



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## **LOBBYIST GUIDELINES**

Youth lobbyists persuade legislators to pass, defeat, or amend bills through lobbying and testifying for or against bills.

### **Lobbyist Limits Per Delegation:**

Each delegation may nominate one (1) lobbyist per fifteen (15) delegates. Lobbyists must have prior Senior KYA experience. (Lobbyists may be 10th, 11th, or 12th grade students.)

### **Lobbyist Responsibilities:**

A. Each Lobbyist will rank the following five subject areas in order of their interest level and submit a two hundred (200) word position paper on their first choice with registration materials:

1. Health Care
2. Environment
3. Education
4. Social Programs
5. Economics

Based on the position paper and ranking, the KY YMCA staff will assign each lobbyist a bill to lobby for and a bill to lobby against. Assignments will be posted on [www.kyymca.org](http://www.kyymca.org) as early as possible. Lobbyists may sign up for additional bills if they so chose.

B. Lobbyists will be responsible for creating and presenting the Youth Action Agenda. This agenda will serve as a conference platform, representing a cohesive outline of the issues and themes of the conference. Lobbyists will serve as the liaisons between the bill authors, the media corps, and the Governor. It will be the lobbyists' job to determine, via interaction with each of these groups, what the youth of KYA deem the most important issues facing the state. This Youth Action Agenda will be presented to the rest of the conference.

C. Lobbyist will participate in the Education Fair to lobby KYA delegates for or against their assigned legislation.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

D. After the docket is announced on the first night of KYA, lobbyist will have a meeting to discuss their duties for combined committees and chambers on day two.

1. During combined committees, each bill at KYA will have one pro and one con 'intent speech' from a KYA student lobbyist. Lobbyists will be expected to prepare and present these speeches at the beginning of debate during combined committees. Students will also participate in the Education Fair prior to each Combined Committee to lobby delegates for or against their assigned legislation.

2. While at the state capitol, lobbyists will have several responsibilities. Each lobbyist representing a bill appearing in chambers will have two minutes to speak to the student governor, and urge him/her to either sign or veto this bill if it arrives on his/her desk. Lobbyists will also use this time to work together to write the Youth Action Agenda. Student Lobbyists will spend any remaining time in the chamber galleries to observe debate and prepare to board busses.

### Definitions

- a. Lobbying: Persuading legislators to pass, defeat, or amend bills by personally speaking with them and providing them with expert information about the bill's subject (may use posters, charts, or graphs or distribute 3"x5" cards— see restrictions below).
- b. Testifying: Also know as intent speeches, one-minute speeches before pro/con debate in Combined Committees given by lobbyists to persuade legislators to pass, defeat, or amend a bill.

### Lobbying Restrictions:

- A. Lobbyists have a \$15 maximum spending limit to buy materials such as poster boards, graphs, charts, etc., and a maximum of 250 cards not exceeding 3"x5".

Kentucky YMCA Youth Association, P.O. Box 4285, Frankfort, KY 40604-4285  
www.kyymca.org Phone (502)227-7028 Fax (502)227-7030



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- B. A lobbyist may not influence a member or members of the Assembly by the following:
- 1) Coercion, intimidation, or bribery;
  - 2) Offering to aid in an election in exchange for votes on a bill;
  - 3) Offer anything of value or by any other improper method.
- C. Lobbyists may not buy for the purpose of persuasion food, candy, gum, or any other gift. All receipts of expenditure shall be required to be submitted by lobbyists to the Y Staff. Failure to comply may result in loss of position, speaking privileges, and voting privileges during the election.
- D. No lobbyists will be assigned to the Premiere Program or the Congressional Program.
- E. Lobbyists do not vote and cannot author bills. Their duty is to influence the voting of the Assembly either for or against a particular bill.

**Solicitor General:**

The Youth Governor will appoint a Solicitor General. The Solicitor General will advise the Governor on the constitutionality of bills. He or she will also be responsible for facilitating the creation of the Youth Action Agenda.

**Outstanding Lobbyist Award:**

An Outstanding Lobbyist will be selected from among those lobbyists who submit their position papers by the registration deadline.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## Youth Action Agenda

### What is the Youth Action Agenda?

The Youth Action Agenda is a document created by the Solicitor General and lobbyists at SR KYA Conferences. This agenda will serve as a conference platform, representing a cohesive outline of the issues and themes of the conference. The agenda should recount the successes in Chambers and committees and recognize outstanding issues.

### Who writes the Youth Action Agenda?

The agenda is created by the Solicitor General with the assistance of the other lobbyists. The agenda can be presented in any form- as a straight forward white paper or can be creatively interpreted as a poem. The Solicitor General and lobbyists are responsible for writing the agenda during on the second day after hearing/participating in debate at the Capitol and hotel.

### When is the Youth Action Agenda presented?

The agenda is presented by the Solicitor General and lobbyists during the final morning closing session. (OR is it during closing thoughts the night before?)