



# WASHINGTON STATE YOUTH & GOVERNMENT

## Lobbying Corps

Lobbyists should be enrolled in grades 9 through 12, or equivalent. Lobbyists must have at least one year's prior experience as a lobbyist and complete a position paper, and co-sponsor at least one bill with a legislator. The Chief Lobbyist Executive is selected by the members of the Lobbyist Corps at the conclusion of the session. The Chief Lobbyist Executive serves the following year and the subsequent Session.

The Chief Lobbyist and Lobbyist Executives **MUST** attend leadership training as scheduled in the Program Calendar.

The **Chief Lobbyist Executive** has the following responsibilities:

1. Preside over all meetings of the Lobbyist Executives and Corps while in Olympia.
2. Assign each of the Lobbyist Executives to a lobbyist firm.
3. Assign lobbyists to lobbying firms.
4. Work with the Lobbyist Advisor and Lobbyist Executives to distribute legislation between firms.
5. Act as liaison to the Governor's Office, providing lobbying expertise to the Governor and Governor's staff.
6. Serve as a voting member of the YMCA Youth Legislature Program Committee.
7. Attend the Proclamation Signing, Leadership Training and Y-Advocacy Day events, as well as the Youth Legislative session in its entirety.

**Assistant Lobbyist Executives** have the following responsibilities:

1. Serve as the Executive Officer of an assigned lobbying firm.
2. Work with the Chief Lobbyist in making lobbyist assignments.
3. Ensure that all lobbyist materials are approved by a Lobbyist Advisor before use by any lobbyist.
4. Coordinate lobbying efforts in their respective areas of responsibility.
5. Work with Presiding Officers and rostrum staff to ensure consistent process in lobbyist testimony.
6. Meet with lobbyists assigned to respective chambers to coordinate testimony on legislation and assist in preparing testimony as needed.

**Lobbyists** have the following responsibilities:

1. Co-sponsor at least two bills with a legislator in the House or Senate.
2. Write a one to two-page position paper on a topic of their choice (to be turned in with registration materials to the State Office.)
3. Participate in committee sessions. Lobbyists will be assigned to committees and firms based on the topic of their position paper, co-sponsored bill and experience in the program.
4. Speak and answer questions on the floor of the Senate or House, provided that permission has been granted by either the bill sponsor or two members from the originating committee.
5. Provide information relevant to legislation at all levels of consideration, from committee hearings to the Office of the Governor.
6. Attend all scheduled lobbyist meetings and any press conferences related to their bill topics/position paper.
7. Obtain approval of the bill author and the lobbyist advisors before duplicating or posting any handbills, posters, or other printed materials.