



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# ADVISOR/CHAPERONE Code of Conduct and Dress

## **PROGRAM PURPOSE**

The purpose of Washington YMCA Youth & Government Program is to develop within youth a dedication to the values of democracy, informed advocacy, and character development. With this purpose in mind, the following ground rules have been established. Your cooperation in acting within these ground rules is expected, and will help to ensure continuation of the privileges we enjoy in using the State Capitol and other facilities.

## **CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS AT COMPETITIONS**

1. A ratio of 1 chaperone to 10 students should be maintained at all times.
2. Advisors/Chaperones are to read and understand the "Advisor Responsibilities" section of the Youth Legislature Handbook.
3. Advisors are responsible for ensuring their delegates abide by the code of conduct and dress at all times.
4. Advisors/Chaperones are expected to attend all event activities and meetings – students should not be in attendance at ANY portion of an event without a chaperone.
5. All school/organization rules regarding offsite events and activities apply during Youth & Government events. This includes policies regarding alcohol consumption, driving, student relationships, etc.
6. Relationships between delegates and chaperones are prohibited.
7. Advisors/Chaperones will adhere to the Youth Legislature Dress Code.



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### **Dress Code for Delegates and Advisors**

You are expected to uphold a professional appearance, similar to rules upheld by members of the State House of Representatives and Senate during all committee and floor sessions. You should wear professional clothing that would be deemed appropriate for a legislator or business professional. If you are unsure if what you are going to wear is acceptable, ask an advisor prior to your arrival.

- ❖ **Acceptable Women's Attire:** modest dress, business suit, skirt, slacks, blouse, sweater, or jacket and dress shoes. If wearing open-toed shoes, socks/nylons must be worn. Flip-flops are not appropriate foot attire. Ladies must be covered to the knee and no mid-drift or cleavage will be shown. (Think of what you would wear to a job interview.)
- ❖ **Acceptable Men's Attire:** a suit, slacks and sport coat, or slacks and sweater, and dress shoes must be worn on the floor at all times. A collared shirt and tie must be worn with any of the before mentioned combinations. A belt or suspenders must also be worn.
- ❖ **Unsuitable Clothing:** Sweats, T-shirts, denim, corduroy, skirts not to the knee, leggings, shorts, miniskirts, sleeveless tops (unless covered by sweater), inappropriate or revealing clothing, clothing unsuitable for a dress occasion, sneakers, flip-flops or casual sandals, sunglasses, and hats. If you aren't sure, ask.
  - Pages are allowed to wear nice-looking tennis shoes.

**All committee and floor sessions:** As is true with the "Real Legislature," advisors and students who are not suitably dressed will not be allowed on the floor. The Sergeant at Arms is the final authority on appropriate dress.

**Governor's Ball:** MODEST semi-formal to formal attire is required. Dresses, skirts or slacks are appropriate for women and clothing that reveals cleavage, has an open back or a slit above the knee is not appropriate. Suits or shirt and tie for gentlemen are appropriate.

Session attire is acceptable and session dress code will be enforced. If delegates or advisors are not appropriately dressed, they will not be allowed into the ball.

The following exceptions apply: sleeveless dresses are ok and nylons do not have to be worn with open-toed shoes. Nametags will serve as your ticket to all Youth and Government activities including the Governor's Ball. You will not be allowed into the ball without your nametag. Nametags may be removed once inside the dance.

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I agree to abide by the YMCA Youth Legislature code of conduct and dress.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Delegation** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

### **PHOTO & INFORMATION RELEASE**

Permission is granted for photographs taken of me during my participation in the Youth & Government program as well as my information (including but not limited to name, grade and school) to be used for purposes that may include publicity. Further this information may be used without compensation.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_