



North Carolina
**YMCA YOUTH &
GOVERNMENT**

DEMOCRACY'S NEXT GENERATION

YOUTH & GOVERNMENT is a national YMCA program for your high school students that prepares them for moral and political leadership through training in the theory and practice of developing public policy.

BENEFITS OF STARTING A CLUB

We believe that Youth & Government encourages teens to be civic-minded and socially responsible.

Adult Advisors

- Spend time with students and create an environment of learning.
- Build healthy, positive relationships with students.
- Work closely with a small group creating an opportunity to educate and nurture potential. Clubs must adhere to a 1:12 advisor to student ratio for all functions, including club meetings.

Student Participants

- Gain understanding of formal and informal government structures.
- Participate actively in the legislative, judicial, lobbyist and/or press process.

- Become aware of societal issues and their resolutions.
- Develop confidence in and dedication to the democratic process.
- Learn participative leadership skills.
- Enhance communication skills.
- Listen to and learn to respect varying viewpoints.
- Learn accountability and respect for others' rights.
- Work alongside and learn from older, experienced students.
- Apply moral and ethical valuing processes to public policy making.
- Gain exposure to potential career opportunities.
- Gain hands-on experience with parliamentary procedure, bill research, bill writing, judicial brief writing, public speaking training, position paper writing and debate training.

HOW TO START AND SUSTAIN A CLUB

Students, Teachers and Principals

Collaborate with a local YMCA, or start a club at your school with assistance from the State Office.

YMCA Staff

Collaborate with a school, or start a club at your YMCA with assistance from the State Office. Youth & Government may be added to existing Leaders Club, or Y Achievers programs. Requirements for attendance and ratios apply.

State Office

Provides vision, leadership and support for your local club. The State Office is a resource for you to use for materials, meetings with school or YMCA staff, sharing of ideas, and much more.

Recruit Students

We welcome any teen who has an interest in gaining a better understanding of how our state government works.

STUDENT ROLES AT CONFERENCE



LEGISLATIVE

Make Laws



FORUM



HOUSE



SENATE



JUDICIAL

Carry Out the Laws



COURT OF APPEALS



MOCK TRIAL



OTHER PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Evaluates the Laws



LOBBYIST



BUDGET ANALYST



MEDIA

- Social
- Press
- Photography
- Broadcast

Judicial

Court of Appeals: Prepare briefs for assigned cases and act as appellate and respondent attorneys.

Mock Trial: Work in teams of six to feel what it's like to actually be in a courtroom trying a case in front of a judge.

Lobbyist

Prepare position papers for selected agencies and argue bills.

Budget Analyst: Argue for or against bills, whichever is in the best interest of the state budget, during both committees and chambers.

Legislator

Write original bills and represent arguments to the House and Senate Committees in order to seek bill passage.

Forum: Form committees based in topics of interest. In these committees, members meet with subject matter experts who help them create legislation.

Media

Print or Broadcast Media

Appointed Officers

- Chief of Staff
- Committee Chair
- Messenger
- Media Editor
- Secretary of State

Elected Offices

- Associate Justice
- Chief Justice
- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Presiding Officer
- Speaker of the Forum
- Speaker of the House
- Attorney General

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT NC YMCA YOUTH & GOVERNMENT CONTACT:

Leigh Dauchert, State Director
Leigh.Dauchert@YMCATriangle.org

Kate McCormick, Program Director
Kate.McCormick@YMCATriangle.org



NCYandG



NCYandG



NCYouthandGov

DEMOCRACY MUST
BE LEARNED BY
EVERY GENERATION.