, we understand your absence and want you to stay safe. Do not place yourself or others in danger.

<u>YLA West Virginia Youth in Government Advisor Registration Form</u> Wednesday, April 23 – Friday, April 25, 2025 **Registration due Feb. 10**



Name:						
First			Last		Preferr	ed on Nametag
Address:						
State:		Zip:	Phon	e:		
Cell:			Email:			
YLA Delegati	on:					
EpiPen:	Yes	No	Covid-19 Vaco	cine(s)	_Yes	No
2						
We do NOT r	require the	e vaccine t	o participate in our p	programs.		
			s placed in a part o Legislature			
			Lobbyists			
For For	a double ro a private ro	oom, unaffi oom, affilia	ted, \$100 is your fina iliated, \$125 is your f ited, \$200 is your fina iliated, \$225 is your	ïnal fee. al fee.	if you are	oms are only available sharing with an adult delegation!
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Pay Fees C 1. Pa fo Ad	Complete articipation r your dele ccepted aft e to Youth	ely or in T Fee of \$75 egation. Su er Decemb in Governm nal fee is	Two Payments. per person due with F bmit any time betwee er 5, if space is availa nent Office no later the NOT postmarked o your final fee fo	The paym Participation A In August 1 a ble. an postmark	Agreement t nd Decembe February 10. ary 10, ac	o reserve places er 5.
	uth in Go	Final Fees, vernment	r is responsible to s and Completed Re Office at 522 Sar and one check payable	gistration Fo	orms to the , Point Ple	easant, WV 25550

Cancellations and Refund Policy (Advisor)

The best laid plans can go awry. Due to the significantly lower fees charged to participants, YLA has <u>no flexibility to provide refunds</u>. Therefore, our policy is <u>NOT to provide refunds</u>. Your deposit is a down payment (your word) that you will attend. We will make advance payments to other parties to hold space for you. Please do not ask for this deposit money to be applied to another's final payment—it has already been used to hold your space and is not refundable.

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- C. Once a delegation registers for a conference, that delegation is responsible for the entire payment for that number of student and adult delegates.
- D. Local groups may want to consider purchasing an insurance policy that pays, if for some reason the group needs to cancel out of the program. Check with your insurance company about coverage (i.e. trip insurance).
- E. Weather Our first priority is always safety. If a weather event happens in your area and you are unable to attend, we understand your absence and want you to stay safe. Do not place yourself or others in danger.

2025 WEST VIRGINIA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

Hotel Housing Request - DUE FEBRUARY 10

Delegation:

Advisor: ____



Please pre-assign rooms and list the names, delegate type, and gender for your participants. The YLA reserves the right to make changes in room assignments if needed. Identify Adults with an asterisk (*), and indicate with P if private room is requested (adults only- additional charge). Fill entire room before starting on next one, if you do not we will have to finish filling them with students from another delegation.

WE WILL BE STAYING AT THE 4 POINTS HOTEL IN 2025 - 600 KANAWHA BLVD. E

Student	Μ	Room #1	Student	Μ	Room #2	Student	Μ_	Room #3		
Adult	F	KUUIII #1	Adult	F	K00111#2	Adult	F	KUUIII #3		
1			1							
2			2			2				
3				3						
4			4			4				

Student	Μ_	Room #4	Student	M	Room #5	Stuc	dent	Μ_	Room #6
Adult	F	K00III#4	Adult F		- KUUIII #5	Adu	lt	F	R00111#6
1			1			1			
2	2 2				2				
3				3					
4	4			4					

Student	м_	Room #7
Adult	F	KUUIII#7
1		
2		
3		
4		

Student	Μ_	Room #8	
Adult	F		
1			
2			
3			
4			
4			

Adult	F	Room #9	
1			
2			
3			
4			

Room #9

Μ

Student _

Student	M	Room #10	Stud
Adult	F		Adul
1		1	
2		2	
3		3	
4		4	

Student	M_	Room #11	
Adult	F		
1			
2			
3			
4			

Student	M	Room #12	
Adult	F		
1			
2			
3			
4			

Special Instructions:

RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR DELEGATION'S FINAL FEES NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 10

2026 Certification of Officer Nomination for WV Youth in Government Due No Later Than <u>Postmark March 1st</u>

to close nominations for Governor, Chief Justice, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House (accepted at YG if no one applies by March 1)

<u>Instructions</u>

- 1. Delegations conduct a Nomination Election to determine officer nominations.
- 2. Certify by signature of the Delegation Leader that -

Please Type or print

- Nominees meet the qualifications for the office.
- Nominees will participate on an intellectual and productive level in the performance of their duties including attendance for the total time at the programs required of West Virginia YG Officers.
- The nominee(s) have won the nomination of our local Delegation.
- If elected, I understand to retain the office, they are required to attend Teen Leadership Summit held at Camp Horseshoe in June and Bill/Case Rating in Feb.
- 3. Have each nominee complete the reverse side (make additional copies as needed).
- Delegation Leader mail completed Nomination Packet to the YG Office no later than March 1st postmark

Delegation Name	Delegation	Leader
School	Signature	Date
	Nominee Name	
Governor		
Chief Justice	Must be in the Judicial Pro	ogram to run for Chief Justice.
President of the Senate		
Speaker of the House		
Clerk (Specify House or Senate)		
Chaplain (Specify House or Senate)		

It is YLA policy that an officer who does not participate in the Leadership Summit at Horseshoe in June will be removed from office since they are not there to perform their duties. The newly-appointed officer would then complete the term of office through the April YG Conference.



2026 OFFICER NOMINATION FORM - WV Youth in Government - Each Nominee Completes and Submits this form with their Delegation's Certificate of Officer Nomination

Nominee Nan	ne	Office Seeking	
Address		City	_ State
Zip	_ Home Phone _	Cell Phone	
Email			
Delegation		School	

*Enclose a picture for use in the Youth in Government Printed Material

Type Candidate Sketch by answering these questions.

- 1. Past Youth in Government participation (years and position);
- 2. Qualifications for the office what do you bring to the office?
- 3. Style of Leadership and how it will help other delegates succeed;
- 4. School interests and activities;
- 5. Community interests and activities;
- 6. An especially meaningful service experience.

Remember- Any officer who does not participate in the Leadership Summit at Horseshoe in June for whatever reason vacates their office since they are not there to do it. Another person at the Summit will be appointed to the position. The new officer will complete the term of office through the April YG Summit.

I attest that this information is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and that if elected I will carry out my responsibilities as outlined in the manual.

Student Candidate: Signature _		Date
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I support this application, understand the responsibilities and time requirements of an officer.

Parent:	Signature
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This delegate has the qualifications for this office and has been nominated by our Delegation.

Advisor: Signature _____ Date

Delegation Leaders - Return complete Nomination Packet by postmark March 1st to WV Youth in Government, 522 Sandhill Road, Point Pleasant, WV 25550



_____ Date _____



Application for 2026 WV YLA Youth in Government Governor's Cabinet Submit no later than May 12th

Applicant's Name:		Delegation:	
Address:		City:	State:
Zip	Cell Phone	Home Phone	
Email		Year of	Graduation
Previous Yo	outh in Government Experien	ce (list years and position):	

Explain how your leadership style, experience, commitment, time, and ideas for and about Youth in Government qualify you for this position. Attach an additional sheet with your answers as needed.

If appointed to the Cabinet by the Youth Governor, I will carry out my responsibilities as outlined in the YG manual and Bill Book. I will attend Teen Leadership Summit in June and bill rating in February to assist the Youth Governor in preparing for YG in April.

Applicant's Signature:	Date:
I support this application and understand the respo	onsibilities expected of a Cabinet member.

Parent's Signature:	Date:	
Advisor's Signature:	Date:	
	Return application to Youth in Government	
	522 Sandhill Road, Point Pleasant, WV 25550	
	304-675-5899	



Application for 2026 WV YLA Youth in Government Associate Justice Submit no later than May 12th

Applicant's Name:	Delegation:	
Address:	City:	State:
Zip Cell Phone	Home Phone	
Email	Year of	Graduation
Previous Youth in Government Experies	nce (list years and position):	

Explain how your leadership style, experience, commitment, time, and ideas for and about Youth in Government qualify you for this position. Attach an additional sheet with your answers as needed.

If appointed an Associate Justice by the Chief Justice, I will carry out my responsibilities to the Chief Justice and the YG Judicial program. I will attend Camp Horseshoe in June and case rating in February to assist the Chief Justice in setting the schedule of cases and planning for Youth in Government.

A selling of the Classic sectors	Deter
Applicant's Signature:	Date:

I support this application and understand the responsibilities expected of an Associate Justice.

Parent's Signature:	Date:
Advisor's Signature:	Date:

Return application to Youth in Government, Fiscal Office 522 Sandhill Road, Point Pleasant, WV 25550



Application for 2026 WV YLA Youth in Government Committee Chair Submit no later than May 12th

Delegation Name		
Name	Email	
Address	County	
City	State Zip	
Cell Phone	Home Phone	Grad Year
Email		

My previous Youth in Government Participation (years and position) include:

I am qualified to be a Committee Chair because:

I will help the Committee be a successful experience to all members and those who appear before the Committee by:

If selected I will make every effort t participate in the June Leadership Summit at Horseshoe and the Fall Conference. I will participate in the Bill Rating/Training in February.

Parent's Signature:	 _ Date:
Advisor's Signature:	 Date:

On other side, this application, the Delegation explains why they so or do not support this application for Committee leadership. The explanation is to be signed by your Advisor.

Return application to Youth in Government, 522 Sandhill Road, Point Pleasant, WV 25550

304-675-5899



Application for 2026 WV YLA Youth in Government Press Editor Submit no later than May 12th

Applicant's Name: _		Delegatior	ו:
Address:		City:	State:
Zip Cel	l Phone		
Email			Year of Graduation
Previous Youth in G	overnment Experience (li	st years and position):	

Explain how your leadership style, experience, commitment, time, and ideas for and about Youth in Government qualify you for this position. Include any experience you have in writing and with a newsletter or other publication. Attach an additional sheet with your answers as needed.

If appointed Press Editor, I will carry out my responsibilities as in the YG manual and Bill Book. I will make every attempt to attend Teen Leadership Summit at Horseshoe in June.

Applicant's Signature:	Date:

I support this application and understand the responsibilities expected of a Cabinet member.

Parent's Signature:	Date:
Advisor's Signature:	Date:

Return application to Youth in Government, 522 Sandhill Road, Point Pleasant, WV 25550 304-675-5899