



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



WANT TO BE AN ADVOCATE FOR CHANGE? APPLY FOR THE YOUTH ADVOCATE PROGRAM!

WHAT IS THE YOUTH ADVOCATE PROGRAM?

The Youth Advocate Program is a four-month advocacy training program that gives students the opportunity to raise their voice on issues important to the Y. This program will provide students with practical, real-world experience advocating for the Y's policy priorities with Members of Congress in Washington, D.C.

WHY JOIN?

Sharpen your advocacy skills with these exciting program features:

- Learn about the Y's federal policy priorities and their importance to your community
- Connect with peers from across the country interested in making positive change
- Collaborate with local Ys and state alliances to craft an advocacy plan
- Learn how to effectively tell your YMCA story to policymakers
- Meet with Congressional offices in Washington, D.C. to advance YMCA priorities
- Learn strategies to continue advocating in your community and state

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

High school students interested in gaining practical advocacy experience should consider applying. Sound like you? Here are some other things to consider:

- Must be a current YMCA member or program participant
- Must be mature, motivated, and comfortable sharing your Y story
- Must be passionate about representing the Y on a national level
- Y-USA is looking for student representation that reflects all dimensions of diversity.

WHEN IS IT?

All students must attend four virtual training sessions on Nov. 17, Dec. 15, Jan. 26, and Feb. 23. The in-person conference is March 2-5, 2025.



**YOUTH
ADVOCATE
PROGRAM
APPLY NOW**

www.ymcavag.org/yap

Deadline to Apply:
September 30, 2024

Questions about applying? Please
email:
emily.perkins@ymca.net

YMCA staff interested in chaperoning: Apply by September 30, 2024! www.ymcayag.org/yap