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## 2024 Kentucky Youth Assembly (KYA) Program Changes

We strive to create the best program experience for students and chaperones alike. Based on feedback from the 2023 KYA Season, the following changes will be implemented beginning in 2024.

- I. **BILL REQUIREMENTS**
  - a. Word Count Limit on Bill Submissions
- II. **CANDIDATES**
  - a. Early Voting Opportunity
- III. **DEBATE**
  - a. Third Chair Training Option
  - b. Committee Chair Appointment Eligibility
- IV. **DIVERSITY & INCLUSION**
  - a. Student Speaking Accommodations
- V. **PAYMENT**
  - a. Need-Based Scholarship Deadlines
- VI. **PRESIDING & SUPPORTING OFFICERS**
  - a. Role of Lt. Governor
  - b. Student Applications for the LRC
- VII. **SENIOR CELEBRATION**



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**I. BILL REQUIREMENTS**

- a. Word Count Limit on Bill Submissions – there will be a max word count of 450 words.

**II. CANDIDATES**

- a. Early Voting Opportunity – For Primary elections, students will be able to vote early on the second night after debate wraps up at the hotel. Students will be able to submit their ballot at the Y-Desk between 4:30 – 6:30 PM.

**III. DEBATE**

- a. Third Chair Training Option – to ensure all students are able to attend the required Chair Training, a third training date will be offered after the final conference registration deadline.
- b. Committee Chair Appointment Eligibility – moving forward, schools will appoint a “First Chair” and “Chair Alternative” on registration. The “First Chair” students will be assigned to Committees first (if they attended Chair Training) and “Chair Alternatives” will be assigned as needed. There will not be an option to appoint a third Chair.

**IV. DIVERSITY & INCLUSION**

- a. Student Speaking Accommodations – during the advisor meeting on the first day, Y-Staff will ask if advisors if any of their students need additional speaking time during debate due to speech, auditory, neurodivergent, or other processing needs. Those advisors will be given a small sticker for those students to put on their nametag so Chairs are aware of the accommodation.

**V. PAYMENT**

- a. Need-Based Scholarship Deadlines – to ensure that students are able to receive as much NBS as needed, applications for NBS must be submitted two weeks before each conference registration deadline. This ensures applications can be processed and invoices can be adjusted accordingly.

**VI. PRESIDING & SUPPORTING OFFICERS**

- a. Role of Lt. Governor – in order to further amplify the role of the Lt. Governor at conferences,
- b. Student Applications for the LRC – starting last year, we offered the Legislative Research Commission program that allowed any students writing/sponsoring/presenting a bill to get feedback on their bill prior to their conference. This year, award winning bill sponsors will be able to apply to be on the LRC and give feedback to students on their bills. This application will be a part of the current Supporting Officer application process. That information can be found on [the Officer section of our website](#).

**VII. SENIOR CELEBRATION**

- a. We want to celebrate the time our seniors have put into our programs! This summer, Y-Staff will establish some type of celebration that will take place during the conference for our seniors. A plan will be decided before registration opens in the fall!