



# WASHINGTON STATE YOUTH & GOVERNMENT

## Governor

Candidates for Youth Governor must be enrolled in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, or equivalent. They must have at least one year's prior experience in the YMCA Youth Legislature. They must complete and file electronically a Candidate statement for use in the Voter's Pamphlet, and a black and white or color photograph of the candidate suitable for use in the Bill Book and Voter's Pamphlet (photo must be electronic). Candidates must also file a campaign budget report to the Director of Elections in accordance with the campaign rules. The Youth Governor will be elected during the session.

The Youth Governor **MUST** attend leadership training as scheduled in the Program Calendar. In addition, the newly elected Youth Governor should attend the National Youth Governor's Conference in Washington, D.C. in June. (specific time to be announced). All delegates interested in running for Governor are encouraged to apply to be part of the Washington Delegation to the Conference on National Affairs.

The **Youth Governor** has the following responsibilities:

1. Address the opening and closing joint sessions of the YMCA Youth Legislature, including in the closing session the Governor's action on all legislation presented by the Secretary of State after passage by both houses of the legislature.
2. Present no more than two Executive Request Bills.
3. Testify in committee, if desired, but without vote.
4. Consider each bill passed by the legislature, soliciting information and advice from the Cabinet, Attorney General, legislators and lobbyists.
5. Sign or veto legislation within 45 minutes once the Governor's consideration of said legislation has begun. The Governor shall begin consideration of legislation within 45 minutes of final passage by both houses, following certification of delivery by the Secretary of State. If the Governor fails to act in the time allotted, it will become law without his or her signature. If the Governor vetoes a piece of legislation, the official copy of the bill shall be returned immediately to the Secretary of State for recording and then immediately to the house of origin, along with the reasons for the veto. This notification must also immediately go in writing to the bill's sponsor.

6. May select a cabinet of 5 delegates to be assigned specific duties to meet the needs of the Governor's Office. Every effort will be made to make this cabinet representative of the 5 districts around the state.
7. Appoint a Budget Director.
8. Convene regular meetings of the student leadership to ensure a smooth, effective legislative process.
9. Convene and chair regular meetings of the Cabinet.
10. Host the Governor of the State of Washington whenever the Youth Legislature is honored by his/her presence.
11. Host the Governor's Ball. This includes greeting people upon arrival and cleaning up following the event.
12. Perform other duties as the office requires, such as attending press conferences, meeting with legislators, lobbyists, etc.
13. Transmit all bills considered, signed and vetoed to the Secretary of State following the closing joint session.
14. Act as the chief representative of the YMCA Youth Legislature to the media, the general public, YMCA Boards, Youth Legislature district events, and other events as requested by the State Office and/or the Board of Directors for the year following election.
15. Serve as a voting member of the YMCA Youth Legislature Program Committee. This requires attendance at all scheduled Program Committee Meetings.
16. Represent Washington State at the YMCA Youth Governor's Conference in Washington DC in June.
17. Serve as an ex-officio member of the YMCA Youth & Government Board of Directors for the year following election. This includes attendance at all 4 scheduled Board Meetings, including the Board Retreat in June, as well as participation in the annual fund raising campaign.
18. Attend the Proclamation Signing, Leadership Training and Y-Advocacy Day events, as well as the Youth Legislative session in its entirety.