

More State YES FAQs

How would you get the youth there?

Participants of the State YES program are responsible for their own transportation to and from the event.

Who has been determined to run the program?

Volunteers and chaperones from the community and NRA field representatives will run the program. For the first year a state holds a State YES, the Event Services Coordinator at HQ will assist in promoting and coordinating the program, since it is a learning process for the volunteers too.

How do we recruit volunteers and chaperones?

Volunteers and chaperones can be recruited through many different ways—*Friends of NRA* banquets, 4-H clubs, high school shooting teams, etc. The Event Services Coordinator at HQ can provide you with State YES press kits, which includes all the information a volunteer would need to get a state summit started, for the field rep to pass out to interested candidates. Recruiting volunteers is the first step in getting a State YES off the ground.

What is the selection process?

Applicants are required to complete an application by the designated due date, usually 2 months prior to the summit.

When is the event date?

Volunteers who run the program will select the dates.

What are the prerequisites for interested applicants?

- Applicant must be either a current freshman or sophomore in high school. This ensures that the winner of the program will be eligible to attend National YES, which is open to sophomores and juniors.
- Applicant must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Applicant must have strong interests in the shooting sports, American history, government, and/or military, and the NRA.

What are the benefits students receive from attending the YES program?

- Impressive on college applications and resumes

- Development of such academic skills and virtues as leadership, teamwork, public speaking, and debating
- Increased awareness and appreciation of American government
- Chance to meet and network with other ambitious, likeminded teens from throughout the state and build friendships
- Learn about NRA programs and how to actively participate in them
- Introduction into the shooting sports
- Scholarship opportunities (if chosen to attend National YES)

Must applicants have had prior shooting experience in order to be considered into the program?

Although prior experience in the shooting sports is a common characteristic in YES applicants, it is not at all required to get into the program. Applicants are judged mostly on GPA, participation in extra-curricular activities, and essays.

When is the application deadline?

The application deadline should be set at least 6-8 weeks before the program date.

How will the program cost for attendees?

State YES is paid for through state level NRA Foundation grants and is therefore free of charge to participants, with the exception of travel costs to and from the event in the state's capital. The cost for meals, hotel, supplies, etc. are covered by The NRA Foundation. Students are encouraged to bring extra cash for souvenirs, phone cards, emergency money while traveling, etc.

How many applicants are accepted into the program?

A minimum of 5 students must attend the program in order for it to be held – no exceptions. Most state summits host 10-15 students, depending on budget and volunteer availability.

Will there be chaperones?

There should be a minimum of one male chaperone and one female chaperone, in addition to at least one program director/volunteer. If there are less than 8 attendees, the program director may serve as a chaperone as well.

****Please read the Volunteer's Guide to Starting a State YES for a step-by-step outline of putting together your state's summit.**