

NC YMCA Youth & Government

Middle School United Nations Conference and Youth Legislature

Participant Code of Conduct & Program Policies

It is important that staff maintain good order and discipline in all programs. Top objectives in all YMCA programs are safety and a positive atmosphere for learning and developing social skills. The YMCA makes every effort to help participants understand clear definitions of acceptable and unacceptable behavior.

All participants shall conduct themselves in an orderly and responsible manner in transit to and from, and during all functions of the NC YMCA Youth & Government. Personal behavior reflects upon the quality of the program, one's delegation, the YMCA, one's school, and one's self.

PARTICIPATION:

Each participant shall attend all scheduled program functions, activities, meetings and training sessions.

Participants are expected to conform to all regulations on the honor system. Those who are present when a violation occurs may be considered a participant in the violation.

Participation in all dimensions of the program shall be maintained on an intellectual and productive level.

NAMETAGS:

Worn at all times when outside assigned lodging facility rooms. Nametags shall be worn visibly on the front of the upper torso. **NAMETAG SWITCHING OR SHARING IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.** Participants will wear their assigned badges at **all times** when they are not in their sleeping rooms, and must be able to produce their nametag at all times. Nametags are not to be defaced, decorated, or altered in any way.

BEHAVIOR:

Harassment or intimidation by words, gestures, body language or any other menacing behavior will not be tolerated at any NC YMCA Youth & Government function, activity, meeting or training session.

Sexual behavior of any kind is not appropriate and will not be tolerated.

Cheating and plagiarism, including giving or receiving of any unauthorized assistance on program work or copying and representing another's work as one's own is prohibited.

POSSESSION:

The use, possession or concealment of flame producing devices, incense, candles.

Tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, non-prescribed medication and illegal substances is forbidden at any NC YMCA Youth & Government function.

The use, possession or concealment of over the counter medication and prescription medication is strictly prohibited without proper documentation of YMCA or Delegation policy.

The use, possession or concealment of any weapons is forbidden at any NC YMCA Youth & Government function.

The use or possession of electronic devices during program functions should be used as a resource. Abuse of electronic devices is subject to consequences.

SEARCH & SEIZURE:

Participant agrees that NC YMCA Youth and Government State office personnel may search a participant's hotel room, possessions, automobile, or electronic devices when there is reasonable suspicion of an infraction of program policies.

FACILITY USE:

Each participant is legally and financially responsible for any removal, defacing or willful damage to public or private property. This includes the property of fellow participants, advisors and staff, organizations, businesses, lodging & conference facilities, and the State of North Carolina. Any act of vandalism, destruction of property, or misuse of a facility may be a crime and will be treated as a potential criminal violation.

Chewing gum, candy, food and beverages are not permitted in any facility or meeting room. Water in sealed containers is allowed.

Materials of officials and employees of any facility shall not be removed or tampered with in any manner. Unless there is a fire, pulling a fire alarm is a serious offense. Hotel alarms automatically summon the fire department and create a great inconvenience and fear for the hotel and other guests.

No participant shall leave a program function unless the approval of his/her advisor AND the NC YMCA Youth & Government State Office Staff is secured. The participant must be picked up and returned by a parent or legal guardian.

Participants may not use or be transported in private vehicles during any program function without approval of a parent or legal guardian, adult advisor and NC YMCA Youth & Government State Office Staff.

LODGING & SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS:

NC YMCA Youth & Government delegates are housed up to four (4) to each room and that in order to participate in this program, students must share a room and may have to share a bed with one other student of the same sex. Students may not room with anyone other than NC YMCA Youth & Government delegates – not an advisor, parents, or other relatives. In special circumstance a student may room alone per approval of the State Office and legal guardians.

Participants shall not leave the lodging facility except while in transit to or from an official program activity or function.

The facility pool and workout center at the conference hotel may not be used at any time during NC YMCA Youth & Government events.

Participants are not allowed in each other's lodging rooms at any time for any reason.

Lodging facility room switches will not be permitted without the approval of the NC YMCA Youth & Government State Office Staff.

All individual, group or delegation meetings must take place on the lobby or meeting room levels of the lodging facility. No sessions or meetings (formal or informal) may take place in the sleeping rooms of the lodging facility, or in any hallway of the sleeping room levels of the lodging facility.

Participants shall observe quiet hours in consideration of those who choose to retire. Participants shall be in, and remain in their assigned lodging facility room by the curfew listed in the official program schedule. Curfew will remain in effect until 6:00 AM the following morning.

VISITORS & GUESTS:

Guests and official observers to any NC YMCA Youth & Government program activity are restricted to public meeting spaces, lobbies and visitors' galleries unless approval is secured from the NC YMCA Youth & Government Staff Office Staff.

All visitors must check in at the Conference Information Desk to sign-in and receive proper identification.

Visitors, alumni, etc., are not permitted in the lodging facility during evening activities unless approved by the NC YMCA Youth & Government State Office Staff. Visitors, alumni, etc., are not permitted in lodging facility sleeping rooms at any time under any circumstance. Participants shall not invite or receive visitors.

ATTIRE: See Dress Code for Specifics.

Participants, advisors and staff will dress appropriately during scheduled program activities and official functions.

- Personal attire reflects upon the attitude, quality, purpose and dignity of the entire NC YMCA Youth & Government program. Appearance must be neat and tidy with shirts tucked in and pants pulled up to the waistline.

Students understand that the NC YMCA Youth & Government State Office Staff expect all persons associated with the NC YMCA Youth & Government to act maturely, to behave responsibly, and to respect the rights and dignity of others. The actions listed above, which are not intended to be an all-inclusive list of behaviors, are considered inappropriate and are prohibited in our programs. The NC YMCA Youth & Government State Office Staff reserves the right to address other behavioral matters not listed above if the behavior of the student is deemed to be in conflict with the mission of the YMCA.

Failure to follow the Code of Conduct may result in one or more of the following actions (but is not limited exclusively to them):

- The loss of privileges or position
- Parents of the delegate notified
- Removal of the delegate from the program
- School officials notified
- Summons of police when necessary