



# KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY 2019

The **Kentucky Youth Assembly (KYA)** is a 3-day experiential learning program in which students serve as part of a model state government. KYA offers students the opportunity to learn and debate policy issues, develop critical thinking skills, and articulate their beliefs while engaging with peers from around Kentucky.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL DATES

Middle School KYA 1 • Nov. 7-9
Middle School KYA 2 • Dec. 8-10
Middle School KYA 3 • Dec. 15-17

## HIGH SCHOOL DATES

High School KYA 1 • Nov. 3-5
High School KYA 2 • Nov. 21-23
High School KYA 3 • Nov. 24-26

High School KYA 4 • Dec. 5-7

Intent for KYA: www.kyymca.org/kya/registration

### **DATES & DEADLINES**

Delegations choose the dates that work best for their school/organization, but space is limited! Get connected with the online community and submit a KYA Intent Form at:

www.kyymca.org/kya/registration

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL KYA

All Assemblies will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Louisville, KY

Assembly		Dates
MS KYA 1		Nov. 7-9
MS KYA 2		Dec. 8-10
MS KYA 3		Dec. 15-17

#### **HIGH SCHOOL KYA**

All Assemblies will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Louisville, KY

Assembly	Dates
HS KYA 1	 Nov. 3-5
HS KYA 2	 Nov. 21-23
HS KYA 3	 Nov. 24-26
HS KYA 4	 Dec. 5-7

## KYA FAQ | FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Q. What is covered in the conference fees?

- Conference fees cover lodging, Day 2 lunch and dinner, Day 3 breakfast, program materials, and transportation to and from the Capitol in Frankfort.
- For full pricing information, visit www.kyymca.orq/kya/FAQ

#### Q. Is Financial Aid available?

- Yes the Y is committed to ensuring access for all interested students.
- To be considered, a student and parent/guardian must complete the aid application and submit it by the deadline for your KYA (on back): www.kyymca.orq/financial-aid

#### Q. If I have questions, who is my Regional Staff Member?

- All schools have a Regional Staff Member responsible for helping them get prepared for KYA. They are your primary contact for any questions about the conference or registration process, and can even meet in person with you and your delegation to go over the entire process more in-depth.
- You can find contact info for your Regional Staff at: www.kyymca.org/regions

For our full FAQ, visit <a href="http://www.kyymca.org/kya/FAQ/">http://www.kyymca.org/kya/FAQ/</a>

### WHY KYA?

#### To learn about Kentucky and expand your perspective

While researching their bill topics, students learn in-depth about the problems we face in Kentucky. At KYA, participants interact with peers from all across the Commonwealth, learning about the issues they hold dear, and the differing perspectives they may have.

#### To learn and practice civil discourse

The goal of legislation is to solve the issues we face, which is easy when we all agree on the solution. Participants at KYA learn what to do when we disagree, how to treat each other with respect and positivity when it happens, and how to work with their fellow Kentuckians through cooperation and compromise towards a common goal.

#### To sharpen your skills and build confidence

At KYA, participants practice their skills in debate, both in terms of quality of speech and ability to think critically about different issues and solutions. Alongside some of the best youth leaders in Kentucky, students can learn from each other and watch their confidence grow each time they step up to the podium.

#### To empower youth to be the leaders of today

No matter how old you are, you have the power to impact your community. At KYA, students learn the agency they have now, and how to empower themselves to enact change everywhere they can. Through researching and writing bills, they find the issues they're passionate about, and through debate they find the power their individual voice can have.

**KYA 2018** BY THE NUMBERS

7,549

**STUDENT DELEGATES** 

3,857

SCHOOLERS

3,692

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS

FROM 7 C

REPRESENTING

261 SCHOOLS 130 HIGH SCHOOLS

**131 MIDDLE SCHOOLS** 

# KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY PROGRAM OVERVIEW

At KYA, students participate in one of our program areas based on their grade, experience, and preference. Each program area has a variety of delegate roles available to students, which are summarized below and outlined in greater detail at <a href="https://www.kyymca.org/kya">www.kyymca.org/kya</a>

Presiding and Supporting Officers lead each program area, and interested students can visit the KYA Officers page to learn about the different ways they can serve: <a href="https://www.kyymca.org/kya/officers">www.kyymca.org/kya/officers</a>

#### Bluegrass House & Senate | HS & MS Commonwealth House & Senate | HS & MS

Our Legislative program is our largest program area, and is split into Bluegrass and Commonwealth. These two programs are separated by grade and experience, but operate under the same structure. In the Legislative program, delegates research, write, and debate bills on state issues as Senators and Representatives. The number of bills in Bluegrass or Commonwealth a delegation can sponsor depends on how many of their delegates are in that program. KYA: 1–15 (1 bill), 16–30 (2 bills), 31–45 (3 bills), 46–60 (4 bills), 61+ (5 bills max).

Example: If your delegation has 17 students in Bluegrass, and 5 students in Commonwealth, you would bring two Bluegrass bills and one Commonwealth bill.

For a full breakdown of who participates in each program, see Eligibility Charts at www.kyymca.org/kya/bluegrass and www.kyymca.org/kya/commonwealth

#### **Executive Cabinet & Lobbyists | HS Only | 1 Lobbyist per Commonwealth Bill**

Lobbyist delegates represent clients in support and opposition of Commonwealth Bills by testifying in committees, distributing talking points during House/Senate debate, and meeting with members of the Executive Cabinet. Cabinet positions are application-based. Lobbyists and Executive Cabinet members must meet the eligibility requirements for the Commonwealth House/Senate (see chart).

#### Supreme Court | HS Only | 10-12th graders; 1 team of 1-3 students per delegation

Supreme Court teams serve as attorneys by preparing and presenting oral arguments on a case before legal professionals and student Justices of the KYA Supreme Court. When not presenting arguments, delegates work on advisory opinions for the Attorney General regarding the constitutionality of bills passed by the Commonwealth House and Senate. Supreme Court team spaces are limited at each KYA!

#### Media Corps | HS Only | 10-12<sup>th</sup> graders; 1 student per delegation

Media Corps delegates craft compelling news stories on important Assembly topics. Media delegates publish their articles and content on a variety of platforms, including our website and social media.

#### **KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION**