

NC YMCA Youth & Government

Middle School United Nations Conference & Youth Legislature

Adult Code of Conduct & Program Policy

The mission of the YMCA is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all. At all times staff and volunteers should realize that their attitude and behavior both on and off duty must be in harmony with the values and mission of the YMCA.

I agree to abide by the Student Code of Conduct and Program Policy as well as this Adult Code of Conduct. I understand that I must be willing to enforce all policies contained within both documents at all times when attending NC YMCA Youth & Government functions, including but not limited to Club Meetings throughout the year, Program Development Training in January, and the Conference in February.

I agree to be available for my delegation's Pre Conference events and Thursday-Sunday of the Conference in February. I agree to be present in assigned program areas at all designated times.

I agree to report all policy violations immediately to the NC YMCA Youth & Government State Office Staff.

I agree to read all bulletins, mailings and emails from the NC YMCA Youth & Government State Office and attend all training sessions and meetings designed for adult advisors and listen to webinar recordings.

The safety of the participants is the number one priority. Alertness and good judgment are vital. I am expected to follow all instructions and guidelines regarding safety procedures in the YMCA.

I understand that at no time during a YMCA program should I be alone with a single student where others cannot observe me.

I understand that I shall never leave a student unsupervised.

I agree to not abuse students in any way, including but not limited to the points below:

- Physical Abuse: e.g., striking, spanking, shaking, or slapping
- Verbal Abuse: e.g., humiliating, degrading, or threatening
- Sexual Abuse: e.g., inappropriate touching or inappropriate verbal exchange
- Mental Abuse: e.g., shaming, withholding kindness, or cruelty
- Neglect: e.g., withholding food, water, basic care, or bathroom usage

I agree to have another adult present whenever I:

- Patrol the hallways before and after curfew hours;
- Need to talk with a student in a private setting; or
- Accompany a single student to a medical facility or hospital.

I further agree to not be alone with students I meet in YMCA programs outside the YMCA functions unless specifically authorized by the child's parents. This includes babysitting, sleepovers, inviting students to my home, etc.

I agree to use positive techniques of guidance, including redirection, positive reinforcement and encouragement rather than competition, comparison and criticism.

I agree to respond to others with respect and consideration. I will treat all other equally regardless of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, disability or any other characteristic protected by state or federal law.

I agree to respect others' rights to not be touched in ways that make them feel uncomfortable, and the rights of others to say no to any unwelcome or unwanted touching.

I agree to refrain from intimate displays of affection toward others.

I agree that using, possessing or being under the influence of illegal drugs during any NC YMCA Youth & Government function is strictly prohibited.

I agree that using, possessing or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages during any NC YMCA Youth & Government function is strictly prohibited.

I agree that providing alcoholic beverages to anyone less than 21 years of age at any time during my involvement with the NC YMCA Youth & Government is strictly prohibited. I understand that this includes both on and off-duty work and/or volunteer hours.

I agree that using or possessing tobacco products in the presence of children or parents is prohibited.

I agree that profanity, inappropriate jokes, the sharing of intimate details of one's personal life and any kind of harassment is prohibited.

I agree to be a positive role model.

I agree that I may not date program participants under the age of 18.

I agree to adhere to appropriate communication with students before, during and after program functions. This includes use of written, verbal or any digital communication.

I agree not to share sleeping accommodations with students during any function or activity.

I agree to maintain proper adult decorum at all times and act in a caring, honest, respectful and responsible manner—consistent with the mission of the YMCA.