



YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE CODE OF CONDUCT

PROGRAM PURPOSE

The purpose of the Washington YMCA Youth Legislature Program is to develop dedication to the values of democracy and an awareness of the need for participation and leadership in society. The YMCA believes strongly in the development of character through the principles of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. It is expected every delegate and advisor abide by this contract. Your cooperation is mandatory, and will help ensure continuation of the privilege of using the State Capitol, and other facilities utilized during the program. The Youth & Government state office has final say on code of conduct issues and their resolution.

PROGRAM GROUND RULES

No alcohol. No drugs. No sexual activity. No tobacco products. No offensive language, dress, or behavior. No violent behavior or weapons. Any violation of this code of conduct may result in immediate expulsion from the program, and the violator may be sent home at their expense.

CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS AT YOUTH & GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES

Delegates, Volunteers and Advisors will...

- Abide by all YMCA, school and/or sponsoring organization policies and procedures.
- Exhibit the core values of the YMCA- honesty, caring, respect and responsibility.
- Respect all food and drink restrictions on the capital campus and agree to dispose of any trash appropriately inside and outside of the facility.
- Be professionally dressed while in session and maintain decorum standards of the capitol campus and YMCA Youth and Government.
- Use technology and social media in ways that promote the core values of the YMCA before, during and after conference.
- Attend all scheduled activities and events.
- Maintain curfew and appropriate behavior in hotel.
- Report any problems or concerns immediately to an advisor or Youth & Government staff.
- Follow YMCA, delegation, school and/or sponsoring organization transportation policies which may include students voluntarily turning in keys to advisors or YMCA staff during YAG events.
- Be courteous and respectful of YMCA, capital and legislative staff and elected officials.



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.

Examples of Acceptable Attire:

- Business suit, long sleeve shirt with a collar, tie, slacks and dress shoes
- Sweater or sweater vest, long sleeve shirt with a collar, tie, slacks and dress shoes
- Modest blouse that covers the shoulder, jacket, skirt to the knee, dress shoes
- Dress that covers the shoulder and down to the knee, jacket, dress shoes

Examples of Unacceptable Clothing:

- Sweats, sweatshirts or leggings
- Flip flops or tennis shoes (pages may wear nice-looking tennis shoes)
- T-shirts, hats or jeans
- Revealing clothing, visible undergarments, midribs or cleavage

Governor's Ball: Most students choose to dress in formal to semi-formal attire. Session attire will be enforced with the following exceptions listed below.

*The following exceptions apply: Sleeveless dresses are acceptable. Nametags or wristbands will serve as your ticket to all Youth and Government activities including the Governor's Ball. Nametags may be removed once inside the dance.

Hotel Expectations

- Attire while at the hotel:
 - Acceptable Casual Attire for Hotel: When outside their own room at the hotel participants must wear respectable, school-appropriate attire, including shoes or sandals.
 - Unacceptable Casual Attire for Hotel: When outside their own rooms at the hotel participants may not wear:
 - tops that are backless, sheer/transparent, low-cut, midriff-bearing or strapless
 - Slippers or pajamas
 - Clothing with inappropriate messaging
 - Bare Feet
 - Visible undergarments
 - Swimwear
- Students can only enter the hotel room they are assigned to - no visiting other participant's hotel rooms regardless of gender
- No food deliveries to hotel rooms - food orders must be completed by 10:30pm and received in the lobby area with an advisor present
- Students are required to be in designated areas and are not allowed in hotel rooms during free time.
- Students are required to go to their rooms at 11pm, and room checks will be completed at 11:10 pm. Delegates are not allowed outside of their room after they have been checked.



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I have read and understand the YMCA Youth & Government Code of Conduct and Dress and I agree to follow it. I understand that failure to adhere to the Code's minimum standards of conduct may result in my immediate expulsion from the Washington YMCA Youth & Government Program.

Delegate's Printed Name: _____ Delegation: _____

Delegate's Signature: _____ Date: _____

PHOTO, VIDEO & INFORMATION RELEASE

Permission is granted for photographs and video of my child taken during his/her participation in the Youth & Government program as well as his/her 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.

Parent or Guardian's Signature: _____

Date: _____