



New Mexico YMCA Youth and Government Executive Officer Candidate Permission Form

Student Name: _____

Office Sought: _____

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your student has expressed interest in running for an executive officer position in the New Mexico YMCA Youth and Government (NMYAG) program. Executive officers in NMYAG are elected by their peers at the annual state conference. As a student-led program, the executive officer team becomes the planning committee for all NMYAG events for the upcoming year. Serving as an officer is a significant time commitment throughout the course of the following academic year, especially during the spring semester. Additionally, there are several required participation events for individuals holding this office. By signing this form, you agree to support your student in meeting the following expectations of this commitment if they are elected.

Benefits of Serving as an Officer

This position builds teamwork and leadership skills while creating a challenging but incredibly rewarding experience for participants. This is a statewide leadership position, which supplies an opportunity to learn about the organizational requirements of planning a large conference event, while also learning specialized skills related to governance and leadership. This is an excellent opportunity to highlight on college, job, and scholarship applications. Furthermore, the program staff and leadership are happy to supply recommendation letters or references to program officers based on their contributions for college, scholarship, or other opportunities, upon request (and with advance notice of at least 2 weeks for written recommendations).

Expectations of Position

- The Executive Officer Team represents the Y and the State of New Mexico in this position. All officers must approach this position as a servant leadership opportunity in which they are expected to focus on the growth and well-being of the NMYAG delegates statewide and promote a positive and enriching conference culture for all delegates.
- Each officer must attend all Required Events and must make every effort to attend Highly Recommended Events.

Required In-Person Attendance

- Officer Training and Retreat (weekend, fall semester)
- Youth and Government Orientation (on a Saturday, January or February)
- Youth and Government Annual Training (weekend, early March)
- Youth and Government Conference prep day (day before Annual State Conference)
- Youth and Government Annual State Conference (three days, early April)

Highly Recommended In-Person Attendance

Invitational Events: Student must apply to and be accepted to participate in these events

- (Governor Only) Youth Governor's Conference (1 week, June, Washington, DC)
- Conference on National Affairs (1 week, July, North Carolina) – *Invitational Event*
- (Chief Justice and Attorney General) National Judicial Competition (1 week, July/August, Minnesota) – *Invitational Event*
- Youth Advocate Program (Zoom trainings & DC Trip in February) – *Invitational Event*
- Regional Partner Youth and Government Conference(s) (dates vary by state)

